

# PALISADE Historical Society

## THE ORDINARY FELLOW WINERY MONTHLY TALKS – “Colorado Peaches”

**April 14 - 6 p.m.**

The popular 30-minute video about Palisade Peaches created in the early 1950s by the D&RGW Railroad and the Peach Board of Control will be the centerpiece of the April program at the Ordinary Fellow Winery, 202 Peach Avenue. The tasting room opens at noon and B&C BBQ will be there at 4:30 with food available for purchase.



## “The History of Wine in Palisade ”

**Friday, May 20 - 6 p.m.**

Learn the interesting history of our grape growing and wine making industry. The program will include insights from Gerald Ivancie’s children. Gerald and his wife Mary owned and operated Colorado’s first modern commercial winery and he was a founder of viticulture in the Grand Valley.

## Last month’s talk was about Palisade’s Railroad History

Matt Darling, Curator of Cross Orchards and railroad history expert gave another fascinating talk about the history of Railroads in Colorado to a rapt audience at the March history talk. *(continued).*

*April 2022*



Matt Darling, Colorado railroad history expert, at The Ordinary Fellow Winery history talk in March.

Check our website: [www.historicpalisade.org](http://www.historicpalisade.org) our Facebook page, and The Ordinary Fellow Winery’s social media for dates and topics of future programs.

## CHATFIELD ELEMENTARY 2nd GRADERS LEARN FROM PALISADE COLORING BOOK

After last year’s remote learning, Chatfield Elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> graders got in-class presentations for our *Historic Palisade Coloring Book*. Thanks to Rotary Club donations to cover printing costs, the students received copies to study and color the wonderful illustrations. Chatfield students also prepared questions before the presentations.



Priscilla Walker - standing left, and Shirley Voorhees show a pair of stilts to Robyn Carmine’s class at Chatfield Elementary

*(continued)*

Shirley Voorhees and Priscilla Walker were again able to bring a pair of stilts, a picking sack, and a piece of coal to Robyn Carmine, Kellen Shaw and Kelly McKay's classrooms to help explain Palisade's unique history. DeBeque Elementary also used *Historic Palisade Coloring Books*.

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE PALISADE HISTORY MUSEUM

If you have stopped, driven, or ridden by lately, you've noticed some wonderful changes to the outside of the History Museum at 3740 G Road.



History Museum with "Aunt Emma" on the right

The most visible and eye-catching is the eight-foot-tall vintage photo on the southeast side which we nicknamed "Aunt Emma." The inspiration was an 1890s tintype photo of Clara Tilton Lester's sister Emma Tilton Forney - with flowers on her bicycle handle - generously donated by Emma's great grandnieces Anita Spinnie and Arlene Sanders. Talented artist Gayle Madden enhanced her image and added a blooming Palisade peach orchard background. Your Sign Company transformed the graphic into this unique metal sign.

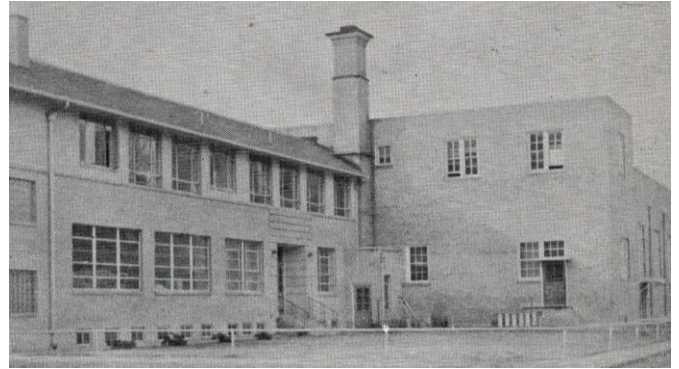
Other changes to the building's exterior include masterful chinking between the vintage logs by Mary Miller and Tom Wolf. General Contractors Mitch and Blake Coderre also made improvements to the exterior, including soffits, fascia, and siding.

## Become a Member!

If you aren't a current member of the Palisade Historical Society, please send your check to P.O. Box 631 Palisade, CO 81526. For credit cards, call (970) 464-2177 or include your information on our contact tab at [www.historicpalisade.org](http://www.historicpalisade.org)

## PALISADE HIGH SCHOOL DEMOLISHED

Demolishment of the last of all three wings of the former Palisade High School was completed in March. The Town has grants and an agreement with Community Hospital to build a medical clinic near the former site. The remaining building, the gymnasium/auditorium, will again be open later this year. (Photo from Bill Beckwith's 1953 Annual)



The east wing of the school was new in 1953. The gym/auditorium on the right was a WPA project completed in 1940. Over the years, the east wing included the main office, principal's office, shop, and math classes on the first floor. The second floor sometimes had the teachers' lounge, home economics, and science classrooms, and the entrance to the band room above the auditorium.



Most of the east wing was demolished March 2, 2022. It was more difficult than the west wing which opened for classes in April 1926.



The first wing on the west side is gone. Under discussion is restoring the bleachers on the south side of the gym/auditorium. Page 2



## THE HISTORIC CRISSEY HOUSE IS MORE VISIBLE

*(Photo courtesy of JoAnn Rasmussen)*



You can see more of the Crissey House – 218 West First Street - with the tall privet hedge pruned from the front for the first time in 50 years! The new owners, the Rasmussens, wanted to show more of this historic house which has been on the State Historic Register since December 2002, and the National Historic Register since May 2003. The 100+ year old Smith and Moorpark apricot trees were in full bloom at the end of March.

## Volunteers Welcome!

Please contact us if you want to meet interesting people, learn more about Palisade history and/or work on committees, projects, fundraising, or being a host at the new Palisade History Museum. Send an email message with your contact information to [historicpalisade@outlook.com](mailto:historicpalisade@outlook.com) to learn how you can be part of this organization.

## 2022-2023 Directors of the Palisade Historical Society

Ralph Branch – [branchcolorado@gmail.com](mailto:branchcolorado@gmail.com)  
Ronda Clark – [rc\\_2040@msn.com](mailto:rc_2040@msn.com)  
Jaime Cox – [jaimejcox@gmail.com](mailto:jaimejcox@gmail.com)  
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Priscilla Walker – [pbwalker630@acsol.net](mailto:pbwalker630@acsol.net)  
Charlene Weidner – [charw@acsol.net](mailto:charw@acsol.net)

## YOUR PURCHASES AT CITY MARKET BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Palisade Historical Society is grateful to participate in the City Market Community Rewards Program. If you have a City Market loyalty card and have used the City Market's website, just log into <http://www.citymarket.com> and search for the Palisade Historical Society.

Select it as your designated community non-profit. It is another painless and amazingly effective way to support the Historical Society.



If you do not have an account, you will need to create one by providing some basic information, a valid email address, and a City Market/Kroger loyalty card number. You can get a loyalty card at any Kroger, 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.

## AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES ALSO BENEFIT THE 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 the 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. **You may need to renew or update your charity choice before your next purchase. It just takes a minute to update.**





## 100 YEAR AGO COLUMN

For decades, one of the most popular columns in *The Palisade Tribune* was the “It Happened Here” page where the editors would summarize news of interest from issues in the past. We have raised funds to digitize 2,650 issues for in the Colorado Historical Newspaper Collection. You can see the issues of *The Palisade Tribune* from April 1922: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>

Historical Society Board member Nancy Morrison has used the database to summarize news from three April 1922 *Tribune* issues including:

A nationwide coal strike was joined by Garfield and Cameo mines which closed down entirely and by the Midwest and Riverside Farmers mines which operated with reduced forces. Palisade Coal and Supply continued at an almost normal summer work force.

All candidates for Town of Palisade offices ran on the People’s Party ticket and without opposition. Ninety-seven voters was considered a good turnout. C. Bower received 90 votes for mayor. M. C. Huber, S. H. Brown and B. N. Bancroft were elected Trustees for 2 years and O. W. Hoffman for 1 year.

Mayor Bower declared April 17 through 22 clean up week for the town. He encouraged all to participate for health reasons as well as aesthetics.

Mesa was the second most profitable agricultural county in Colorado in 1921 with \$5,110,000 income. Weld was first with \$12,508,000 and this placed it in the top 40 in the United States.

A bank robbery attempt at the 1st State Bank in Clifton was aborted when the alarm was thought to have frighten the culprits. They were using tools stolen from a nearby blacksmith shop.

Apricots in April: Apricots began blooming the first week of April following warm weather the end  
(continued)

of March. Cold weather in the second week raised concern but caused no damage and slowed the peach bloom. The colder nights in the week of April 21 brought out smudge pots and caused a partial loss of the crop.

Growers could request alerts from the Weather Bureau in Grand Junction. Alerts were sent at 1:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. if the temperature was dangerous

F. W. Boking of Boking Tire & Vulcanizing Shop in Grand Junction gave two talks on “Ore” for Palisade High School students.

Entertainment: A Tom Thumb Wedding brought 50 children together. The event was so popular it had to be moved from the sponsoring Federated Church to the larger Methodist Church. Musical selections included “Oh Promise Me” and “I Love You Truly”.

The Fruitvale Farmers Union had such success with their production of Deacon Dubba they provided a second production to benefit the Palisade Farmer’s Union

The Palisade Drug Co. offered special financing for Columbia Grafonolas. Those interested could purchase with a payment of \$1.00 down and the balance on easy terms to suit the purchaser. (Columbia Grafonola phonographs can still be purchased on the internet ranging from \$200.00 to \$955.00)

Deaths: Frank M. Burger, one of the earliest settlers and pioneer resident of Palisade. He was a promoter of the Price Ditch Irrigation project which was the first irrigation system in the district.

Lawrence Garet Langden died at age 28 years and 11 months of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. He was survived by his wife and six-year-old daughter.



## 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 the Palisade History Museum for maintenance and creating displays about our unique agriculture and coal mining past. Help us engage with 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

Please help us at any level.

\$1,000 ☐    \$500 ☐    \$100 ☐    Other ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail (for newsletters) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_