The Louisville Historian

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Bella Vista: 65 Years On

by Bridget Bacon, Museum Services Supervisor

The creation of the Bella Vista neighborhood on the south side of Louisville in 1957 and the construction of its modern ranch and split-level homes over the following years were the cap to a decade full of changes in Louisville. Sixty-five years after its start, we look at the history of this post-WWII development.

The 1950s were a transformative time for many U.S. communities, and this was especially the case in Louisville. The changes that took place in town during this time, particularly with respect to infrastructure, are astonishing. At the beginning of the decade, when most of the coal mines were closing or had already closed, Louisville homes still had outhouses and the town lacked a sewage system; homes were heated with coal; streets were unpaved and lacked curbs and gutters; the telephone system used operators and hand-cranked telephones; and the streets were not well connected with highways and other towns in the area. There had been no significant growth for decades, and the approximately fifteen subdivisions making up Old Town Louisville had all been established by 1912, with one new, small subdivision (named Fischer) that was added in 1948.

This County Assessor photo shows 109 Rose St. in about 1963, soon after it was built. Through the carport, one can see the Front Range to the west and a landscape that today looks very different.

Amid community conversations in the Fifties about how to keep the town thriving following the closures of the last Louisville-area coal mines, some residents persevered to bring Louisville into the modern era. Essentially, the town lacked funding for critical infrastructure that people in many other places by that time took for granted. Civic and business leaders organized themselves and residents to come up with plans for change.

By 1957, when the Bella Vista subdivision was platted, Louisville was no longer a struggling coal-mining town. In the early 1950s, voters approved a bond issue to pay for a sewage system that the town otherwise would not have been able to fund, and people began to add bathrooms to their homes. Natural gas, which many feared would threaten the coal economy, came in and received a favorable community response. The telephone company, Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph, switched to dial telephones in Louisville. Efforts to bring more water came to fruition with the 1956 opening of a twelve-mile-long pipeline from Eldorado Springs. The community had begun looking for a suitable location for a new grade school to replace the decades-old frame building. The town made efforts

to pave streets and add curbs and gutters. And the Rocky Flats plant manufacturing nuclear weapons parts opened in 1952 and became a major employer for Louisville and the entire Denver area.

Bella Vista was Louisville's version of the post-WWII housing boom sweeping the nation as a response to the millions of military personnel returning to civilian life and to increases in marriage and birth rates. The men behind Bella Vista were themselves veterans of World War II who were starting families. Bella Vista's existence and success were due to the efforts of these Louisville businessmen who recognized this need and the existence of a favorable market for more housing.

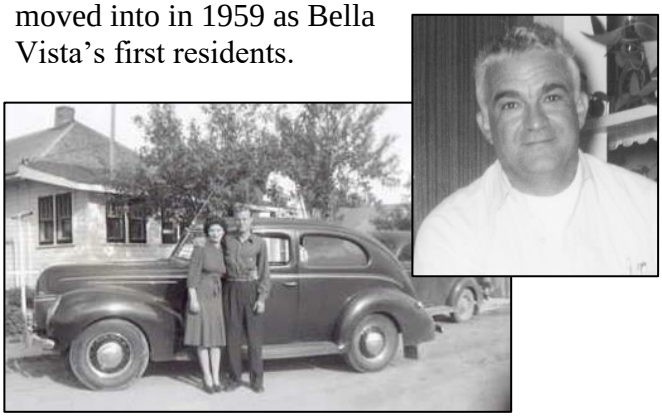
Historical records suggest this property on the south side of Old Town Louisville had previously been owned and controlled by Rocky Mountain Fuel Co, a company that owned coal mine properties in the area. Before that, according to 1889 articles in Denver newspapers, Mahlon "Ajax" Johnson wanted to develop the area around Johnson Street (on the north edge of where Bella Vista is today) as a new town that he wanted to name "Ajaxville" after himself and the nearby Ajax Mine that he controlled. This would surely have included the area that became Bella Vista. Johnson changed his mind, instead annexing Johnson St. to Louisville and leaving the area around Johnson open for future Louisville expansion.

The developers, Herbert Steinbaugh, Glenn Steinbaugh, James Milton McDaniel, and Anthony "Joe" Madonna, acquired the land for the Bella Vista development from Klubert and Helen Warembourg, Romie and Nelle Green, and Boulder Laundry, Inc. The project, which consisted of 62 homes spread over 13 acres on the west side of Roosevelt, was closely aligned with Steinbaugh's Lumber Co., which was then located on Front Street. Two of the partners, Herbert Steinbaugh (1923-2013) and Glenn Steinbaugh (1927-2013), were the grandsons of Steinbaugh's founder, J.J. Steinbaugh, and the sons of Herman and Laura Steinbaugh. In 1956, Herbert was president of Steinbaugh's and Glenn was vice-president.

The third partner was Anthony "Joe" Madonna (1917-1984), who had also grown up in Louisville. In the 1950s, he worked as a building contractor. (He was instrumental in bringing about many of the changes in Louisville in the 1950s, and the Louisville Historical Commission selected Joe Madonna to posthumously receive the 2017 Pioneer Award in recognition of his contributions during that time.) Joe Madonna's sister, Lois, was at the time married to James Milton McDaniel (1916-1998), the fourth partner, who was a manager at Steinbaugh's.

Herbert Steinbaugh, seen in a 1984 photo from the Louisville Times, and Glenn Steinbaugh, seen in 1978.

The four developers formed the S & M Corporation (a reference to their names, which were Steinbaugh, Madonna, and McDaniel) to sell lots in the new neighborhood. Newspaper advertisements from the time show that one could have a house built, or build one's own in accordance with the covenants. Steinbaugh's Lumber Co. supplied lumber and materials for the construction of at least some of the houses that would be built in Bella Vista. Joe Madonna also constructed some of the homes in the development, including the very first home, which was a show home that Claire and Ray Van Meter moved into in 1959 as Bella Vista's first residents.



Two more of the developers: Joe Madonna in the 1963 photo at the right, and James McDaniel with his wife Lois Madonna McDaniel, standing next to a car.

Anyone who drives or walks through this subdivision no doubt wonders about the origins of the street names that are women's given names. The four men involved in the project named the streets

for their wives. Aline Street was named for Aline DiGiallonardo Steinbaugh, wife of Glenn; Rose Street was named for Rose Dionigi Steinbaugh, wife of Herbert; Lois Drive was named for Lois Madonna McDaniel, wife of James McDaniel; and Barbara Street was named for the wife of Joe Madonna. She was an English war bride whom Joe Madonna had met and married during World War II.

The 1957 plat of Bella Vista.

Advertisements in the *Louisville Times* newspaper show that the Bella Vista development's beautiful mountain views after which it was named (in Italian, no less) were a big selling point. However, another selling point was the more practical consideration of the promise of paved streets and curbs and gutters (at a time when Louisville was struggling to add these to the existing town). It certainly helped that promoters could highlight Louisville having the lowest taxes in Boulder County. The developers also used Bella Vista's covenants, which addressed such things as required building materials and lot sizes, to market the development. Each house had to be constructed at a cost of at least $9,000 and the exterior walls had to consist of at least 50% masonry, with certain minimum square footage requirements for each floor.

Bella Vista's appearance and regulations marked it as a "modern" neighborhood, setting it apart from the older homes in Old Town and increasing its appeal. Each house was required to have a garbage disposal. The covenants also prohibited backyard chickens, most likely in response to the common practice of raising chickens elsewhere in Louisville. Reflecting community concerns about sanitation and trash disposal, backyard incinerators for burning trash were required to be kept in a clean and sanitary condition. Memory Delforge, who was an early resident, remembers that each of the "top-notch" incinerators was covered with brick that matched the brick on that particular house.

Building Code Restrictions

RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

50% Masonry (Exposed Wall Surface)
Incinerators
Disposals
Minimum Floor Space Requirements

Part of an advertisement for Bella Vista in the Louisville Times, Oct. 25, 1957.

The homes in Bella Vista were most likely the first homes in Louisville to be built without outhouses. By the late 1950s, Louisville had transitioned away from outhouses and had gotten on the new sewer system, but surely the opportunity to live in a modern house that had never had an outhouse in the back yard was appealing to many prospective buyers. Additionally, the bathrooms in Bella Vista homes were part of each home's floor plan, whereas owners of older Louisville homes had added on indoor bathrooms that often made odd configurations in the homes' floorplans.

Exclusive Features

PAVED STREETS
CURB & GUTTER
CITY SEWER & WATER
Sewer and water laterals installed to property side of sidewalk included in purchase price.
INSURED TITLES
APPROVED PLANS
BEAUTIFUL
MOUNTAIN VIEW
SPACIOUS BUILDING SITES
PUBLIC & PAROCHIAL
SCHOOLS
CHURCHES

Part of an advertisement for Bella Vista that appeared in the Lafayette Leader, Nov. 15, 1957.

Bella Vista Addition Gets Its Ist Residents

Headline from the Louisville Times, March 13, 1959.

Some Louisville residents who could not find housing in Louisville moved to new developments in Broomfield and around the area, but many longtime Louisville families were able to stay in Louisville as a result of having homes available to buy in Bella Vista. Some of the family names of longtime Louisville families who were early owners of Bella Vista properties were Bammer, Berry, Coet, De Santis, Delforge, DiCarlo, Domenico, Ferguson, Finleon, Junior, Kimmett, Kranker, Kupfner, Lombardi, Martella, Pol, Rotar, Ryan, Steinbaugh, Symanski, and Wisek. Members of many these families still live in Bella Vista. As resident Jeff Bradley says, "Bella Vista has residents of Louisville who have lived here for decades. It's wonderful to walk the streets and see them sitting out. They keep an eye on things and can tell stories of past times in our town. The late David (Fergie) Ferguson lived on the corner, and he was a great soul. . . . When we moved to Louisville, merchants and others would ask us which neighborhood we lived in and even what house. We would tell them 'the Martella house' and they very often would say that they knew the family." Jeff likes that his house had a doorbell on the back door.

This section of an aerial photo from 1962 (looking east) shows the construction progress in Bella Vista.

When it started, Bella Vista was <u>the</u> place to be for a young family in Louisville. Karen Scarpella, whose father Glenn Steinbaugh was one of the developers and whose mother Aline has a street named for her, can speak to that. Karen, who now lives next to the house she grew up in, remembers that when she and her siblings were growing up, they had a lot of neighborhood friends to play with. In the summer months, she and other kids would stay out playing games until well after dark. Claire Van Meter, who with her husband Ray moved into the first home in Bella Vista, recalled in a 2019 oral history interview that the new neighborhood had "loads and loads of children." This characteristic, she said, even led to people referring to Bella Vista as "Fertile Valley."

Neighborhood residents Paula Elrod and Memory Delforge recall how the then-isolated setting and all of the construction going on gave plenty of opportunities for children to play (sometimes in ways that wouldn't be allowed today). Paula says that in the early 1960s, she and her friends and siblings "built tree houses in the big cottonwood trees behind the houses and built forts in the open fields out of the plywood and scrap wood from the houses that were under construction as our own tiny town," and they built huts out of cornstalks in a nearby field. Memory remembers that whenever there was a mound of dirt on a lot from a new foundation being dug out, kids would play on it.

The location ultimately selected for the new Louisville Elementary School was a short half-mile walk from Bella Vista, and the school opened in 1964. Walkability remains a highlight of Bella Vista, new Bella Vista resident Sloane Whidden explains. Bella Vista's proximity to Main Street, parks, and Louisville Elementary, Sloane says, make for a neighborhood that feels "old fashioned in the best possible way."

Part of an advertisement from the Louisville Times, August 26, 1960.

Sloane also notes Bella Vista's "multi-generational, deeply rooted feel" and the way in which neighbors "tend to meet each other quickly and get to know familiar faces" due to its small size and the fact that it has clear boundaries. Resident Jeff Bradley likes the easy access to the Coal Creek Trail and the concerts at nearby Community Park – amenities that did not exist yet when the development was created.

As Karen Scarpella notes, "With the changing of time, most of the kids grew up and moved away and most of their parents passed on. Now we have new young families living on these four streets and with them are their young children. And as their kids grow, they too will be playing and having fun until well after dark. It's nice to hear the laughter of children on these streets again." Sixty-five years after the development started, Bella Vista's identity seems to have shifted from being Louisville's version of an exciting, modern post-WWII subdivision of the late 1950s with lots of young families to being more of a settled, multi-generational neighborhood. Its history, architectural styles, and identity add to the interesting mix that is Louisville.

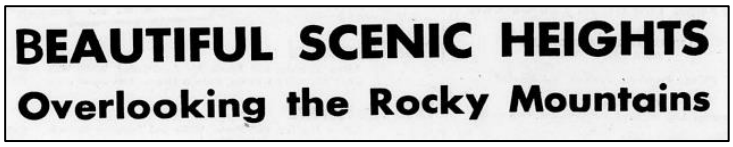
Thank you to all who contributed information and stories for this article. Do you have information or photos relating to Bella Vista to share? Please contact the Museum!

The research sources for this article, besides information from Louisville residents, are newspaper articles on the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection and Boulder County property records.

The Museum is making Bella Vista the focus of the Museum's activities during both the First Friday Art Walk on May 6 and the "Lenses on Louisville" community photography project on May 7. See page 9 to find out more!

Scenic Heights Followed Closely On the Heels of Bella Vista

The Scenic Heights Subdivision plat in 1959 closely followed Bella Vista's 1957 plat and was established for similar reasons. This neighborhood of about 60 midcentury homes is located on the south side of South Boulder Road. The Goodhue irrigation ditch marks the south border of the subdivision. The subdivision's location close to Louisville High School (which became Louisville Middle School in 1972) was no doubt an attractive selling point.



Section of an ad from the Louisville Times, Aug. 26, 1960

Carmen "Carmie" Scarpella was the person most closely identified with the establishment and development of Scenic Heights. He was in partnership first with Joe Colacci, then with Charles Hindman.

The accompanying image from a 1962 aerial photo of Louisville (looking east) shows the Scenic Heights neighborhood while houses were under construction. South Boulder Road is seen on the left side of the photo and the Goodhue Ditch runs vertically through the center of the photo. The image shows how many of the first houses were located on Circle Drive. One can also see the subdivision's relationship to Louisville High School, shown in the upper right corner of the photo.

Volunteer Update: Opportunities with Oral Histories and Summer Programming

By Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff

After a two-year hiatus, the Museum is happy to announce that we are resuming in-person oral history interviews and will be inviting our special events volunteers back to help with our summer programs. If anyone is interested in helping out with this summer's First Friday Art Walks or would like to help us record people's stories of Louisville, reach out to me via email.

Thanks to all of our volunteers who have supported us!

Collections and Research

Kathleen Dahl	Amy Marks
Courtney Robinson	

Programming Volunteers

Cate Bradley	Vicki Quarles
Memory Delforge	Joanie Riggins
Kate Gerard	Jessica Spanarella
Christy Gray	Chris Torrence
Becky Harney	Elyssa Torrence
Carolyn Anderson Jones	Mia Torrence
Kelly Keena	Sloane Whidden
Diane Marino	Carol Williams
Ava Morgan	Corrie Colvin Williams

Oral History Volunteers

Noelle Gatto	Jean Morgan
Ady Kupfner	Dustin Sagrillo
Betty Solek	

Rose Garden Beautification

Marty McCloskey

Conservation News

By Gigi Yang, Museum Staff

As masking restrictions ease up, many people are happy to see the faces of old friends again. At the Museum, we are happy to finally get a full view of some items that have not been very accessible for many years. When these panoramic photographs and paper documents were donated, they were being stored tightly rolled in tubes. As a result, the photo surfaces were cracked and the aged paper could not be safely unrolled without help from a professional conservator. With generous funding from the Louisville History Foundation, the Museum was able to send items for conservation and repair to paper conservator Jennifer McGlinchey-Sexton. Over several months, the photographs were left in humidified chambers and gently flattened. Paper documents were also treated with pH washes to stabilize acidity in the paper and lighten acid browning. After flattening and stabilizing the items, McGlinchey-Sexton custom built sturdy folders to safely support and store each item. The items that we can now examine in detail are:

- *Black Diamond World* newspaper from July 17, 1909 (one of the oldest newspapers in the Museum's collection)
- Poster for the Rex Theatre, c.1920s
- Two panorama photos of the Monarch Mine No. 2 from 1923
- Panorama photo of the Louisville High School classes in 1926 (seen here)

- Panorama photo of the 1st Annual Convention of the Colorado Industrial Union Council in Denver, 1938
- Panorama photo of the Boulder Valley Coal Company
- Centennial Mine day shift, August 14, 1942
- Photograph of the Louisville Hose Team, c. 1900-1920s
- Certificate for the Birth of the Order of the Knights of Pythias, c. 1920

It feels wonderful to have these 100-year-old Museum treasures treated and taken care of so they can contribute to our understanding of Louisville's history for many more centuries.

LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION

Jennifer Henderson
Loren Laureti
David Marks
Daniel Mellish
Jessica Spanarella
Joe Spanarella
Catherine Wessling

Louisville History Foundation News

By Joe Spanarella, Board Member

It's hard to believe that summer is right around the corner! Now that we are back to resuming regular social activities, the board of the Louisville History Foundation is excited to see the new Museum Courtyard on the north side of the Jacoe Store get used by the community. The Courtyard's design provides a vibrant space for the Museum to hold its programs and offers ADA-accessible seating and shade for visitors.

This wonderful addition to the Museum campus is a great opportunity for residents to meet, socialize, relax, and just soak in the scenery around them. We hope it will enhance how our community experiences Louisville history in both outdoor and indoor settings. I'd like to thank the efforts of our Chair Catherine Wessling, as well as the Board of Directors, for collaborating on this project. And while you are on the Museum campus, don't forget to check out the city's last-known ash pit that was relocated to the Museum in the second half of 2021.

In Louisville History Foundation-related business, the Board elected officers Catherine Wessling (Chair), Dan Mellish (Vice-Chair), Jessica Spanarella (Secretary), and Loren Laureti (Treasurer) for 2022. The Board meets monthly to plan and execute initiatives that bring awareness for the Museum and its programming. We're looking forward to a summer of exciting Museum events. We hope to see you there!

Thank you to the Louisville Cultural Council for enhancing the Museum Courtyard with its donation of two chairs from the 2020 Adirondack Chair Project. Artists were paid a stipend for painting the chairs, which were then displayed and used on Main Street during the summer and fall of 2020. These two were painted by local artists Blake Welch and Paul O'Donnell, respectively. Thank you!

Marshall Fire: Preserving Your Memories Workshops

By Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff

What is the role of a museum in the face of a tragedy like the Marshall Fire? Truth be told, the staff of the Louisville Historical Museum is still trying to answer that question. But in the months since the fire, the Museum staff has recognized that, as stewards of the City's historical objects and stories, our professional experience protecting, conserving, and preserving artifacts and oral histories might be helpful to anyone affected by the fire. In the weeks following the Marshall Fire, the Museum staff planned and organized a series of workshops using our skills and expertise to help our community recover. In these workshops, we've encouraged anyone who wants to stop by the Louisville Public Library and chat with us about how to clean damaged objects, record their stories, and have their family photographs scanned.

What has been truly amazing about these workshops, however, is how much community support the Museum has received in running them. Other museum professionals, group-facilitation consultants, radio, podcasting, and recording professionals, therapists, and graduate students from regional universities have all reached out to see how they can help us help our community. It's been truly humbling to field the many different offers of support we're receiving. In particular, thank you to CU-Denver Museum Studies students working with Dr. Rachel Gross, Co-Director of the CU-Denver Public History Program.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the first three workshops held in February and March:

Story Facilitation and Recording
Corrie Colvin Williams
Kelly Keena
Vicki Quarles
Karen Gerrity
Sabrena Stembridge
Kathryn Leonard
Margaret Graber-Heisinger
Lena Wenzel
Neil Kabrun
Lara Minichiello
Roger Keeler

Scanner Stations
Chris Torrence
Kim Bauer
Erin Albers
Grace Foster
David Anderson
Claire Steiner

Conservator Stations
Sarah Melching, Director of Conservation at the Denver Art Museum (pictured in photo on page 7)

Eric Olson of Eric Olson Master Jeweler

Michal Mikesell, professional conservator specializing in the care of paper & objects

Have objects you want to clean, stories you want to share, or photos you want scanned? We invite anyone looking to make use of these services to stop by our future workshops (dates are listed on page 9).

Historic Structures Lost in the Marshall Fire

By Kaylyn Flowers, Museum Staff

The Louisville Historical Museum has documented many aspects of the Marshall Fire and fire recovery. In this process of documentation, the Museum staff, Superior Historical Commission members, and others from Superior and Boulder have put together a tentative list of the many historic structures that were lost or damaged. These losses are felt deeply across the communities of Louisville, Superior, and Marshall and across the historic preservation community. Louisville was fortunate that historic downtown and surrounding neighborhoods were spared, but the impacts on Superior and Marshall were great. This was an immense loss of history for our community. Join us in recognizing these losses and in recognizing the importance of historic documentation and preservation efforts.

The Hake-McNulty House, 208 3rd St. in Superior, was among the historic structures lost in the fire. (Boulder County Assessor photo)

Though the structures are physically gone, the history, stories, and lived experiences of these historic structures will stay with us. To read more about specific structures that were lost, please visit the Louisville Historical Museum's news webpage.

Upcoming Programs and Events

The Museum invites the public to join us for these upcoming programs. For more information, visit the Museum website. All Museum programs are free.

Museum Participating in First Friday Art Walk
Friday, May 6, 6-8 PM
To follow up on the topic of this *Louisville Historian*'s lead article, stop by the Museum to learn about the historic Bella Vista neighborhood in Louisville with its romantically-named streets, architecturally unique houses, and more! Test your knowledge of Louisville history with a fun quiz and win prizes. This is a free, indoor-outdoor event at the Museum. Come by to discover other aspects of Louisville history at the Museum during other First Friday Art Walks this summer as well!

Lenses on Louisville
Saturday, May 7, 9 AM, Meet at 1001 Main St.

Help document Louisville history! Calling all citizen historians, photography enthusiasts, and architecture lovers for another Museum-sponsored outdoor photography event to celebrate Preservation Month in May.

This year, join Museum staff and other community members to photograph structures in the Bella Vista neighborhood. This neighborhood is less than a mile from the Museum where the event starts and ends. You are welcome to walk, ride, or drive to complete your photography assignment. Along the way, you will have the option to play Historic Building BINGO to win prizes! After completing your photo assignment, return to the Museum to donate your images to the Museum and help document contemporary Louisville for future generations.

This is a free event. Registration requested. Find details on the Museum's calendar.

Museum Take & Makes: The Museum, with the financial support of the Louisville History Foundation, sponsors free Take & Make kits at the Louisville Public Library. Follow the Museum's Instagram, @louisvillemuseum, to stay up to date on each month's theme and craft kit release dates.

The Historic Structure BINGO Cards will be available at the Museum (1001 Main St.) and the Louisville Public Library (951 Spruce St.) starting on Tuesday, May 3, during open hours. Play the BINGO scavenger hunt card to learn about local history and architecture during Preservation Month and win small prizes! These BINGO cards are available while supplies last.

Marshall Fire: Preserving Your Memories
Everyone is invited to these free, drop-in Museum workshops that will help residents care for items salvaged from the Marshall Fire with assistance from professional conservators, digitize family photos, and/or record their stories to document this time for the future. Drop in between 2-4 PM at the Louisville Public Library on:

Saturday, May 28
Sunday, May 29
Saturday, June 25
Saturday, July 30
Saturday, Aug. 27

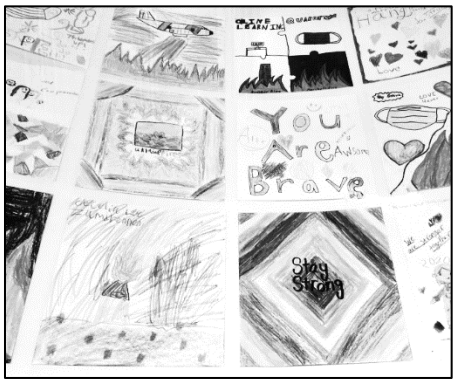
Your voice matters, and sharing stories can be healing. As our community continues to process the Marshall Fire, you're invited to share your story in order to historically document this time for the future. Sign up for a timeslot to share your story in person or share it online anytime with our Marshall Fire Story Project form. Please visit the Museum's website to learn more.

Saturday, June 11, 9 AM – Walking Tour, "Historic Trees of Downtown Louisville." Join Chris Lichty, City Forester, as he leads his popular tour about historic and significant trees in Louisville. Registration is required and space is limited. Find more details and registration information on the Museum's calendar. This tour meets in front of the Louisville Historical Museum, 1001 Main St. and will be offered again in September.

Saturday, June 25, 9 AM – Walking Tour, "Memory Square: Old Town Schools and Churches." Join Diane Marino and the Louisville Historical Museum for a walking tour of Old Town's historic schools and churches. This tour will give you a close look at Louisville's early places of learning and faith. Meet in front of the Louisville Center for the Arts (801 Grant Ave.) and listen to stories and information about historic buildings that have weathered many years and changes in Louisville. If only the walls could talk! You'll also learn about the longtime Louisville Grade School building that used to stand in Memory Square Park. Registration is required and space is limited. Find more details and registration information on the Museum's calendar. This tour will be offered again in September.

Reflections Exhibit is Up in Two Locations!

Have you seen the new community-curated Reflections Exhibit? It is on display through May in the front windows of the Louisville Historical Museum (1001 Main St.) and the Louisville Public Library (951 Spruce St.).



We recently passed the 2-year point since the COVID-19 Pandemic turned our lives upside down. Just when we thought we were heading towards normal, the Marshall Fire shook our community once again. The Museum and Library teamed up to help residents reflect on experiences, thoughts, and feelings during this time. Each reflections tile that makes up the exhibit was created by a member (or members) of the community.

LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Shelley Angell
Andrew Berzanskis
Paula Elrod
Jonathan Ferris
John Honan
Scott McElroy
Joe Teasdale

2021 Pioneer Award Recipient: The Community of Louisville

The Louisville Historical Commission decides on an annual award to a person or persons who have contributed to the welfare and interest of the Louisville community.

For 2021, the Commission considered all of the extraordinary ways in which residents, business owners, and those who work in Louisville persevered together to get through a difficult time during the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020 and 2021, and decided to honor the entire community with this award. No one could have predicted that on the next-to-last day of the year, Louisville would be further tested by the worst wildfire in Colorado history that would destroy hundreds of area homes. Since the fire, the community has once again revealed its generous and optimistic spirit through a multitude of charitable acts as well as many quiet expressions of support for affected neighbors. Thank you, Louisville community.

Welcome Back, Trott-Downer Cabins

The Trott-Downer Cabins were moved on March 16 to their new location at the southwest corner of Miners Field, where they are being rehabilitated and then will be interpreted and managed by the Museum. The Museum is excited to share the Cabins and their history with you in the future!

The Cabins are two small historic cottages that the City of Louisville acquired in order to preserve them and to feature them as a cultural attraction for residents, tourists, and school classes. They were constructed near Miners Field between 1935 and 1940 as part of a complex of several rental cabins.

For now, preservation work paid for by the Louisville Historic Preservation Fund continues and they are not yet open to the public. To learn more, visit the Trott-Downer Cabins page on the Museum's website.

Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations.

In Memory of "Granny" Esther Delforge (1916-1998)

Cliff & Sharon DelForge

In Memory of Donald Delforge (1936-2006)

Cliff & Sharon DelForge

In Memory of Lani Melvin (1943-2014)

Cliff & Sharon DelForge

In Memory of Roger Delforge (1946-2021)

Cliff & Sharon DelForge

In Memory of Patricia DiGiacomo Seader (1932-2021)

Daniel Mellish

In Memory of Michael Ferrera (1945-2021)

Betty Buffo

In Memory of Richard Channel (1935-2022)

Jean Morgan

In Memory of Wendy Leggett Kelly (1957-2022)

Elaine Biella
Betty Buffo
Virginia Caranci
Bob & Darlieen Del Pizzo

In Memory of Johnny Ray (1936-2022)

Elaine Biella
Betty Buffo
Bob & Darlieen Del Pizzo
Memory Delforge
Charles Kranker
Johnny Kranker

In Memory of Jo Louise Michaels (1941-2022)

Nancy Aicega
Ann Case
Memory Delforge
Johnny Kranker
Adrienne Kupfner
Dixie Lee Martella
Elizabeth Scriffiny

In Memory of Ethel Loftesness (1931-2022)

Adrienne Kupfner

Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum formally accepted the following donations during February through April. Thank you to the donors!

Norman Laurence – 23 color photos of the buildings on the Museum campus in about 1982, before the Museum was established. The donor was a member of the Historical Commission from 1982 to 1986. One of the photos, showing the Jacoe Store that is now the Museum's main building, is seen here.

Cassandra Volpe – ceramic mugs from Karen's Country Kitchen and menus and business cards from the Blue Parrot and Senor T's restaurants.

Gerald Malm – matchbook from the Blue Parrot restaurant.

Leo Deborski – tintype of William Pitchford; pay records from local coal mines; historic County property tax bills; and miscellaneous business receipts relating to Louisville.

Jean Morgan – Education Collection items.

Also, thank you to members of the public and all of the City staff and Museum volunteers who have helped with the Museum's "rapid response collecting" efforts relating to the Marshall Fire. Thanks to them, the Museum has collected photos, written stories submitted online, and recordings of stories, as well as such items as the maps that City staff used the day after the fire to identify losses, signs that were made to spread hope and thank first responders, a Colorado flag that was one of the two flags damaged at the Louisville Police Station that day, a sample resident pass that was needed to enter fire-damaged areas, signs

from support organizations that sprang up, and a damaged street sign.

On behalf of the Louisville community, the Museum is very grateful to the Boulder County Assessor's Office for donating nearly 800 pre-fire digital photos showing the front exteriors of buildings that were lost in the fire. (One such photo appears on page 8.) The Museum now has photos of most of the destroyed structures in its collection. Thank you so much!

Thank You for Your Monetary Donations!

Thank you to the following people and organizations for their recent generous monetary donations, other than memorial donations, to the Louisville History Foundation and Museum. Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

Brian & Elizabeth Armstrong
Delta Dental
Diane Bailey Family
Barron & Susan Biederman
Lori & Scott Chandler
Cynthia Dionigi-Huffman
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Regrets

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of regular members Ethel Loftesness, Jo Louise Michaels, and Johnny Ray.

Don't Miss an Issue of The Louisville Historian!

Membership in the Louisville History Foundation is a must for those interested in Louisville's unique history and cultural character! Membership is a joint program of the History Foundation and the Historical Museum. Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* with substantive articles about Louisville history.

A yearly membership is $20 for an individual and $35 for a family. A yearly Business Sponsorship is $125. You may visit the Museum website to print out a form. Make checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc. You may also join and renew online.

Historical Museum Staff

Bridget Bacon, Museum Services Supervisor
Kaylyn Flowers, Museum Technician – Outreach Services
Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician – Volunteer Services
Gigi Yang, Museum Technician– Collections & Exhibits

Historical Museum Tours, Contact Information, and Services

Museum Hours: The Museum is open for walk-in visitors! Groups and schools may request tours by appointment using the Museum's group tour form.

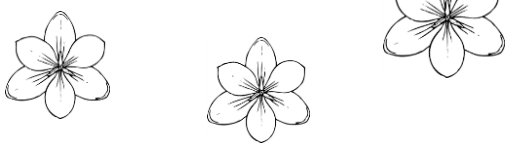
The Museum's regular hours are:

Tuesdays	10-3
Wednesdays	1-6
Thursdays	10-3
Fridays	10-3
Saturdays	10-3

Donations: Do you have a donation to offer to the Louisville Historical Museum? If you would like to ask about an artifact donation or have a specific research inquiry about Louisville history, please contact the Museum at museum@louisvilleco.gov or 303-335-4850. The best days to bring in items for consideration are Wednesdays and the third Saturday of each month.

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

Website: Keep up to date on information about the hours of operation and health & safety guidelines for your visit at the Museum website.



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Return Service Requested

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