

Thank you for a great year!

We sincerely appreciate the generous support and encouragement of our donors and everyone who is interested in our efforts to preserve and communicate Palisade's unique history! It's been an interesting and very busy year for the Palisade Historical Society as we move to the next phase of getting a permanent home! Happy Holidays and best wishes for 2019 from the Palisade Historical Society!



ALTRUSA DECORATES KIOSK FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Altrusa International of Palisade volunteers—led by Charlotte Wheeler—artfully decorated the information kiosk and Little Free Library in Independence Park for the Holidays. The kiosk originally was located at 3rd and Main Streets where the Plaza is now. It was paid for by private donations to the Palisade Chamber for the Town's 1996 "TLC" downtown improvement project. The Town removed the kiosk and gazebo in 2009 and later combined them into a single unit and put it near the Family Food Town entrance. In August, 2016, the Town moved the combined gazebo/kiosk

December 2018

to its current location. The Historical Society was able to update two of the four panels with historic photos and information. Altrusa has maintained the Little Free Library in the kiosk/gazebo since 2015.

OLDE FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

For Olde Fashioned Christmas, the Historical Society's parade entry on a rainy Friday night was Bennett Young's 1963 Studebaker. On Saturday, Dec. 1st we offered our popular historic guided walking tours of Downtown Palisade.



Historical Society members getting ready to hand out candy to hundreds of viewers along the parade route included Matt Darling, Dave Cecuga, Frank Nemanich Charlene Weidner, Gayle Madden and Priscilla Walker. Bennett Young was the driver and Ralph Branch was the passenger in the classic Studebaker.



Dave "Col. Bower" Cecuga right with guided walking tour participants Deb and Kandi,



FOUR PALISADE BUSINESSES RECOGNIZED

The Museums of Western Colorado and Grand Junction Chamber's inaugural class of ten "Century Businesses" included four from Palisade! The project honors agricultural establishments and businesses started in Mesa County which have continuously served residents for 100 years or more.

The four Palisade recipients were three fruit growers – Talbott Farms, Clark Family Orchard, and Bowman Acres—and the Palisade Pharmacy which started in 1906 as the Palisade Drug Store. By 1918 the Drug Store was located in the Purcell Building at 3rd and Main St until 1998. Beth Benjamin, manager and pharmacist of RxPlus Limited Palisade, LLC, owner of the Palisade Pharmacy, received the plaque.



Palisade Drug Store Ad in the February 1, 1918 issue of *The Palisade Tribune*

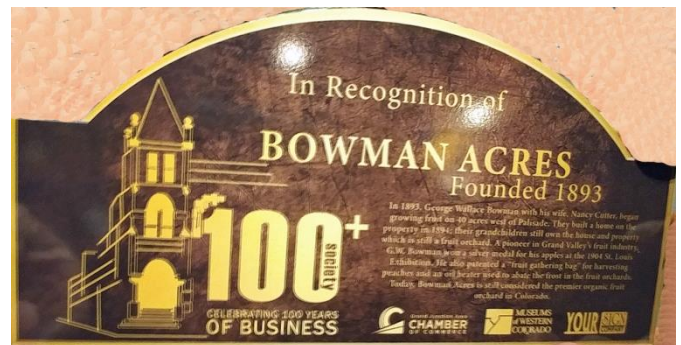
Other Palisade 100 year businesses suggested by the Historical Society included the Palisades National Bank, the Methodist, Baptist, and Seventh Day
(continued)

Adventist Churches, and the Irrigation and Drainage Districts. Though these businesses did not meet the criteria this year, they may in the future for what is expected to be an annual event.

Talbott Farms The roots of Talbott Farms date back to 1907 when Joseph Yager came to Palisade from Iowa. Joseph's son, Charles, developed one of the first peach packing lines. In 1933, Harry Talbott, Sr. married Charles' daughter, Margaret, and helped grow the family's farming businesses. Today, the sixth generation Talbott Farms owns or manages over 500 acres of orchards and vineyards in the Grand Valley. Representing the Talbott family at the reception were Harry Jr. and Bonnie, Bruce and Lynette, Ross, and Russell Talbott.

Clark Family Orchards James and Phoebe Clark moved to the Grand Valley from Kansas in March 1900 and started farming 20 acres in the Palisade area. At one time, they grew up to 50 different varieties of peaches. In 2018, the seventh-generation Clark Family Orchards managed over 125 acres and harvested over a million pounds of peaches. Clark Family members at the reception were Dennis and Staci Clark, MacKenzie Clark Schmalz, Chris Schmalz and their infant son, Cash.

Bowman Acres In 1893, George W. Bowman purchased 40 acres west of Palisade and began growing fruit. George patented a "fruit gathering bag" in 1900 and an oil heater. He won a silver medal for apples at the 1904 St. Louis Exhibition. Their grandchildren, Charles Bowman and Priscilla Bowman Walker, still own the property which is a productive fruit orchard leased to Kokopelli Farms. Priscilla and her husband, Bruce, live in the home George and Nancy Cutter Bowman built in 1904.



Plaque for Bowman Acres – provided by Your Sign Company

CHANGES IN DOWNTOWN PALISADE BUILDINGS

Several downtown Palisade buildings have new owners and businesses in new locations.

Among the changes, J-U-B Engineers, Inc. has expanded into more offices at its storefront in the Palisades National Bank Building. This civil engineering firm has 18 offices in six states. Consequently, Longpoint Digital Computer moved from its 319 South Main location. The Palisade Chamber of Commerce is adding the corner space at 305 South Main which was the bank's location from 1909 until 2011. The former bank corner space has been vacant since March 2017.



Palisades National Bank Building in the 1960s
(Photo courtesy of Phyllis Bennett Barker)

Across Main Street, on the southwest corner of Third and Main, will be the Purple Cow, a new coffee shop with a drive up window in the alley at the back of Hugus Building. The space was Mumzel's coffee shop from 2012 to 2017.



Hugus Building (left) and Hugus Addition (right) in the 1970s (Photo courtesy of Phyllis Bennett Barker)

John and Beth Busch recently purchased the Hugus Addition building which includes 105-113 West Third Street. They plan on making updates to the second floor. More changes to downtown buildings and businesses are planned in the coming months.

CAMEO PHOTOS IN THE TOWN'S MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Coal mine
Company town
Rock with a face
Power plant
Shooting range
Cameo was all of the above



With newly donated photos from the Museum of Western Colorado Marie Tipping Archives and the Klemenic Family, the Historical Society's changing display in the Town's Municipal Building entryway on Third Street now features Cameo. Just six miles east of Palisade in DeBeque Canyon, Cameo was a coal mining town, a Public Service Company power plant (originally fueled with coal from the Cameo Mine) and is now a shooting range.

AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES BENEFIT THE PALISADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For your on-line shopping on Amazon Smile, please designate the Palisade Historical Society as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases. Start shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com>



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Palisade Historical Society

George Distefano Passes away November 22, 2018

Long time Palisade fruit grower, 63-year member of American Legion Post #50, and revered baseball coach George Distefano passed away last month at the age of 89. We appreciated George's help as a resource for Palisade history. Most recently, he assisted Charlene Weidner with information for Palisade coal mining tours.



George shared history about the Mt. Lincoln Mine and Devil's Slide located on the Bookcliffs above his orchard in September this year. (Photo Courtesy of Tim Wedel)

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're interested in meeting new people, want to learn more about Palisade history, and/or work on committees, projects, and fundraising for the new permanent home for the Historical Society. Contact a board member to find out how you can help.

2018-2019 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

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Thanks to generous donors, grants from CHRAB, and support from the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection, we have raised funds to digitize 2,083 issues of *The Palisade Tribune* for the Colorado Historic Newspaper database website:

www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org We are now fundraising to get the 1926-1932 issues digitized and added to the database for research. Please help us get more issues digitized!

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

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City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

☐ \$100.00 ☐ \$1,000.00
☐ \$10,000.00 Or \$_____ enclosed

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P.O. Box 631, Palisade, CO 81526