

PALISADE

Historical Society

www.historicpalisade.org

KIRK AND CYNDY BUNTE DONATE GEORGE BUNTE, JR'S SHOP FOR HISTORY MUSEUM

The Palisade Historical Society has begun renovations on a new and permanent museum to be located in a historic log structure in Palisade.

Micah Berg, well known general contractor and principal of MIB Construction will make the log building at 3740 G Road a publicly accessible museum.

The Palisade Historical Society has a long-term lease with building owners Kirk and Cyndy Bunte. The building was built pre-1939 by Kirk's grandfather, George Bunte, Jr.

The location is close to Elberta Ave. leading to I-70 Exit 42 and is on U.S. Highway 6 frontage road next to the Palisade Pharmacy. It is within walking distance of Riverbend Park and two schools, so it is very visible to locals as well as visitors to Palisade.



Kirk Bunte, left, holding the first lease payment with Historical Society Board Member Ralph Branch in front of the future Palisade Historical Museum at the Bunte Shop.

(continued)

December 2019

George Bunte, Jr. was born in Palisade in 1911 and lived his entire life here. Like his father, George was a fruit grower and later also owned and operated the Grand Junction Palisade Freight Lines trucking business from the log building – which he called his “Shop.” George, Jr., was active in many community organizations and served as Mesa County Assessor from 1966-1978. He passed away in 1988.

George's only grandchild, Kirk, also grew up in Palisade. “Cyndy and I are very happy to provide the Palisade Historical Society with a permanent home,” Kirk said. “Members of my family have resided in Palisade since 1910 and I'm positive that if they were still with us, they would support this effort.



The Historical Society's Ralph Branch, Charlene Weidner, Frank Nemanich, Nancy Morrison, Priscilla Walker, Gary Hines, and Jaime Cox were joined for the construction announcement including Matt Darling, curator of Cross Orchards, Palisade Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Cyndy Bunte, Kirk Bunte, General Contractor Micah Berg and Sean Hanson *(Photo by Jim Cox)*

The Historical Society has secured the necessary permits to begin renovation and raised two-thirds of the \$120,000 required to prepare and open the building. Substantial donations from private donors, including the Goodwin and Bacon Family foundations, as well as a \$15,000 pledge from the Town of Palisade put the project in good position to continue fundraising as visible improvements to the facility begin.

There has never been a greater need for donations to ensure Palisade has its first permanent History Museum at the Bunte Shop. We invite donors to take advantage of our 501(C) (3) non profit designation.

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Bunte Shop owners Cyndy and Kirk Bunte with Priscilla Walker Historical Society chair, right, at the announcement event. *(Photo by Jim Cox)*

KREX TV Channel 5's Ivan Fisher created this article on the Palisade History Museum at the Bunte Shop for the lead news article on December 10.
<https://www.westernslopenow.com/uncategorized/new-home-for-history-in-palisade/>

Historical Journalist Bob Silbernagel also wrote an article "New Palisade museum in the works" which appeared in *The Daily Sentinel*.



The announcement event included a delicious buffet provided by Gay Hetland. In this photo are Board members Charlene Weidner, Ralph Branch, Gary Hines, Jaime Cox, Gay Hetland, Priscilla Walker and Frank Nemanich with volunteer Deb Tsakalos (third from right). *(Photo by Jim Cox)*

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and Instagram**

Palisade Historical Society

OLDE FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

For Olde Fashioned Christmas, the Historical Society's parade entry on Friday night was Priscilla Walker's 1930 Model A. Dave Cecuga walked alongside doing his favorite Zumba dance moves.



Historical Society Volunteers Joyce Kuhnhausen, sitting in the passenger seat, and husband, Gil, in the Rumble Seat, with Historical Society Member and Walking Tour Guide Dave Cecuga.

DAVE CECUGA WINS BEARD CONTEST – AGAIN

Repeating his successful ways, Dave Cecuga, our own Historical Society member who also plays the role of Palisade founder Colonel Christopher Columbus Bower for our guided walking tours, was again a winner of the Chamber of Commerce Beard Contest!



Santa Look Alike William Tracker, left, and Dave Cecuga, right, winner of the Beard Contest at the 2019 Olde Fashioned Christmas. *(Photo by Jim Cox)*

Sign Up or Renew Your Membership Today!

We are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. Everyone is invited to belong to the Palisade Historical Society—through volunteer time with committees and projects—and by membership.

Annual memberships in the Palisade Historical Society start at just \$25 for Individuals, \$50 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for Patrons. There are also 10-year memberships for \$200 and Lifetime memberships for \$400.

If you haven't signed up—or it's time to renew your membership—please do so today! Mail your tax-deductible checks to the **Palisade Historical Society, P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.**

Volunteers Welcome!

Please contact us if you want to meet interesting people, learn more about Palisade history and/or work on committees, projects, and fundraising for the new Palisade Historical Museum at the Bunte Shop. Send a message with your contact information to Gary at historicpalisade@outlook.com to learn how you can help. Right now, we're especially interested in volunteers to assist tour guides.

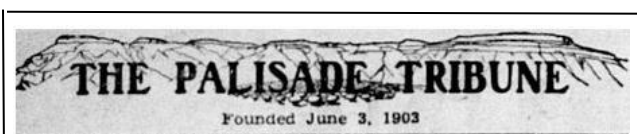
2019-2020 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

Ralph Branch – branchcolorado@gmail.com
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Nancy Morrison – nancykmorrison@gmail.com
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AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES BENEFIT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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On your first visit, you can use the same email and password as you set up for Amazon. Then, select Palisade Historical Society from the Charity Lists. If you bookmark Amazon Smile, you will automatically be taken there instead of the regular Amazon site when you shop. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases.



Thanks to our generous donors, grants from CHRAB, and support from the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection, we have raised funds to digitize 2,648 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* for the Colorado Historic Newspaper database website: www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org

Please help us get more issues digitized!

Yes, I would like to help digitize historic *Palisade Tribune* newspapers

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