

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH 17, 2019 VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2,

EDITOR: CAROL MCNEW READERS: MARGARET STORM, BARBARA HOBSON
WEBSITE: www.fremontheritage.com Facebook page: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM ON MARCH 17, 2019
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
801 SHERIDAN AVE., CAÑON CITY, CO 81212
2:00 P.M. PUBLIC WELCOME

PEGGY AND CURT SORENSON WILL BE
PRESENTING THE STORY OF
GARDEN PARK SCHOOL



PAGE 1: Garden Park School Fund
PAGE 2: Dall DeWeese quarry; Garden Park School History
PAGE 3: Pictures of the school, funding and FCHS answer
PAGE 4: Heritage Commission request for Local Landmark applications; Cañon City Geology Club Information
PAGE 5: "Doc" Little award recipient: Margaret Stiles Storm
PAGE 6: Our Advertisers who help send this newsletter to all our members

GARDEN PARK SCHOOL FUND

The new wall has been built on the west side and the building is receiving a grant for further engineering studies to complete the inside. "With some help from the community, hopefully funding can be obtained for installation of a bullet-proof window to help prevent the window being shot out by vandals."

The Historical Society is extremely interested in preserving all the historical buildings that represent the pioneering and ranching experience that we have nearly forgotten.

Join us to show your support for this great project.

Fremont County Historical Society newsletter - March 2019

The Garden Park area is more famous for its dinosaur bones than the little adobe brick schoolhouse that has provided the children of that community with education for over 75 years and now is in the process of becoming a community building of uses by groups and gatherings of all kinds.



Dall DeWeese, one of the dinosaur bone excavators in the GPFA, in his quarry in 1916. Photo courtesy of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

HISTORY OF THE EFFORT TO SAVE THE GARDEN PARK SCHOOL AS HISTORIC STRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

The school, located approximately 10 miles north of Cañon City, was listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties in 2008. Opened in 1895, the Garden Park School was constructed by valley residents of locally made adobe bricks. The school closed in 1961, when only 5 students attended, and consolidation forced the closure of many rural schoolhouses. Today it stands as a prominent landmark on a bend of Garden Park Road, a part of the Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway.

Because the building's west wall and foundation were failing, neighbors in Garden Park installed a buttress wall to save the structure. The Friends, with assistance from the Gold Belt Tour Byway, secured a grant from the State Historic Fund to restore the foundation and west wall. Grants from the SHF require a cash match of 25% and fundraising began with the first of many neighborhood get-togethers, dinners, silent auctions, and falling star parties.

Today, the first phase of historic preservation is complete, but this was only the beginning of the efforts to save the school. A second SHF grant was recently submitted to finance the restoration of the windows and construct a replica door. A coating material will also be required in the near future to further protect the raw exposed adobe walls. Once the interior also is restored, the school will again serve a variety of purposes and be the "heart of the community."



GARDEN PARK SCHOOL ON RED CANYON ROAD ON THE WAY TO DINOSAUR DESIGNATION AREA WHICH IS A NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK

Your Fremont County Historical Society donated \$100.00 in 2014 - and \$2,000.00 to this project in January 2019.

FREMONT COUNTY HERITAGE COMMISSION

The Fremont County Heritage Commission has put a program in place for local owners of historic property to be able to place that property on a Local Landmark Registry, which, in turn, would help in achieving State or National Historic Designation.

This is through the effort of the Fremont County Commissioners and will be an ongoing program throughout the County. An application form is available on the Fremont County website, fremontco.com; if you need additional instructions, you may call someone on the Heritage Commission to explain the process to explain the process.

The Local Landmark Designation is intended to be owner-generated, unless you are interested in publicly held property (such as Greenwood Cemetery). The application should be filled out completely, with attached pictures, newspaper articles, and other supporting documents about the property which indicate the true historical value of the site.

The public is invited to take this project to heart, since we have the second largest Historic District in Colorado (the 81 buildings in downtown Cañon City) as well as the great interest in pre-history, the Dinosaurs of Garden Park.



CCGC is a member of the

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Cañon City Geology Club is located in Cañon City, Colorado, Fremont County, south central Colorado, USA. For more information about Cañon City Geology Club

email: ccgeologyclub@gmail.com

Mailing address: Cañon City Geology Club; P.O. Box 522, Cañon City, CO 81215

Phone 719-275-1765



Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

A Non-Profit Educational Organization

FCHS is affiliated with the other historical societies throughout the County, Florence Historical Archives, Inc.; Western Fremont Historical Society; Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center; Florence Pioneer Museum and Resource Center; Fremont County Heritage Commission and the Cañon City Geology Club; Crossroads Through Time and Stones & Bones.



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.



"DOC" LITTLE HISTORIAN AWARDEES ARE GIVEN A LIFE MEMBERSHIP

"Doc" Little Award for Historian of the Year was awarded to Margaret Stiles Storm by the Fremont County Historical Society Board members at the program January 20, 2019.



Margaret has been instrumental in helping our historical societies and groups over many years. We honored her with this award for her tireless efforts to fulfill our mission.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

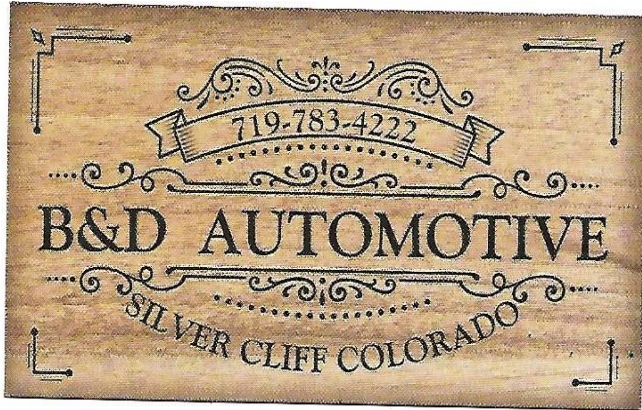
Thank you to all the new members who have joined this year - we are glad you have joined us. Dues cover Dec. 31, 2018 to Jan. 1, 2020.

- Individual \$15.00
- Family \$20.00
- Group \$25.00
- Lifetime \$150.00

Fremont County Historical Society, P.O. Box 965, Cañon City, CO 81215
Fremontheritage.com

FCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
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GAC Nutrition Program Healthy, delicious meals served at noon Mon - Friday
Reservations required prior to 9:30 am.
CALL: 345-3064
\$2 for persons 60 & over - \$11 for under 60



Daily afternoon **ACTIVITIES**
Friday 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. \$2.00 each
275 5177 for info



GAC Transit Program
Call 276-5200 for a ride!

Golden Age Council, Inc.
Cañon City Senior Activity Center
728 Main Street

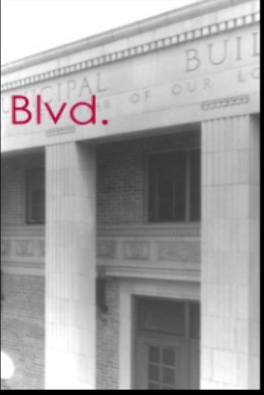
**ROYAL GORGE
REGIONAL
MUSEUM & HISTORY
CENTER**

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