

PALISADE Historical Society

www.historicpalisade.org

GARY RUPP PASSED AWAY MARCH 21ST

We are deeply saddened that our Master Electrician, Gary Rupp, passed away suddenly, and unexpectedly at his home at age 63 from a massive heart attack early in the morning of March 21st.

He was doing the electrical work – and donating the many hours of his time – to make the Bunte Shop into a Palisade History Museum.



Gary was the first to arrive, ensuring the electrical work was done right.

Gary's incredible work ethic and insistence on doing the job correctly was a huge boost to the project. Among his legacies was being the master electrician everybody in Palisade wanted to have for their home and business projects.

Gary was born at St. Mary's hospital on October 22, 1956. He graduated from Palisade High School in 1975 and married a classmate and the love of his life, Gayle Watson. Gary is also survived by his parents,

(continued)

April 2020



Gary scaled new heights when necessary to get electricity where it needed to be for the Museum.



And he always had a big smile for the work he loved doing

Valentine and Verna, son, Bryan (Leah) Rupp, daughter, Melissa (Karl) Belden; his brother, Richard (Pat), and grandchildren, Wellington and Pearl Rupp. In addition to operating Rupp Electric for more than a decade, Gary was very involved in the Palisade community. He was a long-time member of the Palisade Lions Club as well as serving as the Board Chairman of the Palisade Rural Fire Protection District. He and Gayle were enthusiastic and accomplished square dancers.

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic, a celebration of life will be in the future.

PALISADE HISTORY MUSEUM ALMOST READY!

Renovation work at the Bunte Shop has progressed nicely. Though a lot of the changes, including concrete floor, framing, insulating, electrical and drywall have been inside, one of the most visible milestones was when Ellen Wilson and Kyle from her crew painted the outside wall facing east.

(continued)

We're in our final phase of capital fundraising to finish the renovations to get the Palisade History Museum at the Bunte shop open to the public. Micah Berg of MIB Construction hoped to wrap up the remaining work for the occupancy permit by the first week of April. When open, the Museum will be an inviting, year-round attraction for the community with informative photos, displays and artifacts about Palisade's unique history. If you want to make a much-needed donation, please see the form on the last page of this newsletter.



East side of the Bunte Shop painted March 16

WHAT WAS PALISADE LIKE IN 1918 FOR THE SPANISH FLU PANDEMIC?

Palisade residents lived through another pandemic in 1918 when the Spanish Flu was rampant. By searching issues from the online issues of *The Palisade Tribune* in the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection database, you can find articles even though President Wilson's sedition act was applied to publishing information about the flu as it was thought critical of the U.S.' War efforts.

In Palisade, the schools, picture show, churches, and the pool hall were all closed for a time starting in October. The emergency hospital in Palisade closed in late December 1918, reporting four deaths out of 48 people admitted. However, in February 1919, a member of the Clark family—who was a teacher in Collbran—died two weeks after she came from Collbran to Palisade to attend a basketball game. A young man from Clifton who also attended was sick and several young people were later inflicted with the Spanish flu.

You can see more articles on the CHNC website:
<https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>

One interesting feature in the November 1, 1918 *Palisade Tribune* was a poem by a local student poet. Ramel T. Hall:

“THE SPANISH FLU WILL GET U
 IF U DON’T WATCH OUT!”

By Ramel T. Hall, Palisade
 They’ve got it in the army camps,
 They’ve got it ’cross the sea
 It seizes even the old tramps
 That bum from you and me.
 It attacks our loyal soldiers, too,
 And the nurses are all called out.
 And the Spanish "flu" will get U
 If U don’t watch out.
 It crept into the armies first.
 And then into the town.
 It surely is a thing accursed—
 And now they’ve shut things down.
 It causes grief and trouble, too,
 So you’d best take care, I shout,
 For the Spanish "flu" will get U
 If U don’t watch out
 The deaths from it are countless,
 it snatches away our own,
 And leaves many a ladless lass
 To battle life alone.
 It takes the women and children, too.
 So watch what you’re about:
 ‘Cause the Spanish "flu" will get U
 If U don’t watch out.

AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES BENEFIT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For your on-line shopping, please go to:
<https://smile.amazon.com>
 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.

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and Instagram:**

Palisade Historical Society

PALISADE HIGH SCHOOL CONCRETE “MEMORY WALL” NO LONGER THERE



Palisade High School class of 1943 gathered at the new “Memory Wall” for their 50th Class Reunion

Phyllis Bennett Barker shared the photo above of her Palisade High School classmates who came to their 50th Class Reunion in the fall of 1993. They are standing at the Concrete Brick “Memory Wall” which was created with names of (mostly) Palisade residents who donated funds for the new High School to be built in 1992. The wall was located at the west side of the front of the building but was removed in the latest building construction.

2020-2021 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

Susan Barstow – susanbarstow.ak@gmail.com
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Nancy Morrison – nancykmorrison@gmail.com
Priscilla Walker – pbwalker630@acsol.net
Charlene Weidner – charw@acsol.net

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 and hosts when the History Museum is open.

PALISADE TIMELINE ON THE MUSEUM’S WEBSITE HAS A NEW LOOK

Stephanie Lukowski, Curator of Education at the Museums of Western Colorado, has recently used her time to update educational materials on the Museum’s Website, including a more graphic look for our Palisade historic timeline. The new link is <https://museumofwesternco.com/palisade-history/>

YOUR PURCHASES AT CITY MARKET BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Palisade Historical Society is now participating in the City Market Community Rewards Program. If you have a City Market loyalty card and have used their website, just log into it: <http://www.citymarket.com> and search for the Palisade Historical Society and select it as your designated community non-profit. It’s another painless way to support the Historical Society.



New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card number. You can get a loyalty card at any King Soopers or City Market store’s customer service desk. You must swipe your registered loyalty card or use the phone number attached to the card for your purchase to benefit the Palisade Historical Society.



Become a part of History - Donate to the Palisade Historical Society.

The Palisade Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

The Historical Society relies on donations to facilitate projects that enhance our community by documenting local history and promoting our heritage. You can join us with your support in a targeted way that interests you most. Make a donation for any or all of the following categories:

- Become a member and enjoy notification of events and news
- Contribute to the **Palisade Tribune** Digitization Fund that will save invaluable Palisade history
- Donate to complete renovations for the Palisade History Museum at the Bunte Shop. It will feature displays and educational media to engage locals and visitors year-round.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Annual Memberships (check one)

Individual \$25 Family \$50 Business \$100 Patron \$500

Extended Memberships

10-year (Family or Individual) \$200 Lifetime (Family or Individual) \$400

PALISADE TRIBUNE DIGITIZATION FUND

We have raised funds to digitize 2,650 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* for Colorado Historic Newspaper Newspaper database website. Please help us get more issues online for browsing and searching from anywhere!

\$1,000 \$100 Other \$ _____

PALISADE HISTORY MUSEUM AT THE BUNTE SHOP

We are on our way to opening in the summer of 2020. Help us with any level.

\$1,000 \$500 \$100 Other \$ _____

\$2,500 (receive a "Proud Supporter" sign)

\$5,000 (advertise in the Museum for your business)

The names of donors contributing \$500 or more will be included on a permanent legacy donor recognition sign displayed on the Museum. ('In memory of' or 'In honor of' may be noted)

For credit card payments, call (970) 464-2177.

For checks or money orders payable to Palisade Historical Society, mail them with your confidential contact information to: **Palisade Historical Society, PO Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.**

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