



From Time to Time

A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society

Preserving the history of Commerce City

Because history matters!

(Oct. - Dec. 2016) Winter 2016

Volume 7, Issue 4

CCHS selection for the best houses with Christmas Lights for 2016 more pictures on pages 8 and 9



10046 Fraser

From Time to Time Luncheon

2017

Sunday May 7, 2017 12:30-3:30 PM

Held at The Yellow Rose Event Center

Located at 6190 E. 72nd Place

Commerce City, CO 80022



Commerce City Historical Society

Preserving Commerce City History

RSVP Debra Bullock 303-946-3426

**Sunday
May 7**

Honoring City Businesses and Residents
Who have profoundly and positively affected
our history

\$25.00

CCHS Board Members comment on 2016

Esther Hall, President

This last year has been busy with the off-site display cabinets, dedication of parks and groundbreakings in the city. Documentation is vital in our City's history. Working with the schools on the coloring book contest, the book distribution has again been rewarding and I loved working with our volunteers. Again, plans for the casino bus trips, luncheon and events of interest are a priority for our members and community. Thanks to all who helped to make this happen.

Debra Bullock, Secretary/Treasurer

We had a great 2016. In January we started a committee to record all the history for the fire department to help with the displays in their new administration building. We have been working on this all year and getting close to completion on this project. We have had 2 ACHS classes use the museum to plan their class reunions and host some events at the museum. In February, the Denver History Museum bus tour came to visit. We received the Quality Community Foundation grant to help us with our coloring book distribution project that we do every April. Our annual luncheon was held in May. We took two trips to Central City as fundraisers (May and September). We delivered our reading books to the 3rd graders. We had two yard and plant sales. Many of our members attended the city events, open houses and outreaches. We did several history presentations and put together several new history displays with items that people donated. We continue to raise money to fund our museum through the memberships, fundraisers and grants. None of these events could happen without our volunteers. Thank you to all of our members and volunteers who help us consistently. A special thanks to the volunteers that work at the museum. In 2017 we are going to be open 6 days a week and we look forward to many more organizations visiting the museum. I am grateful for our Board of Directors and Advisory Board members who consistently work to keep our museum running.

Pam Meier, Vice President

"As we reflect on 2016 we have much to be thankful for. Such as the group of dedicated volunteers who believe that the rich history of Commerce City must and will be preserved, as they, themselves, make history. In holding the museum open every Saturday, they made it possible for a great number of visitors to stop by and view the diverse and ever changing displays. If you were not able to visit the museum on a Saturday last year, you will now have the option of making a drop-in visit on many weekdays."

Sheila Harris, Membership Director

First off, I would like to thank the Commerce City Historical Society for electing me to join their team.

I have made many new friends since I have taken the position of membership director. I believe that through the hard work of everyone involved our membership has also grown. I look forward to what 2017 holds with all of our events and hope to continue the growth of membership.

Reba Drotar, Historian

For me, and for the City of Commerce City, 2016 has been one of the busiest. It has been a year filled with both excitement and sadness. For instance, there were many grand openings and new partnerships of businesses and extraordinary events like the ground breaking of the new Commerce City Recreation Center in the northern part of the City and the new South Adams County Fire Department's Head-

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
Reba Drotar, Historian, 303.921.1972

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

JoAnn Stevenson, Casey Hayes, Janet Union, Stephen Kreutzer, Thelma Cole

Submissions for Newsletter

Debra Bullock
Photos & Stories
Janet Union,
Editor
303.288-4768 or
unionnorm@qwest
office.net

Museum Volunteers

Debra Bullock
Ron Brown
Esther Hall
Michael Scanlon
Sheila Harris
Kristi Douglas
Reba Drotar
JoAnn Hardt
Rene' Bullock
Steve Douglas
Hester Bonnell
Charlene Kittinger
Ticen Mingilton
Pam Meier,
Thelma Cole
JoAnn Stevenson,
Janet Union

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.

quarters being constructed next to the Civic Center. When you couple that with progress like the beginning of the widening of Highway 2 and Tower Road, you can see that the City is headed in the right direction.

The RTD fast tracks is now completely underway, which will bring unprecedented easy travel for the residents of Commerce City as well as the potential for unprecedented change in the areas by the old Adams City High School.

There were great changes in the administration and board of the Adams 14 School District culminating

Commerce City Historical Society

Twitter: cchistoricalociety@yahoo.com

Facebook: Commerce City Historical Society

Website: cchistoric.com

Email: cchistoricalociety@yahoo.com

Address: 6505 East 60th Avenue,

Commerce City, CO 80022

Phone: 303-288-2590

Museum Donations

Jan - Sept. 2016 - \$65.00

Museum Visitors

Oct. - Dec. - 2016 - 71

Charter Members:

Joy Bishop	Sean Ford
Hester Bonnell	Esther Hall
Debra Bullock	Bob Hutchings
Rene' Bullock	Dorothy Hutchings
Thelma Cole	Gene Leffel
Cindy Comstock	David Lutter
Gary Comstock	Dustin McIntyre
Kristi Douglas	Loretta Petty
Steve Douglas	Don Sater
Gary Drotar	JoAnn Stevenson
Reba Drotar	Dick Stevenson
Samantha Ford	Janet Union
	Norm Union
	Jane Younger
	Troy Younger

New Members - Oct. - Dec. 2016

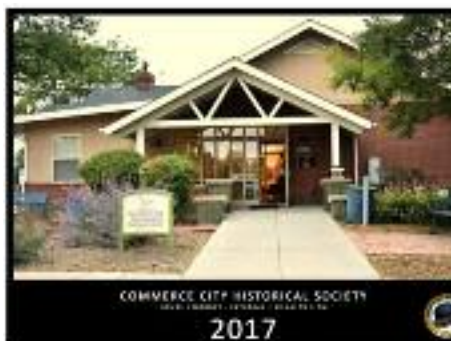
Heidi Rose-Smith	Chad Horner
Linda Fortney	Sue Horner
Bob Hastings	Joe and Lilly Roybal
Connie Hastings	

with the hiring of new Superintendent Dr. Javier Abrego and appointment of the new board member, Joe Dreiling. Then, in School District 27J, we had the ground breaking of another beautiful school in Commerce City. Both the young and young at heart are taking full advantage of the wonderful new outdoor swimming pool and the exhilarating and creative programs of the Commerce City Recreation Department.

The CCHS is making great strides in preserving the past and archiving the present happenings. I am proud beyond words to call all of the board and regular members of the CCHS my friends and am astonished at their commitment, work ethics and what they have all accomplished. May 2017 be filled with great surprises and may the Commerce City Historical Society flourish beyond anyone's imagination.

If we honor the past, we bring health and knowledge to the successes of the future.

Out N About



Buy your copy of the 2017
Calendar for \$10 each.



**Volunteers
on the left
& below.**

*Pictured are
just a few of
our many vo-
lunteers.*

*Joann Stevin-
son, Ron
Brown and
Esther Hall,
President*



*Cultural Council Public Art
Dedication at Pioneer Park
November 21*

*Above: Joann Hardt, Museum Guide and Joann Ste-
vinson, founding President and Advisory Board Mem-*



ACMS students are delighted with the CCHS display. These students helped Esther Hall and Ron Brown assemble the display. Ron Brown, CCHS volunteer and he was a long ago student at ACMS.

Out N About



October 26, Highway 2 widening project groundbreaking



Coloring table at Winterfest.



Honoring Sunshine Plumbing on Dec 14, 2016 at the Sunshine facility on Brighton Rd. Sponsored by CCBPA.



Norm and Janet Union at one of the CCHS Tables at the Winterfest.



Reba Drotar and Teri Smith at the Winter Fest on Dec. 3, 2016 at Adams City High School.



Decorated trees were given to lucky families. The trees were furnished by CCBPA and decorated by volunteers.



Santa and Mrs. Claus are escorted into Winter Fest by SACFD firefighters



COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WE'RE HEADED TO THE HILLS



MARDI GRAS CASINO TRIP SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017

**Cost \$10 - Contact Esther Hall or Debra Bullock
for tickets -- 3.249-1930 / 3.946.3426**

Leaving Commerce City Museum

(6505 East 60th Avenue) at 1 pm

**Get \$5 Cash to play and a \$5 meal voucher at
Mardi Gras Casino**



CASINO TRIP

COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2017 CALENDAR

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-6 PM

*(Meetings held at Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center-6:00 pm)
6505 East 60th Avenue*

JANUARY 20, 2017

MARCH 17, 2017 (Annual Meeting)

MAY 19, 2017

JULY 21, 2017

SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

NOVEMBER 17, 2017

BOARD MEETINGS

2ND Monday of every month at 6pm

ANNUAL EVENTS:

Central City Fundraiser, Sunday MARCH 12, 2017

"From Time To Time" Luncheon, Sunday MAY 7, 2017

Commerce City History Coloring Contest Reception, MAY 15, 2017

Memorial Day Parade, Monday MAY 29, 2017

Victorian Afternoon Grange Tea, Saturday, July 29, 2017

Central City Fundraiser, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

CCHS Museum Anniversary, Saturday SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

Holiday Craft Fair at OSLC October 28, 2017

Senior Luncheon, December 1, 2017

Christmas Lights History Bus Tour Saturday, DECEMBER 16, 2017

COMMERCE CITY HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER:

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10 am to 2 pm



Out N About



Eagle Street (Halloween celebration) at Adams City High School October 2016 sponsored by Commerce City Business and Professional Association. Good attendance.



CCBPA After Hour Organizers: Kristi Douglas and Reba Drotar.



Commerce City Chamber of Commerce kick-off celebration at Key Bank. November 2016.



Esther Hall, Janet Swank Union and Michelle Claymore at the Chamber kick-off



Topping Off Ceremony of new 27J Elementary School in Reunion. Councilman Diaz with his children.



New Recreation Center groundbreaking, Reunion

Commerce City Historical Society selects



Steve Brecheisen and Keith Dipprey, 15333 E. 100th Court

Below: Dean and Geri Frazell, 8706 Ulster St.



CCHS MANAGES MANY

REMOTE DISPLAYS THROUGHOUT THE CITY!

There are several displays throughout Commerce City in addition to the displays in our museum.

HI-LO CHECK CASHING

This display will take you through the years of the Hi-Lo store history.

KEY BANK

Learn how this bank was established. Key Bank is a Landmark building in Derby and has grown with the community.

WOODRIDGE CARE CENTER

This display will educate you on how the Veterans Memorial was planned and built, located in Veterans Park next to the Commerce City Recreation Center.

WELLS FARGO BANK

You will see a glimpse of the Commerce City history through the wall murals located in the lobby.



houses with Christmas Lights for 2016

Stop by the museum to check out the Charter Delegate Display



Charter Convention

Prior to the Commerce City Charter, the city operated as a statutory city under the laws of the State of Colorado (State Legislature).

The delegates were elected by the city residents on November 4, 1969. They developed the proposed Charter and signed it on March 24, 1970. It was submitted to the vote of the people and an election was held on May 5, 1970. Most of the delegates had full time jobs and it was very difficult to juggle schedules but they took the necessary time off to complete this task. The individuals represented a cross-section of the City and expressed many different viewpoints, but came together with an excellent guideline for the common good of the people of Commerce City.

We have some very old Time Magazines that are fun to look at. They are from the 20's and 30's.

Below: We have some very old *Time* magazines that are fun to look at. They are from the 20's and 30's.



Michael, Jenn and Ian Onstott, 10046 Fraser St.



Adam Torrez, 10153 Fairplay Street



In Memoriam

Dulcinea (Lucy) Olivas



Dulcinea (Lucy) Aurora Olivas was a loving wife and mother, born on Jan. 13, 1922 in Tierra Monte, New Mexico and passed away on Dec. 25, 2016 at home in Commerce City, Colorado. She was 94 years old, one of 14 children born to Octaviano and Teodorita Cordova Sandoval.

She attended schools in New Mexico and at the age of 21 married the love of her life, George M. Olivas. They celebrated their 73rd Wedding Anniversary on Dec. 7, 2016. Together they had 10 children, their oldest son, Edward Patrick passed away as an infant. In 1951 they moved to Brighton, Colorado and then to Commerce City where they remained to this day.

Dulcinea was mainly a homemaker and raised nine children. She enjoyed gardening; sewing on an Antique Singer pedal sewing machine and quilted by hand, later she enjoyed making and painting Native American Indian ceramics. She won many awards and she was very proud. She also enjoyed socializing with friends and family telling jokes and making people laugh. Her and George were known as excellent dancers and they always had an audience eager to watch them. At one point in her life she was actively involved with the Commerce City Recreation Center where she walked 4 miles every other day.

Dulcinea was a great cook and she loved getting her family together. For many years she was actively involved with Our Lady of The Church in Commerce City and was devoted to The Sacred Heart of Jesus. She was also a lifelong member of The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society.

Proceeded in death by her parents, Octaviano and Teodorita Sandoval, 13 Brothers and Sisters, Sons, Edward Patrick Olivas, Joseph Bobby Olivas and Grandson Larry Fred Creason Jr.

Survived by Her Husband - George M. Olivas; Their Children, Georgia Huntington, Josephine Ponce, Freddie Olivas, Maxine Alexander, George O. Olivas, Robert Olivas, Rita Olivas-Haynie, Morris Olivas and Numerous Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and Great-Great Grandchildren.

Dulcinea was loved by many and will be missed dearly.

Private Memorial and Funeral Services were held at Olinger Highland Mortuary and Cemetery in Thornton, Colorado

Dorothy Frieberg, Jan. 24, 1929 -Dec. 14, 2016



Age 87 of Henderson, CO. She is preceded in death by husband, Pastor Herbert Frieberg. Survived by children Paul; Ann; William (Joni) and Joan Michel and 4 grandchildren Alyssa, Danielle (Greg), Ian

Leon H. Clapper

Leon was born on Oct. 23, 1930 and passed away on Mon., Jan. 2, 2017.

Leon was a resident of Commerce City, CO at the time of his passing. He was married to Barbara.

Memorial Service was Wed., Jan. 11 at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Inurnment followed the service at Elmwood Cemetery in Brighton Colorado.

Calvert, Bob 'Ug,' Louisville, CO

Bob Calvert entered into life Sept. 2, 1931, Louisville, CO.

Survived by wife Patricia, two daughters, Kristi Bowyer and Kim Scaff, two sons-in-law (Chuck and Bill), four grandchildren (Krissy, Kara, Michael, Libby), four great-grandchildren (Braden, Peyton, Jackson, Brooklyn), two brothers (Bill and Mick) and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was born in Great Falls, MT. Because of WWII, he moved to Cascade Locks, OR and later to Bend, OR. Near the end of the war, the family moved to Cheyenne, WY and finally to Denver.

He graduated from Adams City H.S. in 1949. In '51, he joined the Navy for a 4-year hitch. In 1952, he married Elaine Krogh and had two daughters-Kristi and Kim. In 1956, he started raising hogs and cattle and buying land that he farmed.

He worked very hard and built a successful life by being involved in many business ventures. He was a member of CC Rotary, Masons and was a Shriner. He had Denver Bronco season tickets from 1961.

Elaine passed away in 1986. In 1991, Bob married Marcella Work who later passed away. He met Patricia in 1999 and they married in 2001.

Bob and Patricia enjoyed their life together. They had a wonderful time traveling almost around the world on cruise ships, their favorite mode of transportation. Bob was funny and fun to be around and had a contagious zest for life. He was always positive, loving and supportive of all the ones he loved. He lived life to the fullest, from business and pigs to Broncos and travel but mainly the love of his family.

He will be truly missed.

Funeral Service: Dec. 7, Olinger Highland Mortuary Chapel, Thornton. Final resting place: Elmwood Cemetery, Brighton, CO.

Gerald J. Dreiling, Brighton, Colorado passed away on December 23, 2016. Born on June 8, 1942 in Wakeeney, Kansas to Michael Dreiling and Josephine Rome. Survived by his wife, Joan; children, Chris (Lee) Casas, Joe (Dora) Dreiling and Pam (Kenny) Schmitt; siblings, Don (Juanita), Laverne and Cathy; 12 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Leroy; and granddaughter, Jessica.

Vigil Service held on Wed., Jan. 4, 2017 at Horan & McConaty Family Chapel, 9998 Grant Street in Thornton. Committal Service to follow at Elmwood Cemetery, 14800 Brighton Road, Brighton, Colorado.

and Justin.

Services were held at Peace Lutheran Church.

Virginia Fahrenbruch, 92

Nov. 24, 1924 - Dec. 22, 2016

Our mother, Virginia Fahrenbruch was born to John and Molly Walesky on Nov. 29, 1924 in Riverton, WY. Her family moved to Loveland where she grew into a beautiful young woman learning to play piano and sharing her beautiful singing voice in the church choir. After graduating from high school, Virginia worked as a sales clerk at the J C Penny store in Greeley.

Virginia married Elmer Fahrenbruch on Apr. 11, 1944. The couple farmed in Loveland and Eaton for the first ten years of their marriage adding four children to the family in those years. The family relocated to Denver in 1954

After buying their first home in Commerce City, Virginia went to work for Thompson Pipe and Steel as an Accounting Clerk. She enjoyed her job and the people she worked with, remaining there over 20 years. During their years in Commerce City, they made life-long friends and were active with the South Adams County Volunteer Fire Department.

Dad then changed career fields resulting in their move to Brighton. Even though Mom continued working in Denver, she enjoyed their frequent weekend fishing trips and having family and friends at her home. Mom was a loyal wife giving up her career to make multiple moves as Dad changed jobs. They lived in Glenwood Springs, Westminster, Wheat Ridge, and settling for several years in Goodland, KS. There she worked for a small business doing book-keeping and related duties.

They moved to Broomfield when Dad's health began to fail. Mom remained there after Dad's passing and stayed until making her final move to the Colorado Lutheran Home in 2015. There we celebrated her 92nd birthday just three short weeks before she went Home to be with our Lord on Dec. 22.

Mom was a sweet and loving soul endearing every life she touched. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, many styles of music and Bingo, but mostly her 12 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren. She is survived by her sister Elsie (Kenneth) Homyak, son Harold (Hal) and wife Jackie, daughter Norma (Richard) Mashburn, son Thomas (Linda) and daughter Karen Stark. She was preceded in death by husband Elmer and great-granddaughter Jennifer Troupe, one sister Rosie and two brothers - Harry and Victor.



In Memoriam

Beverly Ann Walker, Oct. 24, 1930 - Nov. 28, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

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

Shirley Mae Jeffrey, Commerce City, Colorado passed away Nov. 30, 2016 in Commerce City surrounded by her loving family. Shirley was born on Dec. 24,



1924 in Denver, Colorado to Herbert and Helen (Murphy) Lally. She married Samuel Jeffrey and because Samuel served in the military, they raised their family throughout the United States and Japan. Shirley began her career during WWII

as a nurse and obtained her RN after the war ended. Her love for helping people extended to animals as well. Shirley had many four-legged family members that she cared for and nurtured. Shirley was preceded in death by her loving husband Samuel and grandson Sean Patrick Rogers. She is survived by her daughter, Brandi; son Samuel (Donna); six grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; and many other relatives. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Visitation held Dec 4 from 1 - 5 pm at Olinger Highland Mortuary, 10201 Grant St, Thornton, Colorado. Father Martin Lally of Holy Family Parish officiated at funeral services on Mon., Dec. 5 at 10:00 am also at Olinger Highland Mortuary.

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

Anthony James Alborno

Oct. 10, 1994 - Dec. 2, 2016, Age 22.

He was the oldest of four children. Anthony went to Adams City High School and worked at AZ Cable and Wire.

Anthony was passionate about his music, especially TechN9ne. He loved going out and hanging out with family and friends. Despite the young age of 22, he

lived life to the fullest. Anthony always had a radiant smile on his face.

He is preceded in death by his grandmother Hope Trevino. He is survived by his mother, Ann Renee Trevino, stepfather Mike Lamorie, father Harris Alborno, and brothers Phil and Stephan Apodaca, Isaih Trujillo, and sister Faith Perez.

He will be dearly missed. As our hearts are broken, his love for us, as us for him, was so complete. May he be at peace.



Dorene Dodson

Jan. 6, 1919 - Jan. 16, 2017

Survived by children Larry (Penny) Dodson, Connie Nelsen and Ron (Linda) Dodson, grandchildren Kelly

Juan J. Herrera, Oct. 3, 1975 - Dec. 4, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

Juan J. Herrera "Jorge", loving son, father and brother. He came into this world prematurely weighing only 5 lbs and left this world prematurely. He loved sports, camping and being around those he loved. He loved football Sundays, going to the Bronco games with tailgating before even if it were freezing outside. Although his life was cut short, it was filled with love, happiness and joy as he loved to laugh and make people laugh. He is survived by his Mother and Father, Dora and Arturo Herrera Sr, his daughter, Arianna Nicole Craft, his brother, Arturo Herrera Jr and his sister Heather Herrera.

A beautiful soul gone but will live in our hearts forever.

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



Nancy Lee Scholes

Dec. 2016

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

She was married to Arthur.

Memorial service was Dec. 16, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel 6580 E. 73rd Ave. Commerce City CO 80022.

Ramona Lucio Yslas

Ramona was born on Aug. 19, 1930 and passed away on Sat., December 10, 2016.

Ramona was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado.

Mass of the Christian Burial on December 15, 2016 at Our Lady Mother of the Church, Commerce City CO 800022. Interment Elmwood Cemetery.

Shirley Mae Johnson

Oct. 5, 1932 - Dec. 15, 2016

Shirley was born Oct. 5, 1932 in Royal Oak, Michigan to Clyde A. Levell and Lottie Mae (Harris) Levell. She married Wayne Johnson of McLellan, Arkansas on Aug. 5, 1950.

Preceded in death by parents and husband. She is survived by two children Tami (Mike) Magoon and Mike and Kevin Johnson and Sue, four grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She loved the Lord and went to meet Him on Dec. 15, 2016.

Services: Elmwood Cemetery, Brighton, CO.

Gaunt, Kenny (Colleen) Dodson, Troy Dodson, Nicole (Brian) Emerson and Aaron (Sarah Davis) Dodson, great-grandchildren Kevin, Jamie, Allie, Logan, and Rowen, and 3 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Kenneth, daughter Kaye and her husband Don Gaunt and grandson Jerry Gaunt.

Albert Lee Conway, July 28, 1944 - Dec. 13, 2016, Commerce City, CO

CONWAY, Albert Lee "Bud", age 72, passed away with his family by his side on Tues., Dec. 13, 2016, at North Suburban Medical Center in Thornton, CO.



He leaves behind his companion of 27 years, Patsy Davis; his daughters Deborah Brown, Constance (Doug) Lake, and Rebecca (Kyle) Nannini; his brother Donald (Terri) Woods; sisters Judy (Darrell) Armstrong and Mary Conway; his mother Laura (Detwiler) Conway; nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; Patsy's children and grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He joins his son John Albert "Joal" Conway; his father Albert Clayton Conway; his mother Hellen (Mitchell) Conway; his sister Francis Bower; and his brother John Conway.

Born in Denver, CO and raised in Commerce City, CO, he spent his young adulthood in the Air Force and later working as a ranch hand. He then met his wife and moved to Aurora, IL to raise his family. After divorcing, he settled back in Commerce City where he met his companion, and later caregiver, Patsy.

In addition to spending time with all his family, he was passionate about fishing, his dogs, his trucking business, cars, trucks, motorcycles, gardening, NASCAR, and pride in his heritage. A funeral service was held Sat., Dec. 17, 2016 at the Olinger Highland Mortuary Chapel, Thornton, CO.

Paula Marie Miyake

May 3, 1950 - Dec. 14, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

Paula M. Miyake is survived by her mother, Marlene Bronish; her husband, Rudy; sons Philip (wife Stacie) and Michael; sisters Betty, Mary (husband George), Connie (husband Wes); seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Reception held at: Knights of Columbus, Northglenn, CO 80234, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Special thank you to the caterer: Beltran's Meat Market at 11920 Washington St. in Northglenn, Colorado, 80233.

Mascarenas, Alanzo

Died Thanksgiving day - resident Adams Heights, Commerce City, CO

Visitation Sat. with services at 11:00am, both at Olinger Crown Hill. She will be laid to rest with her husband at Olinger Crown Hill Tower of Memories.

2016 Commerce City Historical Society Accomplishments

January

- * Established a Neighborhood History Committee – January 16
- * Class of 1976 – Planning their 40th Class Reunion
- * Established a committee to work with the SACFD for history and displays

February

- * February 27 – Denver History Museum tour at the CCHS Museum

March

- * Received Quality Community Foundation Grant March 2

April

- * Coloring Book second edition printed and distributed to all second grade students (School District 14 and 27J) 1000 children April 16, 17
- * Completed and printed the Spring newsletter

May

- * From Time To Time Luncheon Sunday May 1, 2016
- * Plant Sale and Garage Sale May 9
- * Trip to Central City May 17
- * Coloring contest Winner Presentation at City Hall May 18

June

- * Hosted table at Neighborhood Outreach – June 9 at Reunion

July

- * Riverside Cemetery Tour – July 23

August

- * Hosted National Night Out at Our Saviour Lutheran Church with the church – Tuesday, August 2, 2016
- * Hosted table at Neighborhood Outreach – {Pioneer Park} – August 11
- * Hosted a table at “Back to School Night” at Adams City Middle School, August 29
- * Completed and printed the Summer Newsletter

- * Honest John Presentation - August 13

September

- * Hosted a table at the SACVFD Spaghetti Dinner, Sat., Sept 10
- * Central City bus tour – September 11
- * Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center Second Anniversary, Saturday, September 17
- * Hosted 8th Annual CCHS Pioneer Picnic Sept 17 at the Museum in conjunction with second anniversary
- * Participated in the “Meet the Space” located at 6601 Colorado Blvd for Con-Cept - September 30

October

- * October 1, Garage Sale at the museum
- * Presentation to Rotary Club for city history
- * Participated in the Eagle Street Halloween Hall Walk at ACHS – Oct 26
- * Participated in the Craft Fair at OSLC – Saturday, October 29

November

- * Created a 2017 calendar on sale, December 1
- * Completed and distributed Fall Newsletter
- * Display at Alsup Elementary and Adams City Middle School
- * Monday Nov 21 – Presentation to City Council for the first year in the museum
- * City Bus Tour for the CC Leadership program – November 4

December

- * Participated in Derby Winter Festival-Donated cookies and sponsored a coloring table - Dec 3
- * Participated in the CCBPA silent auction at Sunshine Plumbing – December 14
- * Christmas Lights recognition awards

In Memoriam

Betty L. Mathews,

Jan. 19, 1927 -
Nov. 12, 2016

Betty L. Mathews of Commerce City, Colorado passed away November 12, 2016 surrounded by her loving family.

Betty was born



January 19, 1927. She married James Junior Mathews and together they raised their children in Missouri eventually moving to Colorado. Betty is survived by her children and grandchildren. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

A visitation held Nov. 17, Olinger Highland Mortuary, Thornton, CO. Funeral was Nov. 18 at 10:00 am also at Highland.

Alisha Michelle Ulibarri

Apr. 22, 1991 - Nov. 6, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado. Arrangements Olinger Crown Hill Mortuary, Cemetery & Arboretum, Wheat Ridge, CO

Henry J. Younger

Henry J. Younger, 84, of Thornton; husband of Theresa Younger; father of Debi J. (Richard) Crum and Sheri Lee Murphy. Also survived by 4 sisters, 2 brothers, 9 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. Rosary Thursday, 7PM, Horan & McConaty Family Chapel, 9998 Grant Street. Funeral Mass Friday, 11AM, Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, 2361 East 78th Avenue.

Published in *Denver Post* on Dec. 14, 2016

Hodji Tobias Bruin

Nov. 15, 1972 - Nov. 22, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado



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

Marylou Elaine Crespin

Marylou was born on Nov. 17, 1964 and passed away on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016.

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

She was married to Dwayne.

Gathering: Fri., Dec. 9 2016 from 11:00am to 12:00pm Newcomer Funeral Home, Lakewood CO 80226. Service: Fri., Dec. 9 2016 at Newcomer Funeral Home, Lakewood CO 80226 Interment: Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge CO 80033.

Senator Robert Martinez

Sept. 6, 1943 - Nov. 21, 2016

Commerce City, CO Senator was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of his passing.

Bob was a graduate of Holly High School. He attended Lamar Junior College and then transferred to the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo where he received his Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He then received his Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Colorado-Boulder. Bob was also a graduate of the John F. Kennedy Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Governments at Harvard University.

Memorial service for Senator Bob Martinez held on Dec. 2 at Our Lady Mother of the Church in Commerce City. Rosary: 11:00 AM with Mass following at 11:30. A reception followed.

Robert "Bob" Martinez, a low-key state legislator who served for 20 years and was an advocate for Latinos, died Nov. 21. He was 73.

The Democrat, a longtime Commerce City resident, served two terms in the state House of Representatives and four terms in the Senate, leaving the Capitol in 2000 because of term limits.

He died last week of unspecified causes.

During a 20-year legislative career, Martinez ascended to the position of chairman of the Senate Democratic caucus during a long period of Republican control. He also served as chairman of the joint Legislative Audit Committee.

He was a vocal advocate for Latinos' electoral clout and for improvement of the educational system. He called attention repeatedly to high dropout rates in Colorado schools, especially among Latino students.

"Our parents were migrants, and they pushed us all to be educated, to become leaders not followers," said Angel Marie Sanchez, Martinez's sister.

He also at times took to the Senate floor to speak out about incidents tarnishing Latinos. That included taking exception in 1999 to an Aurora high school baseball coach's reported



comment that most of his school's students were "Mexicans" and only wanted "to hang out in the parking lot with their gangs."

Martinez underlined that Colorado's Mexican-American residents took pride in their heritage — making it as difficult to turn "Mexican" into an insult as "Italian," he said, according to the Rocky Mountain News' account at the time.

"It was important to Bob that he be a positive role model for Mexican-Americans, especially the youth," she said. His family also recalled Martinez's passion for helping the elderly, veterans, children and the homeless.

One year, Martinez was in a store with son Julian when they saw some children buying food for their family alone. "He overheard them talking about how they wanted (a Sony Walkman) for Christmas," his son recalled, but their parents couldn't afford the gifts. Martinez walked over and bought one for each of them. "I'll never forget it," Julian Martinez said.

Martinez, a Colorado native, grew up as one of 10 children in tiny Holly, on the southeastern plains. Over his lifetime, he would save two members of his family from drowning.

His parents were Benito and Alfreida Martinez.

He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo, then a master's degree in sociology from the University of Colorado.

Martinez also was known for his subtle sense of humor. Once, he served as governor for 30 hours because of administrative changes. "He liked to say that when he was governor no taxes were raised and no riots ensued," Sanchez said.

Outside the legislature, Martinez founded the Mexican American Policy Institute and the Colorado Association of Chicanos in Higher Education.

When his final term in the Senate was up, the News noted that Martinez's tenure was unparalleled by his colleagues. He said his approach may have been under the radar, but he was able to pass an average of three bills a year as a member of the minority party.

"I'm leaving the legislature after doing what I think is a good job," he told the newspaper. "I'm just not one to trumpet what I am and what I do."

Martinez is survived by two sons, Julian and Gerald; three grandchildren; six siblings; and other extended family members.

The Denver Post, Nov. 28, 2016

Genevieve (Genny) Schepker

Genny was born Mar. 7 1950 in Sterling, CO and passed away Dec. 26, 2016,

Husband Larry and Genny moved into their home in Adams City in 1972 and lived there until their deaths.

They have one son Joseph (Christine) Schepker, Thornton, CO; daughters Holly (Troy) Hall of Arvada and daughter Misty (Alan) Schneidt of Henderson.

Genny leaves behind her mother Clara



Headley, Sterling, CO; sisters Judy Fredricks of Nebraska, Olivia Palmer, Nebraska and Terry Lee, Montana, one brother Kevin Headley of Alaska; three granddaughters, two grandsons, and one great granddaughter.

Preceded in death by father Harvey Headley, sister Linda Adams and her beloved husband Larry Schepker.

Genny was employed at Interect Medical Supply Company for 34 years as a supervisor. The company closed the day of her service for employees to attend her service.

Genny Schepker always had an infectious smile and laugh, loved her family, backyard bird feeders and the Annual Hawaiian Luau's. Her kindness touched many and was respected by her co-workers and friends.

CCHS appreciates our business members!

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Commerce City Historical Society

Application for Membership

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Annual Dues

***Please make checks payable to: Commerce City Historical Society,
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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☐ Phone Calls

☐ Working at Events

☐ Work at the Museum

☐ Moving Items

The History of Metropolitan State Bank (currently Key Bank)



Metropolitan State Bank was established in 1950 by a group of local business men

Some of them were: Floyd Templeton, Al Krogh & Herb Hast Sr. The location of this bank was 6401 East 72nd Avenue (72nd and Locust Street), now Seguros Insurance.

The 2nd location for the Metropolitan State Bank was located at 7250 Monaco Street.

In the fall of 1954, The Agnew family purchased the bank. The family members were Kenneth Sr. and Olive Agnew, Charles Mann and Rick and Kenneth Agnew Jr.

Kenneth Sr. and Olive Agnew came from Sidney, Nebraska in the early 50s and lived in Park Hill. Their sons were Rick and Kenneth. Charles Mann was an Uncle to Rick and Kenneth Jr.. Kenneth Sr. retired from John Deere Implement Company. Charles was a banker. Richard was also in banking and Kenneth Jr. was an Accountant. Orrel Daniels was their Attorney.

Kenneth Sr., Olive and Charles are deceased, Richard lives in Lake Ha-

vasu, Arizona and Kenneth lives in Colorado. Orrel Daniels passed away in 2010.

In 1967 the family purchased land located at 6565 East 73rd Avenue and sold the bank building located on Monaco Street to Dr. John Baker.

They developed and excavated the land on 73rd Avenue and built a new bank. While excavating they found a landfill full of trash which had to be cleaned up.

In 1976 The Agnew family sold the bank to a new group of local business men, some of which included Leonard McCain, Edward Brown, Orrel Daniels, Kenneth Gahagen and Ivan Jergensen.

Orrel Daniels was the first City Attorney for Commerce Town and later Commerce City, before Bob Gehler was hired. He was also a city attorney for Brighton and Thornton. Ed Brown and Leonard McCain

were Attorneys from Brighton

Orrel Daniels sold to Kansas City Group and they sold to Omni Bank which was bought out by the 1st Bank of Minneapolis, which was acquired by Key Bank, in March 1995 and is the current bank located at 6565 East 73rd Avenue. The Bank Manager is Kathy D'Amico. When Kathy left, Gary Ulam was hired. Gary left in December 2016. The new manager as of December 15, 2016, is Blanca Zamarripa.

Editor's note: Can you remember how happy all the Derby, Adams City, Dupont, Irondale, Rosehill, Monaco and Henderson residents were when we finally had a bank in town. We all stopped by for the grand opening or at least the first week to open accounts and to look at the new addition to our community.



Seeking nominations for the Jean Klein Angel awards

The Commerce City Historical Society will host their Annual Jean Klein Angel Awards luncheon on Sun., May 7, 2017 at the Yellow Rose Event Center, 6490 E. 72nd Place. CCHS needs some help with the nominations.

Time is short so send your nomination to the Commerce City Historical Society, 6505 E. 60th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022.

Museum is open 10 - 2, six days a week. Pick up your nomination form at that location or call Esther Hall at 3.249.1930 or Debra Bullock, 3.946.3426.

"The Commerce City Historical Society has initiated the Jean Klein Angel Award to honor recipients that have made contributions of time and talent to the City, the people and the area that profoundly and positively affected our history.



Jean Klein

Museum hours

Mon. - Sat.

10 am - 2 pm

Museum address:

6505 E. 60th Ave