

### The History Center Now Open Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays

The History Center, 311 South Main Street in downtown Palisade is now open Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. during Farmers' Market.

Stop in to see new displays and get a copy of the June issues of Grand Valley Magazine and Senior Beacon which featured articles about the Roller Dam's 100th birthday celebration.

### Historical Society Events During 47th Annual Peach Fest — August 14th and 15th

*Heritage Tourism events include Guided Walking Tours Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. "Palisade's Peach Past" displays, presentations, and videos at Riverbend Park both days.*

New this year, author and Historical Society member Jodi Buchan is creating a "Palisade's Peach Past" booth with videos, historical photos, materials, and information. Scheduled presentations about Western Slope agriculture are of special interest. Harry Talbott will be a speaker at Friday afternoon's 5 p.m. presentation. Buchan will present Friday at 7 p.m. and on Saturday at 11 a.m., 1, 3, and 5 p.m. Videos include the Mesa County Peach Board of Control "Colorado Peaches" along with the Historical Society's fruit labels, Palisade in 1904, and Roller Dam videos. Also, Buchan created a video incorporating research and photos from her newly published book, *Western Colorado Fruit & Wine: A Bountiful History*. You can get signed copies, as well as Historical Society publications.

The Historical Society will offer its popular **Guided Walking Tours of Downtown Palisade at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 15th**. You can make reservations for tours in advance by calling (970) 464-2177 or stopping by the History Center. More information is on [www.historicpalisade.org/index.php/historic-guided-walking-tours/](http://www.historicpalisade.org/index.php/historic-guided-walking-tours/). For a \$5 suggested donation, you can select from tours with different routes offered at those two times, depending on the information you want and the part of downtown you want to see.



Guided Tour routes



*Tour guides in 1915 attire — Charlene Weidner and Dave Cecuga, AKA "Colonel Bower" relax at the recent Media Tour event. (8th Street Girls photo)*

NOTE: During Peach Fest, the History Center will be open Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., during Saturday's parade, & for the Sunday Farmer's Market from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## ENJOY ICE CREAM AND PALISADE PEACHES AT THE MESA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY POTLUCK

**Tues., Aug. 25, 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.**  
**Redlands Community Center**  
**2463 Broadway**

The Palisade Historical Society will again provide peaches and ice cream for the Annual Mesa County Historical Society potluck. It starts at 5:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 25th** at the **Redlands Community Center in Grand Junction**. We're serving fresh Palisade peaches. If you plan to attend, please **RSVP to (970) 260-5226 or (970) 242-8478** and bring a side dish to share or a donation.



Palisade Historical Society "peach slicers and ice cream scoopers" at last year's MCHS potluck.

## Historic Society's Orchard Hoopie wins 3rd Place in July 4 Parade

Richard Rupp got the 1951 Chevy Orchard Hoopie fixed for one of the Historical Society's parade entries. Driver Bruce Walker and Hoopie Sitters Priscilla Walker, Doris Butler, Charlene Weidner, Syble Seckinger, Nancy Morrison, and John Lindstrom dressed in 1915 attire and waved to the crowd. Dave Cecuga (not shown) walked next to the hoopie, cheerfully handing out peaches provided by Clark's Family Orchard. Look for the hoopie, courtesy of the Ferguson family, in the Peach Fest parade!

The Town of Palisade, parade sponsor, awarded a third place

ribbon to the hoopie. First place was awarded to the Town's Board of Trustees who enjoyed a picnic lunch on their float en route.



Orchard Hoopie driver Bruce Walker and passengers near the History Center on July 4. (Photo by Hugo Madden)



Bennett Young and his 1930 Model A Roadster was the other Historical Society parade entry. Andrew West from Varaison Vineyards and Winery chats with Bennett while the parade was lining up.

## The 100th Birthday Party for the Roller Dam was a Huge Success!

After nearly four years in the planning, the Grand River Diversion Dam's 100th birthday party was a huge success. An overflowing crowd filled the Veteran's Memorial Community Center on June 27th for the daylong event. A special newsletter with photos is posted on our website, [www.historicpalisade.org](http://www.historicpalisade.org), under the newsletters tab. We are still getting positive comments and appreciation for our efforts to shine a light on the little-known history of the "Roller Dam."

## Palisade Brewery sponsors “Dam Firkin Fundraiser”



*Danny Wilson, head brewer for the Palisade Brewing Company and Bruce Walker, right, tap the firkin at the June 18 Fundraiser for the Roller Dam's 100th birthday. (Photo by Gary Hines)*

The Palisade Brewing Company hosted a fundraiser featuring a specially brewed “Dam Firkin Beer” at its 200 Peach Street location in Palisade to raise funds for the Historical Society’s 100th birthday celebration. A firkin is a 72 pint cask used for brewing cask conditioned ale, sometimes called “real ale.” The result is naturally carbonated. Danny added mulberries to make it a “tart, sweet, and deliciously enjoyable beer.”

The fundraiser attracted an appreciative crowd who also got a sneak preview of the Community Hospital sponsored “mobile museum” display of photos and information about the construction of the Roller Dam.



*ANB Bank's Steve Ammentorp, right, Michele VanLondersele-Green, second from right, confer in front of the “mobile museum” with Mike and Carolyn McEvoy at the Firkin Fundraiser benefit for the Society.*

## Rapid Creek “Tourists”



*Nancy Eighmy, left, and her mother, Dorothy Vernon Green, at J.P. Harlow's 1891 gravesite on Rapid Creek during a recent visit.*

Dorothy Vernon Green, who grew up in Rapid Creek and graduated from Palisade High School in 1946, gave Historical Society directors Charlene Weidner, Bill Beckwith, and Priscilla Walker a tour of Rapid Creek to assist with researching the area.

One of the stops was at the historic gravesite of John Petal Harlow who is credited with planting the first fruit orchards in Rapid Creek in the 1880s.

## RENEW YOUR PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Our success is made possible only through the work of volunteers and donations. Everyone is invited to join the Palisade Historical Society — through volunteer time with committees and projects — and by membership.

Annual Membership in the Palisade Historical Society is just \$25.00 for Individuals, \$50 for Families, \$100 for Businesses, and \$500 for Patrons. If you haven't signed up or renewed your membership, please do so today. Mail your tax-deductible checks to the Palisade Historical Society P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526.

## HISTORIC PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

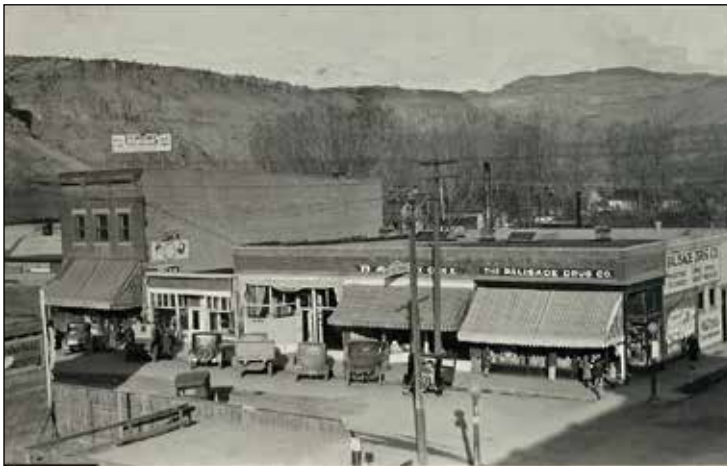
### The Grocery Store



*Family Food Town's 3rd Street Deli, 2015.*

To the delight of locals, Family Food Town has recently renovated and created space for the 3RD STREET DELI with interesting and tasty sandwiches, cheese, meats, featuring local ingredients.

Palisade's downtown grocery store has connections back to the B&R Grocery and Meat Store in what is now the Rapid Creek Bicycle Shop.



*The corner of 3rd and Main Street, Palisade in 1932.*

In this Palisade Historical Society 1932 photo, the B&R Grocery sign is above the middle awning in the Purcell Building at the corner of 3rd and Main St. B&R stood for the last names of owners Rowland Bancroft and Paul Rice. The Palisade Drug was next door on the corner, and the Post Office was on the north side (left).

Later, the store became Bancrofts' Grocery.

Bill and Lillian Floryancic purchased the store from the Bancroft family in 1958 and built a new location for Bill's AG Market across Main Street in July, 1962. The land had been mostly vacant since a November 1915 fire destroyed Jordan's Inn on the northwest corner of the intersection. The Floryancics operated the building until the current owner, Kelly Myers purchased Bill's AG in October 1987.



*Main Street, Palisade in 1940. (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stewart)*

If you have historic Palisade photos you are willing to share, please contact the Palisade Historical Society at (970) 464-2177 or P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526. Photos can be scanned and originals returned to donors.

## Historic Magnolia Tree in Riverbend Park Destroyed

Over the July 4th weekend, someone ripped the magnolia tree out of the ground and threw it in the pond. Frank Watt reported his crew retrieved it, but it did not survive. This tree, planted by the town in Riverbend Park was the result of years of work to propagate it by a nursery in Oregon under the direction of Harry Talbott. It had recovered from a previous vandalism attack in April.

As Frank said, "It's unbelievable how disrespectful people can be and even though I see it time after time, it still mystifies me as to what motivates them to be so destructive."

## ABOUT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*The mission of the Palisade Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and communicate the unique history of Palisade, Colorado, and to foster, encourage, stimulate, and develop public appreciation of this history.*