

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 18, 2018 VOLUME 16, ISSUE 6 WEBSITE: fremontheritage.com
WE ARE ON FACEBOOK, TOO: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado



Editor: Carol McNew, Readers: Margaret Storm and mailing Barbara Hobson

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM ON
SUNDAY -NOVEMBER 18, 2018 - 2:00 P.M.**

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY AT THE PRISON MUSEUM

SANDY DEXTER is a member of the Advisory Board of the Prison Museum. She has had a great deal of experience in the running and marketing of the Museum. We are pleased she will be talking to us about one of the ongoing phases of that institution - paranormal investigations that are conducted throughout the year as a fundraising event. The Prison Museum is the third most haunted place in Colorado!

The "ghost walks" the Prison Museum sponsored several years ago were attended by many of the local people as well as tourists and visitors. The walk consisted of a guide who pointed out, and explained the various places of interest along Macon Avenue turning South on 7th Street and then traveling West on Main Street. The tunnels under the streets, the poltergeist activity and odd goings on were all discovered and remarked on by the participants. We still are wondering at the amazing stories we have heard about other-worldly beings walking our streets.

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Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church,
801 Sheridan Avenue, Cañon City
2:00 p.m. - Public Welcome
Refreshments served

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Sandy Dexter is a freelance writer whose forte is history. She has been published nationally in such magazines as, *BowHunter Magazine*, *Western Horseman*, *Great American Crafts*, and *Colorado Outdoor Journal*. Her credits include writing the scripts for two nationally award-winning documentaries, "Camp Amache: The Story of an American Tragedy," and, "Territorial Prison: Stories Behind the Walls," Both have been aired on numerous PBS stations. Dexter is currently on the advisory board for the Prison Museum. She will speak on "Paranormal Activity and the Prison Museum". The title says it all.



Sandy Dexter

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Paranormal investigations are conducted during the ‘warm’ summer months and the next event will be in May 2019. That being said – there was an event on October 27th, and reported in the Pueblo Chieftain on October 22nd, referring to interesting events at the Museum., written by Tracy Harmon. Find that issue to read more about our famous Prison Museum at the end of Main Street.

Here is a picture of the Greenwood Pioneer Cemetery where 600- plus burials of the inmates from the Territorial Prison and Colorado State Penitentiary were buried through 1937. An investigation by “All Things Paranormal” from Pueblo, Colorado, produced this amazing picture of the orbs floating over the silent graves at the cemetery. EERIE, yes; interesting? Definitely.



During a recent paranormal investigation at the Greenwood Cemetery, a picture was taken by Carol Johnson of All Things Paranormal and we see the many white orbs floating in the air over the tombstones of the cemetery. Spiritually, white or silver is associated with spirituality and connection with a higher source. Some investigators believe orbs that are either white or silver in appearance are an indication that a spirit is trapped on this plane. It may also be a sign the spirit is there to offer protection to the people in the area. White energy is typically perceived as highly positive in nature.
*By Beth Asaff, Paranormal Investigator.
from the internet, "Orbs and their meanings".*

FLORENCE PIONEER MUSEUM AND RESOURCE CENTER Grocery Store, Vezzetti Style

Welcome to the Florence Pioneer Museum and Research Center. We are now open 12 months of the year and we want you to come and see our new Bill and Diana White Room along with the Bob Wood Business Center. Today, I would like to highlight an iconic store from Rockvale's past: Vezzetti's Grocery. Two local artists, Ed Penner and Cathey Young, gave their time and talent to re-create a life-size mural of the store front on a wall in the Bill and Diana White Room. The Museum received several items from the grocery store. These items, combined with the mural, make a wonderful display of Rockvale's past.

Vezzetti's Grocery was originally located in Williamsburg, also known as Stringtown, in 1896. The founder of Vezzetti's was Charles Vezzetti from Italy. His first wife, Mary, died in 1902. Charles returned to Italy for three months and then married his wife's sister, Lucia. Charles and Mary had two children, Antoinette and Mary. Charles and Lucia had five children: Martin, Max, Marian, William, and Martha(Dolly). Charles died in 1951 and Lucia in 1953. Martin and Bill took over the day-to-day operations of the store.

Vezzetti's moved to Rockvale by 1915. Vezzetti's was known for the best Italian bread in the county. Dutch ovens were used to bake the bread with crusty crust on the outside and light and fluffy bread on the inside. Two hundred loaves were made daily, five days a week. Each loaf would be wrapped up in paper and tied with a string. Bill Vezzetti would get up at 3:00 am to start the dough and form the loaves. The oven would be fired up with cedar wood. By the time all 200 loaves were done, Martin Vezzetti would open up the store and Mary would go up "school hill" to do her job as a teacher.

Vezzetti's Grocery had an "inviting fire to stand beside and warm the body", a bulletin board posted daily events, listed jobs available, and lost and found notes. Fresh eggs could be bought that came from a hen house next door. Vezzetti's closed in 1980.

Come and see the beautiful mural and some artifacts from the store at The Florence Pioneer Museum and Research Center, 100 E. Front St., Florence, CO 81226. Our website: www.florencepioneermuseum.org. has more information on the museum, hours of operation, and what's for sale at the Museum. Check us out!

The City of Cañon City is pleased to print the Fremont County Historical Society Newsletter as a contribution to the Society. Thanks for all you do for Fremont County History!



Grocery Store, Vezzetti Style

Continued from page 3



The mural at the Florence Museum and Research Center painted by Ed Penner and Cathey Young, this is in the “new section” of the museum at 100 E. Front Street, Florence.



Items are from the Vezzetti Store in Rockvale on display at the Museum in the Bill and Dianna White Room.

LAKESIDE CEMETERY NAMED A LOCAL LANDMARK BY FREMONT COUNTY HERITAGE COMMISSION

The extensive research done by one person has resulted into a giant step towards resource recognition by the County. The Lakeside Cemetery has a dedicated lady who has put hundreds of hours in taking photos, answering questions, correcting the old records and providing a source of research to the Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center.

Luise Barton has worked tirelessly for two years on her goal of achieving Local Landmark Status for the Lakeside Cemetery, a City-owned cemetery, and she achieved that goal in August of 2018. The plaque for the designation will soon be mounted on a piece of marble which Luise found in the “dump”; someone had replaced a stone with a more ornate one, and thrown the original away. She has permission to apply the new Local Landmark Site plaque to this marker and it will be installed at the Military Section, where the three flag poles are situated.

TERRITORIAL DAUGHTERS OF COLORADO COLLECTION

ARCHIVAL MATERIAL HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE FLORENCE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES OFFICES FOR SAFEKEEPING

A story of disappointment, revelation and discovery has resulted in the Territorial Daughters of Colorado being able to house their precious collection of archival material at the Florence Historical Archives offices. The search for the very old records (dating to 1910) was a long and bitter one, until they were contacted by the Colorado Historical Archives offices in Denver. The offices were sorting/discarding their materials, which should have been Colorado State governmental only, and ran across 8 boxes of TDC records. Thanks to the Southern Chapter's facebook page, contact was made and the records were offered back to the organization instead of the trash dumpster.

This series of events resulted in the Southern Chapter of Territorial Daughters of Colorado recovering the old records. Through the auspices of their members, the records will be accessioned, recorded, scanned for the use of TDC members who wish to research old names, dates, places and ancestors who may have belonged to the organization.

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ROYAL GORGE REGIONAL MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER

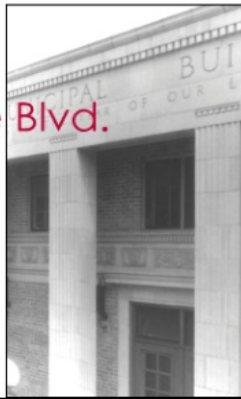
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