From Time to Time

A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society

Preserving the history of Commerce City

(Jan. - Mar.) Spring 2016
Volume 7, Issue 1

In 2009 when the Commerce City Historical Society was established, Jean Klein passed away

If you were lucky enough to know Jean you would have known that she would always give you something when she would see you. One of those items was an angel. The angels we put on the plaques were given to us by the Klein family. So they were Jean's Angels!

Jean was involved with many organizations and boards and she was very active in getting our water cleaned up in Commerce City. Jean served as President of the South Adams County Water and Sanitation District for 30 years as she advocated for cleaner water.

At the end of 2009 we were planning our first annual From Time To Time event and we named our event awards the Jean Klein Angel Award. She was the first recipient. The awards given during this event in the honor of Jean, therefore naming it the Jean Klein Angel Award.

Recipients of this award are recognized for their contributions of time and talent to Commerce City. These individuals have profoundly and positively affected Commerce City history.

At our first Lunch in 2010 we honored; Jean Klein, Larry Ford, Bob Hutchings, Al Krogh, and Lester Arnold.

2011; Joe Gilas, Hal Rarick, Harlow and Shirley Leeper, and The Commerce City Rotary Club.

2012: Leo Younger, Casey Hayes, and some of our Founding Fathers.

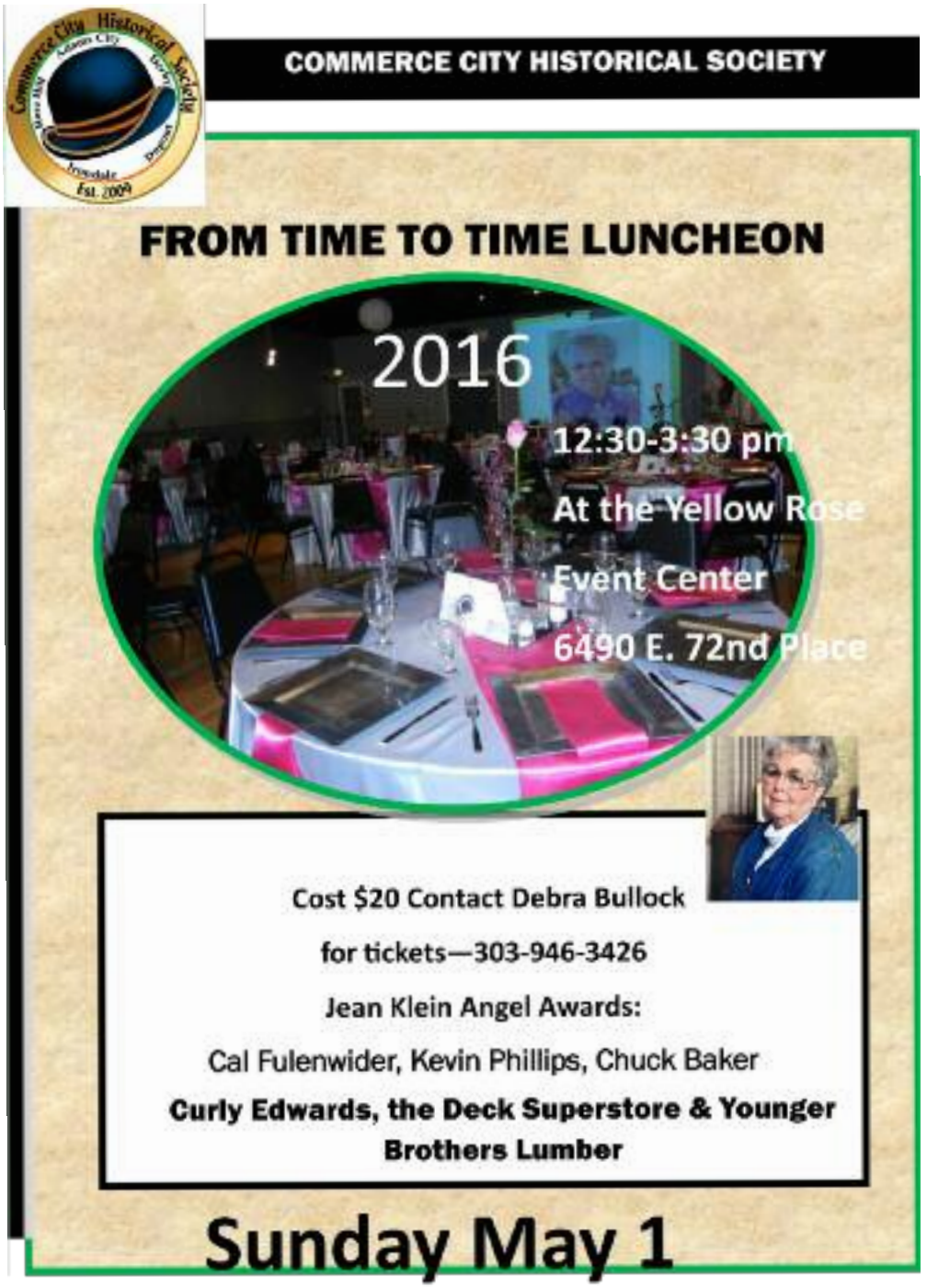
2013 we honored; Lou and Charlene Jaramillo, Barbara Jones, Norm and Janet Union and our "First Responders Award" Harold Hubbell, Sr. and Richard Watts who lost their lives as first responders for our city.

2014:Senator Bob Martinez, Paskey Teto, the Teter Brothers, Kids First, the Commerce City Charter Delegates.

2015: Reba Drotar, Lois Kimmes, CCHS Board of Directors and Robert Gehler.

Our first "Business Award" in 2014: Hi-Lo Employees Corporation and in 2015 we honored Riggi Oil.

Nominations are welcomed every year.. If there is someone you feel has profoundly and positively affected the Commerce City history and our community or a family member you feel may deserve this award please send in your nomination.



Space available. Make reservations today! $20 / plate.

From Time to Time Newsletter

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

Board Members
JoAnn Stevenson, President, 303-288-6749
Esther Hall, Vice President, 303-249-1930
Debra Bullock, Secretary/Treas., 303.946.3426
Sheila Harri, Membership, 720.939.0582
Reba Drotar, Historian, 303.921.1972
ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS
Pam Meier , Casey Hayes, Janet Union, Stephen Kreutzer, Thelma Cole

Submissions for Newsletter
Debra Bullock
Photos & Stories
Janet Union, Editor
303.288-4768 or unionnorm@qwestoffice.net

Winners at Mardi Gras Casino from the recent fundraising bus trip.



Winner Dodie Doren



Winner Donna Nunlee

Commerce City Historical Society

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Charter Members:

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

Winner Marjorie Hall







Just a sample of the flowers that are available for sale. The CCHS members are raising money by having a plant sale. All plants are $5 each. They will be available at the Annual Luncheon and if still available, at the Annual Plant Sale.

Sheila Harris elected CCHS board member March 2016





Sheila Harris, Is a lifetime resident of Commerce City. She was Born in 1968 to Hester and Cecil Bonnell. Sheila has three siblings Lester, Rodger and a twin sister, Shelly.

She attended Monaco Elementary School, followed by Adams City Middle School and finally Adams City High School where she graduated in 1987. Sheila is the proud mother of three great children. Gerrald, known as Jake (26), Donna (24) and Leah who is soon to be 14. She also has two grandchildren Sarah (5) and Abigail (1).

COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMS 2016

- ✓ **HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY CLASS** (Starts January)
- ✓ **YEARLY HISTORY LUNCH WITH CITY ENTITIES**
  (SACWSD,SACVFD, Adams 14, City and Police Department – Meet in January 13)
- ✓ **NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY COMMITTEE Reception – and quarterly meetings – (January 16, April 16, July 16 and October 15)**
- ✓ **MUSEUM TOUR and HISTORY PRESENTATION – Stars Program (February, October, November)**
- ✓ **HISTORY LECTURE SERIES: QUARTERLY** (at the Museum)
  Ardent Mills History-March 26
  Fish Hatchery History-June 18
  Hog Ranches in Commerce City History-September 24
  Early Farming in Commerce City - December 10
- ✓ **HISTORY COLORING BOOK DISTRIBUTION (**April 14 & 15)
- ✓ **BOOK DISTRIBUTION TO ALL 3RD GRADERS IN ADAMS 14** (May 5 & 6)
- ✓ **WORK PROGRAMS** (Storage Building, and Museum-June)
- ✓ **CEMETERY TOURS** (Commerce City Cemeteries – Riverside July 23 & Rose Hill– August 13)
- ✓ **FAMILY HISTORY WRITING PROJECT (Saturday 2-4)**
- ✓ **CITY BUS TOUR – HISTORY 101- As Scheduled**
- ✓ **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER** (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)
- ✓ **HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAMS** (sponsor a family with donations at Christmas)
- ✓ **VIDEO HISTORIES** (Families and City Events)

Out n about in Commerce City





The Villages at Buffalo Run East Groundbreaking….
Commerce City Celebrated Park Groundbreaking in Villages at Buffalo Run East on Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. 11698 Chambers Road.

Commerce City celebrated the beginning of construction on the new neighborhood park in Villages at Buffalo Run East. The event included elements from the Rocky Mountain and sports inspired theme with special guest speakers and light refreshments.





Turnberry Park Groundbreaking

Elected officials, elementary school students, and residents broke ground on the new Turnberry neighborhood park. The project is one of five capital improvements funded by a 1-percent sales and use tax increase approved by voters in 2013 that will build, operate and maintain new parks, recreation and road projects throughout the community.

Commerce City committed to complete five projects by Jan. 1, 2019 including:

1. Three new neighborhood parks:
   - Fronterra (opened to public August 2015)
   - Turnberry
   - Villages at Buffalo Run East
2. Widening of Tower Road from 80th to 102nd Avenues
3. A new recreation center at Second Creek, near Highway 2 and 112th
4. New additions to the existing recreation center
5. Outdoor leisure pool -Paradice Island Pool at Pioneer Park (opened to public July 2015)

The community selected a park theme inspired by Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" which was incorporated in the groundbreaking with a brief theatrical production from the second grade class of Turnberry Elementary School and city council members. One of three new neighborhood parks, the 9.5 acre site will open this summer and will include a multi-use hard court, playground, field and courts, picnic shelters and restrooms.

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 Veteran's Memorial was planned and built, located in Veteran's 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.



Wells-Fargo





Bob Gehler retirement celebration at Civic Center in April 2016



Bob Gehler (left) speaks with well wisher at Civic Center at the retirement gatherring.

Bob Gehler has held the City Attorney post in various forms since 1968. He has provided legal direction to the Commerce City Council, City Manager and departments. He retired April 4, 1916 after 47 years of service.

Originally from South Dakota, Gehler came to Colorado as a member of the Judge Adocate General (JAG) Corps at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in 1964. Ready to leave the Army, Gehler passed the Colorado Bar and joined the firm of Berger and Rothstein, whose office was just outside the west gate of the arsenal, in 1965. He served as assistant county attorney for Adams County from 1965-1968.

In 1970, residents voted overwhelmingly to become a home rule city, instead of a statutory city, and the process of adopting a city charter began. Approved on its first vote, the charter, which guides how government functions, has been amended only five times since it was adopted. Gehler cites this as one of the city's most memorable legal achievements.

"I have seen a lot of meetings and have rendered a lot of legal opinions and I can say that I have enjoyed the experience," said Gehler. "There are always a lot of challenges, but getting the northern development going and getting the golf course built are some of the most rewarding things on which I have worked."



CCHS members: JoAnn Stevinson, Sheila Harris, Esther Hall, Bob Gehler, City Attorney, and Debra Bullock. Front Pam Meier, Reba Drotar, Thelma Cole and Casey Hayes.

Groundbreaking on City's station on North Metro Rail Line



Mayor Sean Ford converses with an interested citizen at Groundbreaking on March 31. The station will be just west of Colorado Blvd at about E. 71st Ave.

From the heart of Commerce City, travelers will be able to hop on the commuter rail line, travel over the longest bridge in Colorado and be in downtown Denver in less time than it would take to drive. Upon completion, the North Line will bring RTD service through Denver, Commerce City, Northglenn, Thornton and north Adams County. The Commerce City station will include 359 parking places and surrounding development will include mixed use projects, providing new housing and employment opportunities.

The North Line will open in 2018 and will spark development of an important area of the City.

"The development is a major step in achieving the goals of the city's adopted Station Area Master Plan for the area, which emphasizes strengthening existing residential neighborhoods while allowing opportunities for new development," said Paul Workman, city planner.

Learn more about the city's Station Area Master Plan at www.c3gov.com/stamp.

Out n about in Commerce City

Thanks, Thelma



Thank you Thelma Cole for serving on the CCHS Board the past two years. You were a great help to the Historical Society and the Board will miss you.

Seven Commerce City Businesses Rise to the Top

Economic Development Breakfast

Commerce City honored seven local businesses who achieved great success last year at the eighth annual Commerce City Business Appreciation Awards event. Held at the Yellow Rose Event Center, the breakfast featured a keynote from Ardent Mills Chief Executive Officer Dan Dye, who highlighted the firm's recent corporate relocation to metro Denver and the company's history with Commerce City.

City Council members and emcee Susie Wargin presented awards in the following categories:

- Businesses On the Move: A.R. Wilfley & Sons, Inc., Commerce City Family Dentist, Denver Machine Shop, and Old Dominion Freight Line
- Entrepreneurial Spirit Award: Stryker By Design, Inc.
- Pam Downs Lilac Award for Leadership: Redd Iron, Inc.
- Business of the Year Award: United Parcel Service (UPS)

An awards selection committee, comprised of community business representatives, chose the winners from the nominations received.



Attendees at the Economic Development breakfast. The tulips were courtesy of the Commerce City Business &

Out n about in Commerce City



Commander Chuck Baker retires, April 1



Commander Charles Baker started his career with the Commerce City Police Department in 1979. On March 21, 1985, Officer Baker was promoted to Sergeant, where he continued to provide leadership in the patrol division and as a SWAT team leader.

On September 1, 1996, he was promoted to lieutenant and spent the next two years in the patrol, investigations, and administration divisions. In 2006 he served as acting Police Chief until September of 2008. Since October 2013, Commander Baker has been the Support Operations Administrative Commander, overseeing the department's $15 million budget, records function, youth service officers and information technology.

On January 28, 2016 Commander Baker announced that he accepted the position of Police Chief in Cody Wyoming. Thank you for all you have done for the community. You will be missed!



Visit the Museum on Saturdays from 10am - 2pm and see some of these beautiful displays for yourself!

Commerce City issues first retail marijuana license



City Clerk Laura Bauer issues the first marijuana license to Melissa Bradley, Lifestyle Foods, Inc. (r)

Commerce City issued its first marijuana license the week of Mar. 7, 2016, following the repeal of the city's temporary ban on retail marijuana businesses in 2015. Lifestyle Foods, Inc. received a retail marijuana products manufacturer's license, after successfully completing the seven-step licensing process.

The city's marijuana licensing team conducted 28 pre-application meetings since the repeal, resulting in 13 applications submitted. Four public hearings have been held, resulting in two approvals, one denial and one continuance. An additional three public hearings are scheduled April 22 to hear the continuance and issue a decision on two new applications.

There is no cap on the number of marijuana businesses allowed, but Commerce City has identified specific areas where marijuana operations can exist. In addition to repealing the moratorium, the city adopted a new licensing program for both medical and retail marijuana businesses and amended its land development, building, and fire codes to support safe and thoughtful marijuana regulation. To operate legally, marijuana businesses will need to follow the city's regulations as well as those of the state. More information is available at c3gov.com/marijuana.



Rose Hill Grange: A MOMENT IN HISTORY



The Rose Hill Grange at E. 4001 E. 68th Avenue and Colorado Blvd.

Rose Hill Grange No. 256 came into being on July 7, 1915. There were 36 charter members and Hamil Householder was named Master.

In its 60 year history, Rose Hill has had five different meeting places. First the Grangers met in the old frame Rose Hill Schoolhouse. When the new brick schoolhouse was built, they moved to that location. Subsequently, meetings were held at Adams City High School, and Irondale School. Finally, since January, 1955, the Grange has been able to meet in its own hall at 4001 E. 68th Avenue, Commerce City, Colorado 80022.

Past State Master Lee Pritchard and his wife were among the first to join Rose Hill Grange but they later changed their membership to Cherry Creek Grange when they moved to that community.

Rose Hill Juvenile Grange No. 11 was organized December 27, 1945, with 36 charter members. The Juvenile Grange was active until 1953.

The Home Economics Club or Women's Activities Committee was organized August 11, 1948. This group of hardworking ladies has contributed much to the financial success at the Grange ever since. In one month alone, they served 26 dinners and banquets. That was in April of 1956.

Members of Rose Hill Grange talked about building a new hall way back in 1920 but it was not until 1945 that they got down to business. On August 8, 1945, the Grange purchased five lots at Cherry Street and East 70th Avenue. Those lots were sold in 1947 and the site of the present building was purchased in January, 1948.

To build, of course, meant money. The building fund was swelled by projects like Christmas tree sales, home economic dinners and by pledges from the members.

Families who led the building of Rose Hill Grange as a strong community force are legion. Among distinguished names are the Garrisons, Kemps, Juhls, Jorgensens, Hansens, Morgensens, Kroghs, Brimacombs, Toxvards, Christiansens, Jacobsons, Meadows and countless others.

Activity lagged for two years but members pledged another $6400 toward the construction of the hall.
By March, 1950, there was almost $5000 in the building fund. Building plans were drawn up and the basement portion of the new hall was built by the end of 1951.

Brother Emmett Presler was named contractor to finish the building in 1954 and the Grange borrowed an additional $15,000 from another member to pay for it. The building was ready for the Grange Christmas party in 1954.
Everyone worked hard to pay off the mortgage. The new hall was rented to other groups. Home Ec continued to serve dinners, more Christmas trees were sold and dances were given often.

The mortgage was burned on July 7, 1953, exactly 38 years after Rose Hill Grange was formed.

Noteworthy members include the Bert Lucases, who have earned many plaudits for degree work and youth support. Annie Lucas was State Chaplain since 1967.

Throughout its long history, Rose Hill has striven for excellence in every area and has devoted a great deal of time and effort in matters ritualistic, educational, agricultural, legislative, community-oriented and social in nature.

Currently, you can contact this local grange at rosehillgrange.com to learn when meetings are held, hall rental for non profits could be available and/or other information. Please note that building is not ADA accessible.

Current Master is Norm Union, co-owner of Norm's Printing. He can be reached at 303.288.4768 weekdays.

COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2016 CALENDAR

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-6PM

JANUARY 15, 2016

MARCH 18, 2016 (Annual Meeting)

MAY 20, 2016

JULY 15, 2016

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

NOVEMBER 18, 2016

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

BOARD MEETINGS

2ND Monday of every month at 6pm

ANNUAL EVENTS:

Central City Fundraiser, Sunday MARCH 13 , 2016
History Coloring Book Distribution, Th/Fri APRIL 14 & 15, 2016
"From Time To Time" Luncheon, Sunday MAY 1, 2016
Third Grade Book Distribution, MAY 5 & 6, 2016
Commerce City History Coloring Contest Reception, MAY 16, 2016
Memorial Day Parade, Monday MAY 30, 2016
Victorian Afternoon Tea, Saturday AUGUST 27, 2016
Central City Fundraiser, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016
Pioneer Anniversary Picnic, Saturday SEPTEMBER 17, 2016
Christmas Lights History Bus Tour Saturday, DECEMBER 17, 2016

COMMERCE CITY HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER:

Hours: Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

In Memoriam

Mary Lupita Stone, 94, of Henderson, passed away Jan. 18, 2016. She was born June 1921 in Denver, CO to Bonifacio Maes and Luegardita Montoya. She attended schools in Brighton as the crop sharing would allow and married Joe Stone on November 25, 1938 in Brighton.



Mary has lived in Westminster for the last nine years and previously in the Commerce City area from 1960-1981. She was very active in the Chosen Woman of God Women's Ministry and a member of Victory Church in Broomfield. She worked as a clothing sorter for Denver Waste Material for over 40 years through numerous company names. Due to the death of her mother at a young age, Mary helped to raise her younger siblings, where she became quite a storyteller. She was known for her spunk and sense of humor. She was always active, exercising 2-3 times a week at the recreation center and always had energy that others wanted to bottle and save. Mary enjoyed going fishing and making trips up the mountain to "pull the one arm bandits". She loved to travel and even enjoyed traveling alone at the age of 82. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mary is survived by her children, Gloria (Mel) Abeyta of Henderson, Joseph (Yolanda) Stone of Thornton, Louise (Sam) Abeyta of Westminster, Tim Stone of Northglenn and Rodney Stone of Commerce City; two sisters, Deliah Espinosa of Chicago, IL and Mickey Ortega or Rosemead, CA; 24 grandchildren, 56 great-grandchildren and 57 great-great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Joe Stone and three children, Anthony Armijo, Larry Stone and Juanita Hunt. Memorial Mass, Friday, 11am at Our Lady Mother of the Church, 6690 East 72nd Avenue, Commerce City, 80022.

Angela T. Sherwood

Sept. 7, 1922 - Feb. 20, 2016, Commerce City



Angela Theresa Sherwood, 93, died at her home on February 20, 2016. Born in Rock Springs, Wyoming to Pasko and Elizabeth Radman, she was a long and active resident of Commerce City, Colorado where she was an avid gardener. She married Alford Sherwood in Laramie, WY June 7, 1944.

Survivors include one son Andrew Radman, daughter-in-law Doris Radman both of Rock Springs, WY, grandson Charles Radman and his wife Corey Radman both of Fort Collins, CO, and two great-grandchildren, Elizabeth and Jameson. Angela is also survived by one sister, Zora Derby of Carbondale, CO, one brother Pete Radman and his wife Pat Radman of Rock Springs, WY, sister-in-law Linda Radman of Lander, WY and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Pasko Radman and Elizabeth Brejcha, her husband Alford Sherwood, her brother Tony Radman, and brother-in-law Keith Derby.

Funeral Services held Thurs,, Feb., 25, 2016 at 10am at Olinger Highland Mortuary, 10201 Grant St, Thorton, CO. Interment followedat Riverside Cemetery, 5201 Brighton Blvd, Denver, CO.Arrangements under the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery, Thornton, CO.

All who attended the memorial service were sent home with a package of flower seeds.

Earlea Black

May 21, 1921 - Jan. 6, 2016, Commerce City, CO

Preceded in death by her husband, Denver T. Black in 2011 and her son, Timothy Black in 2014. She is survived by her son, Robert D. Black and wife Ann, daughter in law, Karen Black. She has 5 grandchildren: Michael Black, (wife Janni), Julie Black, (husband Tynr), Janette Black, (husband Erick) Jeff Black and Jon Black (wife Brandi). She has 10 great grandchildren.



She and her husband ran Black's Auto Supply and Garage for many years in Commerce City. A private family service is planned.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Association and St. Jude's Hospital.

Jose Lewis Garcia

June 6, 1932 - Jan. 5, 2016, Commerce City, CO

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

Funeral Service Tuesday, Jan. 12 2016 beginning at 6:00 in the evening at Horan McConaty Family Chapel 9998 Grant Street in Thornton. A Funeral Mass held on Wed., Jan. 13 2016 beginning at 11:00 M at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 1209 W. 36th Avenue, Denver. Burial will follow Fort Logan National Cemetery Area B in Denver.

Khou Xiong, Oct. 11, 1926 - Dec. 26, 2015, Commerce City, CO

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

Services held on Fri., Jan. 22, Sat. Jan. 23, Sun. Jan. 24 and Mon. Jan. 25 2016 at the Horan McConaty Family Chapel, 9998 Grant St., Thornton CO. Graveside Serviceson Jan. 25 2016 at , Golden Cemetery 755 Ulysses Street Golden Colorado.

Dennis David Duran, May 1, 1970 - Dec.21, 2015, Commerce City, CO. Dennis was born on May 1, 1970 and passed away on Monday, December 21, 2015.

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

Madeleine Renee Cimyotte

(1925 - 2015)



Madeleine Renee Cimyotte, 90, of Westminster, died Dec. 29, in Lafayette. She was born June 30, 1925, in Denver, to Tony and Betty (Hoff) Morise. She graduated from Adams City High School in 1943, and married Curtis Cimyotte in 1957, in Custer, S.D.

As a young lady, she grew up near Erie and Columbine Coal Mine, helping her father operate the family general store. She moved with her family to Adams City and helped operate the family general store. She then moved to Scottsbluff, NE., for a few years, also working in the local grocery store. After she and Curtis married they moved back to Colorado and helped with the family farm in east Adams County, living in the Eastlake and Barr Lake areas, where she raised her family.

After Curtis passed away in 1973, Madeleine managed Micelli's Pizzeria, in Brighton. She then partnered in operating Kimball's Trophies, in Northglenn.

Madeleine was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who will be dearly missed. She is survived by her two sons, Nick (Joan) Cimyotte, and David (Beth) Cimyotte, of Denver; and a brother, Robert Morise, of Denver.

The funeral service was Jan. 6, at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home, Brighton, which handled the arrangements.

Patricia Brown , 1956 - Feb. 12, 2016

Patty Brown was a native of Commerce City and a graduate of Adams City High School.

She died in Denver after a long illness. Survived by father Leo Brown, Commerce City, CO and sister Teri Brown Unrein. Preceded in death by mother Eva Lou Benallo Brown.

Newcomer Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Delores Darlene Yunko

1934 - 2016

Delores D. Yunko, 81 of Commerce City, CO died on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at North Suburban Hospital in Thornton, Colorado .

She is survived by her Brother Harold Dean Culin and her grandchildren John Trever Yunko and Tara Mari Yunko.

Preceded in death by her husband John A. Yunko and her children Terry Yunko and Cindy Yunko.

Memorial service Thurs., March 17, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel located at 6580 E. 73rd. Ave. Commerce City, Colorado 80022.

Inurnment held at Fort Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO. 12:00 PM in Staging Area A.

In Memoriam

Bradley John Stelling
Jan. 30, 1938 - Jan.3, 2016



Bradley John Stelling of Firestone, CO passed away Sun., Jan. 3, 2016. He was 77 years old. Brad was born in 1938 in the Bronx, New York to Alma Leslie and John Stelling.

Brad was a retired bank executive, with his successful career spanning over 40 years with several well-known financial institutions.

Brad was involved with the Rotary Club of Commerce City, serving as President and Treasurer in the early 2000s. He served in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne Division in Korea.
He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fly fishing, hunting, golf, and camping with friends and family.

Brad is survived by his beloved wife, Carolyn of 54 years; son Jeff (Thi) of Lake Stevens, Washington; son Matt (Mary Kay) of Westminster, Colorado; son Pete (Jackie) of Bellingham, Washington and son Mitch (Amy) of Parker, Colorado. He is also survived by eight grandchildren: Marry Lynn, Phillip, Jonathon, Melanie, Naomi, Tucker, James and Audrey.

A celebration of Brad's life was held Sat., Jan. 9 at the Church Ranch Event Center located at 10200 Wadsworth Blvd., Westminster, CO, A reception followed.

Jose Benerito Quintana
Nov. 17, 1921 - Feb. 19, 2016



Born in the city of Canon de Manuelitas, New Mexico. on Nov. 17, 1921
Mid-wife Dominga Trujillo.

Jose was a graduate of Las Vegas High School, Military service from 11 Sep 1942/20 Nov 1945. Stationed in Ft. Lewis Washington. Corporal with the 4th Air Force.

Decoration Citations: American theatre ribbon, Good conduct medal, World War 2 Victory medal. Active in the reserves from World War 2 to the Korean War. Military Service from 27 Oct 1950/7 Nov 1951
Korean service medal W/3 Bronze Service Stars, 1 Overseas bar.

Married Rose Chavez 20 Jan 1944 in the State of Washington. They were married for 68 years until her passing on in 14 Jan 2012. Children of Joe & Rose Quintana: Novella, Christina, "both deceased," Larry B. Quintana (Connie), Gilbert R. Quintana (Nancy), Inez Quintana Saragosa, Ray Saragosa, Samuel Quintana, ten Grandchildren, 21 Great Grandchildren and 1 Great, Great Grandchild.

Arrangements: DeWitt and Tabor Funeral Home.

Frank Patrick McDonald
July 22, 1952 - February 20, 2016

Frank was born on July 22, 1952 and passed away on Sat., Feb.20, 2016.

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

Services pending.

Johanna Lizzete Padilla-Munoz
June 19, 1980 - February 28, 2016

Johanna was born on June 19, 1980 and passed away on Sun., Feb. 28, 2016.

Johanna was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado.

Visitation:Thurs., Mar. 3, 2016. Funeral Mass: Wed., Mar. 2, 2016. Graveside Service: Friday Mar. 4, 2016 at Eastlawn Cemetery.

Debra Ann Carey, 1963-2016

Debra Carey, Commerce City, CO.

Mother of Misti Leach, Eric Leach, Michael Leach and Brad Carey. Daughter of Carl Carey and the late Mary Giroux. Sister of Denise Carey. Grandmother of Tyler Leach and Taylor Leach.

Memorial Service was Mar. 4, 2016 at the Aspen Magnolia Chapel, Commerce City, CO.

Joseph Edward Bowman, July 31, 1934 ~ Jan. 6, 2016 (age 81)



Joseph Edward Bowman, 81, passed away peacefully in Littleton CO on January 6th, 2016.

Joe was born July 31, 1934 in Conifer, CO to Charles E. Bowman and Freda T. Rogers. Joe Married Ramona L. Lewis on June 12, 1955 in Englewood, CO.

Joe was a Tech Sergeant in the Air Force with a career spanning 20 years which consisted of jobs such as Fireman, Rapid Intervention Rescue, Arson Investigation, Crash Truck Crew Chief, Structural Truck Crew Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Chief.

Joe's additional career history included EMT and Hazmat Tech with South Adams County Volunteer Fire Department for 18 years, Kubat Equipment & Service Company for over 15 years, Andy Frain Security and during economic hardships, supplemented income by working at Mayflower Moving and Storage. He also tried his hand being an entrepreneur with his own small engine repair and sharpening business. Later in life, he went to college to earn a business degree.

Joe was a caring and generous man who was active in his community. He would dress up as "Sparky the Fire Dog" to promote fire safety. He often played in charitable sporting events to help raise funds for hospital burn units. Additionally, he devoted his free time to Military Honor Guard, Boy Scouts of America, Muscular Dystrophy Association and was also a member of the Lion's Club, The Free Masons and Commerce City Small Business Association.

Joe is survived by his children: Edward Bowman and wife Ok Kyong, Pamala Elliott and husband Jim, Glenn Bowman and wife Lois, Joseph Bowman and wife Brenda, Dwight Bowman, Raymond Bowman and wife Melissa; 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren; siblings: Janice Adler and husband Morey, Dennis Bowman and wife Cathy, Clifford Bowman and wife Lydia, sister-in-law Carolyn Bowman and several nieces and nephews.

Joe was preceded in death by his son Timothy (1971), his brother Charles Bowman (2005), his grandson Christopher Elliott (2007), his wife Ramona Bowman (2010), his brother Robert Bowman (2012), his great granddaughter Miah Sando (2012), and his brothers Walter Bowman and Gary Bowman (2015).

A visitation held on Tues., January 12, 2016 at Drinkwine. Funeral Services were Wed., Jan., 13, 2016 at Drinkwine with interment following at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

A reception held at 1:15 pm at Firehouse #1 located at 69th and Highway 85 in Commerce City.

Donald G. Swan
July 20, 1934-Mar. 15. 2016

Survived by children: Brad Swan, Don Swan, Bill Swan and Debbie Waltman.

Jerry Negrete, Sr.
Jan. 19, 1930 - Mar. 10, 2016

Survived by wife Rose M. Negrete; children: Elizabeth Nation, Geraldine Revels; siblings: Margaret, Rose, George, Linda, Phyllis, Ray and Carmen, seven grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren. Preceded in death by Son Jerry. Mass of Christian Burial held Mar. 23, 2016 at Our Lady Mother of the Church in Commerce City, Interment followed at Fort Logan Cemetery with Military Honors from the Army.

In Memoriam

Leobardo A Ramos
Jan. 19, 1931 - Jan. 2, 2016. Commerce City resident. Survived by several family members.

Martha A. Montoya
Feb. 8, 1930 - Jan. 6, 2016.

Memorial service held Jan. 11, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel. Graveside services at Fairview Cemetery, Brighton, CO. Service officiated by Robert Vigil, Spanish Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. Survived by children; JoAnn Montoya-Coria, Larry R. Montoya, Joe C. Montoya, Isabelle Montoya.

Isabelle Margaret Montoya
Jan. 3, 1949 - Jan. 13, 2016.

Preceded in death by mother and father. Survived by siblings: JoAnn Montoya-Coria, Larry R. Montoya, Joe C. Montoya.

Cody Gray
Sept. 3, 1996 - Jan. 13, 2016. Survived by parents: Brian and Corina Triffet and James L. Gray Jr., grandparents: Pat Lamb, Walter Klingbell. Private services were held, burial in Sedgewick, CO.

Shirley E. Kephart
Feb. 11, 1937 - Jan. 15, 2016.

Funeral service Jan. 22, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel. Officiated by Chaplain Will Reller. Survived by daughters Richelle DeAnn Kephart and Knicoli Jean Kephart; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Reception followed the service at Aspen.

Janice M. Espinosa
Feb. 23, 1949 - Jan. 19, 2016.

Survived by husband Pete Espinosa, sons: Rick (Jackie) Espinosa and Rodney (Dawn) Espinosa; 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. Memorial service held Jan. 29 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel. Chaplain Daryl Myers officiated. Reception followed the service at the Eagles Lodge.

Jose Guadalupe Torres
Oct. 31, 1986 - Feb. 18, 2016.

Survived by parents, Guadalupe and Theresa Torres; siblings: Rena Torres, Oscar Torres, Francisco Torres, Miguel Torres. Funeral service was held Feb. 25 at Our Lady Mother of the Church. Interment was at Highland Cemetery in Thornton.

John Willis Bledsoe
Sept. 2, 1939 - Feb. 25, 2016 in Bethany, MO. Survived by wife Linda Mathews; Children: Deanna, Toby, John, Jim, Jerry, Joe, Jonalee, Terry. Sibling: Nancy Kirby; 35 Grandchildren and 26 Great- Grandchildren. Visitation Mar. 2 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel in Commerce City, CO. Funeral service was Mar. 3, 2016 at Riverside Cemetery Chapel. Interment was at Riverside Cemetery.

Larry A. Sisneros
March 3, 1949 - March 21, 2016, Commerce City,

Larry was born on March 3, 1949 and passed away on Monday, March 21, 2016. Larry was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of his passing.

Visitation held on Thurs.,March 31 at 6:00pm followed by the Recitation of the Rosary at 7:00pm at the Horan McConaty Family Chapel, 9998 Grant Street Thornton Colorado. A Funeral Mass held on Fri., April 1 at 11:00am at St. Augustine Catholic Church 678 East Egbert St, Brighton Colorado. A Graveside Service followed at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, 3698 S. Sheridan Boulevard, Denver Colorado.

Denise Salas, Oct. 28, 1959 - Mar. 15, 2016 Commerce City, Colorado

Denise, 56, passed away in Englewood, Colorado on Mar. 15, 2016. Denise is survived by: Mother, Alicia M. Quintana; five siblings: Linda Joyce Archuleta, Robert Duane Quintana, Martha N. Romero, Ana (Theodore) Chavez DeQuintana, Roberta L. Salas-Mascarenas. Denise, is also survived by her six children: David C. Chavez, Stephanie E. Salas-Chavez, Jordan N. Chavez, Paige J.K. Chavez, Mathew J. Chavez, Samantha N. Chavez, and various nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Denise is preceded in death by: her Father, Marcos J. Salas, and two siblings, Jose G. Quintana and Dora L. Quintana.

Visitation held on Thurs., Mar. 24, 2016. Rosary and Funeral Service followed Friday, Mar. 25, 2016; All services took take place at Olinger Highland Mortuary located at 10201 Grant Street in Thornton, Colorado the committal took place directly after the funeral service at Olinger Highland Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family has asked that memorial donations be made using this website link.

I'm Free
by Shannon Lee Moseley

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has chosen for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call;
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way;
I've found now peace at the end of the day.

If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
Oh yes, these things, I too will I miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
look for the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much;
good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.

Perhaps my time seems all too brief;
don't lengthen your time with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and peace to thee,
God wanted me now – He set me free.

Phyllis Flossie Phillips (Nicholson)



Jan. 27, 1922 ~ Feb. 5, 2016 (age 94)

Phyllis was born January 27, 1922 in Hennessey, Oklahoma to Benjamin S. and Bertha Mae (Best) Nicholson. She passed away February 5, 2016 in Westminster, Colorado.

She moved to Commerce City in June 1969 and lived in Commerce city until her passing. Preceded in death by her husband Paul Phillips in 1985
She leaves behind 7 children :Mary(Duke), Bill, Richard, Don, Polly (Doud), Tom, Kevin. Numerous Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren, Great Great Grand Children

Visitation was at Bullock Colonial Chapel on Thur., Feb. 11 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Funeral services held at Grace Baptist Church (7740 CO-2, Commerce City, CO 80022) Fri., Feb. 12th. Interment followed at Fort Logan National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Phyllis' name may be made to Grace Baptist Church.

Esther Offen services
May 2, 2016 at 11 a.m.
Evergreen Memorial Park
26624 North Turkey Creek Road



Looking for Fire Department history memorabilia...

The Commerce City Historical Society and the South Adams County Fire Department are joining forces to find Fire Department memorabilia for history displays at the new Fire Department Administration Building which is going to be built next to the Commerce City Civic Center. Ground breaking will take place soon. If you want to donate any items, please contact Debra Bullock at 303-946-3426.

CCHS appreciates our business members!

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Commerce City Historical Society

Application for Membership

NAME:_____

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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?

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For questions please call 303-287-6747

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☐ Phone Calls

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☐ Moving Items

Johnson Family Dairy - memories



(l-r) Jerry Johnson, Ann Emerson and Bruce Johnson

I.X.L. Farm Dairy

From about 1915 to 1954 there were several dairies within the City of Commerce City. The Johnson Family Dairy was located at 5201 E. 56th Avenue.

Axel and Lillie Johnson owned and operated the I.X.L. Dairy from 1924 to 1954 which they purchased from Ida and Victor Danielson (I.X. L. Danielson Dairy). They had 3 children (Robert, Ann and Jerry).

Sons Robert and Jerry Johnson hauled hay with their relatives and also worked on the milk route with their dad. Milk was delivered seven days a week until World War II. Due to the shortage of gas for automobiles, delivery had to be cut down to every other day. Many customers gave Axel their house key and he delivered their milk all the way to their fridge.

Lillie Johnson died December 27, 1963 following an operation (age 60). Axel died in May of 1972 (age 82) Robert Johnson, born in 1925, graduated from Adams City High School in 1943. Ann Johnson born in 1932, graduated from Adams City High School in 1950- Ann Johnson-Emerson currently lives in Commerce City.

Jerry Johnson, born in 1938, graduated from Adams City High School in 1956, currently lives in Denver.

After the dairy closed, Robert Johnson operated an alignment shop on the property from 1955 to 1989. Robert continued to operate the land and had an alignment business on the property from 1955 to 1989. Parts of the land were sold throughout the years. From 1989 until 2015 one of the houses was rented to a person who took care of the property. Robert passed away in 2014, leaving the farm to his sons Bruce and Stuart. The Family Farm was sold to Dominion Trucking by Bruce & Stuart Johnson in 2015. The buildings were demolished in early 2016.



Old Farm House at the Johnson Dairy



Axel Johnson



CCHS help demolish the barn and takes photos of the demolition on the other buildings

CCHS attended the demolition of the buildings in January 2016. A group of the CCHS volunteers tore down a portion of the barn to salvage the old wood which they will sell as time goes by.
You will see some of the wood on paintings that local artists are painting for the Silent Auction at the Jean Klein Luncheon on Sun., May 1.