# FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### NOVEMBER 2022 VOLUME 20, ISSUE 4

EDITOR: GLORIA STULTZ READER: HELENE BLAKE WEBSITE: www.fremontheritage.com Facebook page: Fremont County Historical Society – Colorado

#### YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM ON November 20, 2022 STEEPLE EVENT CENTER – 7<sup>TH</sup> AND MACON CAÑON CITY, CO 81212 2:00 P.M. PUBLIC WELCOME

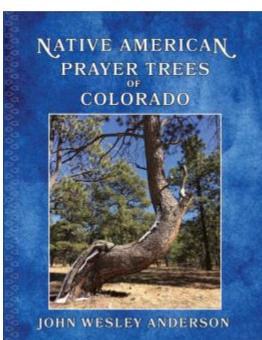


This presentation is based on two books written by John Wesley Anderson and published by the Old Colorado City Historical Society (OCCHS). The Ute Indian Prayer Trees of the Pikes Peak Region and Native American Prayer Trees of Colorado are not just about Culturally Modified Trees; they are about the advanced culture of the deeply spiritual people behind these trees. The Ute were among the Native American people who modified trees for navigational, spiritual, burial, medicinal, nutritional and

educational purposes. Most Native American people, including the Ute, believe anything created by the hands of Creator has a spirit,

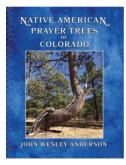
including an eagle, bear, person or a tree and trees would not be modified unless it was with consent of the Prayer Tree and Creator.

John Wesley Anderson, MBA, is a published author, storyteller and TEDx speaker. He enjoyed a 30-year law enforcement career, retiring as a sergeant after years with the Colorado Springs 22 Police Department, followed by 8 years serving as the elected sheriff for El Paso County, Colorado. After being term-limited as Sheriff John retired from public



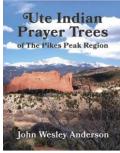
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safety and worked homeland security for ten years in the corporate world. He retired from Lockheed Martin in 2012 to launch a small consulting business allowing him the freedom to pursue his love of history, writing and the arts. Although John has traveled around the world, including several adventures on a catamaran sailing the Caribbean, three corporate security assignments into a combat zone on the Horn of Africa and landing on an aircraft carrier at sea in the Pacific Ocean, he remains most fascinated by the rich history and art discovered in his own backyard in the American Southwest.



## NATIVE AMERICAN PRAYER TREES OF COLORADO By: John Wesley Anderson

**Non-Fiction/History:** There are Ute Elders who remember their ancestors, the Mountain People, teaching about the importance of trees. They tell of the many reasons trees were modified. Some were bent to mark a trail or an important location; others told a story or serve as a memorial honoring loved ones who have "walked on." Each tree modification began with prayer, which remains part of the tree. Still today when some Ute Elders approach these sacred trees they speak softly to the spirits of their ancestors. Culturally Modified Trees are recognized around the world; still some believe Native American Prayer Trees are simply a myth or freaks of nature. This book will allow you to make your own mind. Come join John as he continues to share his journey with tribal elders in search of Native American sacred trees and places across Colorado



### UTE INDIAN PRAYER TREES OF THE PIKES PEAK REGION By: John Wesley Anderson

**Non-Fiction/History**: The *Ute Indian Prayer Trees of the Pikes Peak Region* is more than just a story about Culturally Modified Trees; this is about the advanced culture of the deeply spiritual people behind the trees. The Ute were the indigenous people of the Pikes Peak Region who skillfully modified trees for navigational, spiritual, burial, medicinal, nutritional and educational purposes. The Ute name for Pikes Peak was Tava, meaning the Sun Mountain, and Tava was the most sacred of all the Shining Mountains for the Ute believe the Creator allows the day to start there first, and each day is a gift from Creator. This book includes beautiful 8x10 color photographs of these living Native American cultural artifacts and lessons learned from Ute tribal elders.

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The McCandless Quilt Story & The Voices of Our Legacy Quilts Presented by Florence Historical Archive





### Sunday, November 13, 2022 3 pm to 4 pm

### Bell Tower Cultural Center 201 E 2nd St. Florence, CO 81226

### Admission: \$5.00 per person

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#### **Preserving History**

When the United Presbyterian Church, located at 701 Macon, closed due to declining membership, the Historical Church Conservancy of Fremont County, a nonprofit was formed. This nonprofit now operates the historic church building as the Steeple Events Center to acquire income to maintain the structure, with most of the staff being volunteers. While doing upgrades to the structure, the church vault was opened. Inside were ledgers, pictures, records of members seeking transfers, etc. It was decided that all these records needed to be persevered and made

available to the public doing research. Thus was the start of a major project conducted by Historical Society volunteers in phases. The purpose of Phase One was to find out exactly what the vault contained by inventorying the contents. There was an average of seven volunteers working once a week for two hours to catalog each item. Every item was given a number, with a sheet of paper giving a brief description of the item or the contents of letters, ledgers, etc. This phase took 3 months to complete. Phase Two will be combining all the material into certain categories. Phase Two will also include evaluating inventory records from Phase One, to weed out the duplicates and to combine related records. Over time, all the materials will be scanned or photographed as Dan Meeks, the project coordinator has time among his other duties. The next phase will focus on transcribing the records, to enable them to be entered into a searchable online data base so that researchers will to have access to the records.

By Sandra Haimerl



#### History Belongs to Everyone Florence, Colorado

### FLORENCE HISTORICAL ARCHIVE, Inc. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Join us in preserving our history!

#### **Annual Membership Levels**

Individual	\$25	Individual Plus One	\$40
Senior Individual (65 plus)	\$20	Senior Individual Plus One	\$35
Student (18 and under)	\$15	Family (up to 4)	\$65

Individual and Family membership benefits include our e-Newsletter (electronic) and discounts to Archive events

Supporting Business	\$100	Patron	n \$	500
Sponsor Business	\$250	🗆 Benefa	actor \$	1000

Business, Patron and Benefactor membership benefits includes our e-Newsletter (electronic) and discounts to Archive events and listing on website, flyers, announcements (prominence dependent on membership level)

NAME:	_							
BUSINESS NAME:								
ADDRESS:	CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:				
EMAIL:		PHONE:						
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:		ADDITIONAL DONATION ENCLOSED	č.					
Make checks payable to FHAI and mail to: FHAI, 600 E 3 <sup>rd</sup> St, Ste H, Florence, CO 81226 or pay with PayPal.								
Do you have Colorado ancestors in:  Florence Penrose Other	🗆 Cano	on City 🗆 C	oaldale	Rockvale	□Williamsburg			
We are always looking for assistance with photogr guides and presenters.	aphy, v	video product	ion, histo	orical research, s	social media, tour			
Are you interested in learning about volunteering opportunities at the Archive?								
FHAI is a non-profit organization: Tax ID #81-1200379								
Consider the Archive as the future home for your historical books, maps, diaries, or photographs.								
The Archive would be happy to aid in their preservation!								

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### **Fremont County Historical Society**

Nov 5- Greenwood Pioneer Cemetery – Veterans Day Ceremonies 11:00 am.

Nov 20 - John Anderson Presenting Culturally Modified Trees

#### **Florence Pioneer Museum and Research Center**

#### **Western Fremont Historical Society**

Access Sundays at the History Center in Howard began on April 24<sup>th</sup> and will continue on the last Sunday of the month through October unless there are scheduling conflicts.

Summer tour – Parker Homestead/Coaldale area, date to be determined by Terry Andrews, since she will be main presenter.

Fall tour of Amy Homestead?? Possible, depending on apple crop.

Display highlighting Western Fremont County is currently featured at the Fremont County Administration Building, thanks to Debbie Hildebrand and crew members.

#### TO HELP YOU FIND JUST WHAT YOU'RE

looking for...

#### Frontier West Realty

Michael Butts, Broker Associate

- 36 Years of full-time experience in the Real Estate Industry
- Full-time agent committed to complete client satisfaction one customer at a time!
- Proudly serving Fremont, Park, and Custer Counties
- Knowledgeable in all facets of Real Estate including residential, commercial, farm/ranch, and vacant land

731 Macon Avenue • Cañon City, CO 81212 mike@mikebutts.net • Mobile: 719-269-2922 • Office: 719-275-7404

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The history books written by Cara Fisher and Eleanor McGinn have been reprinted. A new book, Legends of the Royal Gorge Region by Janet Sterling, has been added. The new Prospect Heights Town book is also available at retail outlets in Cañon City & Florence.

These have been added to the library of Fremont County Historical books published in the past four years by the Historical Society – Titles are: Cañon City, Skyline Drive, Florence, Howard, Windshield Tours, South Cañon Trails Geology Hike, and Western Fremont County. The guide books for Rocks and Fossils, Cemeteries, and Coal Camps are also available online at www.fremontheritage.com/fchs

ROYAL GORGE REGIONAL BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING OUTLETS -- PRICES VARY.

#### **CAÑON CITY AREA**

- 1. FREMONT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
- 2. ARTIST'S GALLERY
- 3. J & J STONES AND MINERALS
- 4. MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER
- 5. PROSPECT HEIGHTS JAIL (SUMMER)
- 6. COLORADO MUSEUM OF PRISONS
- 7. ANY BOARD MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY
- 8. AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE

#### FLORENCE AREA

- 1. FLORENCE HISTORICAL ARCHIVE, INC.
- 2. FLORENCE PIONEER MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER
- 3. SPIRIT RIDERS ON MAIN STREET
- 4. BELL TOWER ART CENTER
- 5. ANTIQUE SALVAGE ON MAIN

#### WESTERN FREMONT COUNT

- 1. RIVERSIDE CAFÉ, HOWARD
- 2. HOWARD MUSEUM (CHURCH)
- 3. COTOPAXI STORE
- 4. BIG HORN LIQUOR (COTOPAXI)

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Thank you to all the new members who have joined this year – we are glad you have joined us. Dues cover December 31, to January 1.

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

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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.



#### FCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Gloria Stultz, Pres.Pat Nelson, Treas.Dale BoodySue Buchanan, Sec.Larry LinscottKathy UhlandReta BrunnerSandra HaimerlBetsy DenneyMaryann HarperHelene Blake and Margaret Storm, Advisory

#### Golden Age Council, Inc.

Cañon City Senior Activity Center 728 Main Street, Cañon City, CO

GAC Transit Program Call 276-5200 for a ride!

Office (719) 275 5177 Nutrition (719) 345-3064 Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. <u>Director@theccgac.com</u> or admin@theccgac.com.

#### Paul and Karen Austin/Owner 2625 E. Main, Cañon City, CO 81212





Cañon City, Colorado

Open 10am - 4pm Wed. - Sat.

museum.canoncity.org 719-269-9036



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