

FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 2025

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1

Reader: Betsy Denney

Editor: Tiffany Coleman

website: www.fremontheritage.com Facebook page: Fremont County Historical Society - Colorado

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PROGRAM

"The Story of the Witchers" presented by Betsy Denney

JANUARY 19, 2025 - SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS CHURCH,

801 SHERIDAN, CANON CITY, CO 81212

2:00 P.M. - PUBLIC WELCOME

NORTH COUNTRY CATTLE BARON



Betsy Young Denney was born in Canon City and raised on her family's ranch in Cotopaxi. She is a fifth generation Western Fremont County resident. She lives on the ranch where she grew up, and even though she was gone for 20+ years, Cotopaxi has always been home.

Betsy has always been interested in history, especially the rough and tumble local history in Cotopaxi. Most girls grow up playing with dolls, but not Betsy. She built forts and fought off outlaws while riding her horse in a cattle stampede. So, when it comes to history, she is a natural. She is involved in Fremont County Heritage Commission, Fremont County Historical Society, Western Fremont Historical Society, and Territorial Daughters of Colorado. These are just a few of the historical groups she has been a part of. Through all of this, Betsy is here to preserve our Fremont County history.

The Witcher family was well known throughout Fremont County and the surrounding area. They brought in some of the first cattle, homesteaded several different locations, and put their stamp on the settlement of the area. This is the type of story that Betsy enjoys telling.



FREMONT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

Happy New Year FCHS Members:

I am hoping you all are staying warm and dry this winter. Our annual member meeting will be held January 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. just prior to our program. Business items will include reappointment of three board members: Sue Buchanan, Gloria Stultz, and Kathy Uhland. This will be for a three-year term. We are hoping to add a couple more members to the board soon. There will also be a presentation of the Doc Little Award. This award is given to a community member that has made a significant contribution to the heritage, history, and/or preservation of Fremont County.

This past year the FCHS board has been busy! We continue to promote Fremont County history through our programs, self-guided tour books and heritage guides, scholarships, and stories that make Fremont County fun!

Our Prospect Heights Jail was open every Saturday from May through September!! Thanks to Sue Buchanan for her dedication to the jail. While she was waiting for things to warm up, Sue was able to put together a display on the Prospect Heights Jail. This wonderful information was placed in the display case of the Fremont County Administration Building on Macon for six months for all to see. This is one of the many activities FCHS does to help promote our rich history.

Another highlight of the year was to award ten (10), yes 10, \$1,000 scholarships to deserving young women who will be furthering their education. It was an honor to get back to offering scholarships after a hiatus of several years. As some may recall, the FCHS was entrusted with an endowment designed for scholarships. The board is in the process of updating the scholarship application that will include Canon City, Cotopaxi, Florence, and home school seniors wishing to advance their education with a scholarship.

We hope to see you at the January program and thank you for your continued support of the Fremont County Historical Society.

Sincerely,

Betsy Denney

Betsy Denney
FCHS President

FCHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Betsy Denney, Pres.	Helene Blake
Sue Buchanan, V.P.	Maryann Harper
Kathy Uhland, Sec.	Ashley McDermott
Cindy McPhail, Tres.	Margaret Storm
	Gloria Stultz

P.O. Box 965,
Canon City, CO 81215

Historical Society Programs Upcoming Events in 2025

January 19, 2025 - Betsy Denney

“North Country Cattle Baron: The Story of the Witchers”

March 16, 2025 - Anne Whitfield

“Rock Art”

May 18, 2025 - Victoria Miller

“Steelworks: Colorado Fuel and Iron”

July 20, 2025 - Sue Buchanan

“Prospect Heights”

September 21, 2025 - Lisa Stuts

“Interactive Items”

November 16, 2025 - FCHS

“Canon City”, 1948 Movie

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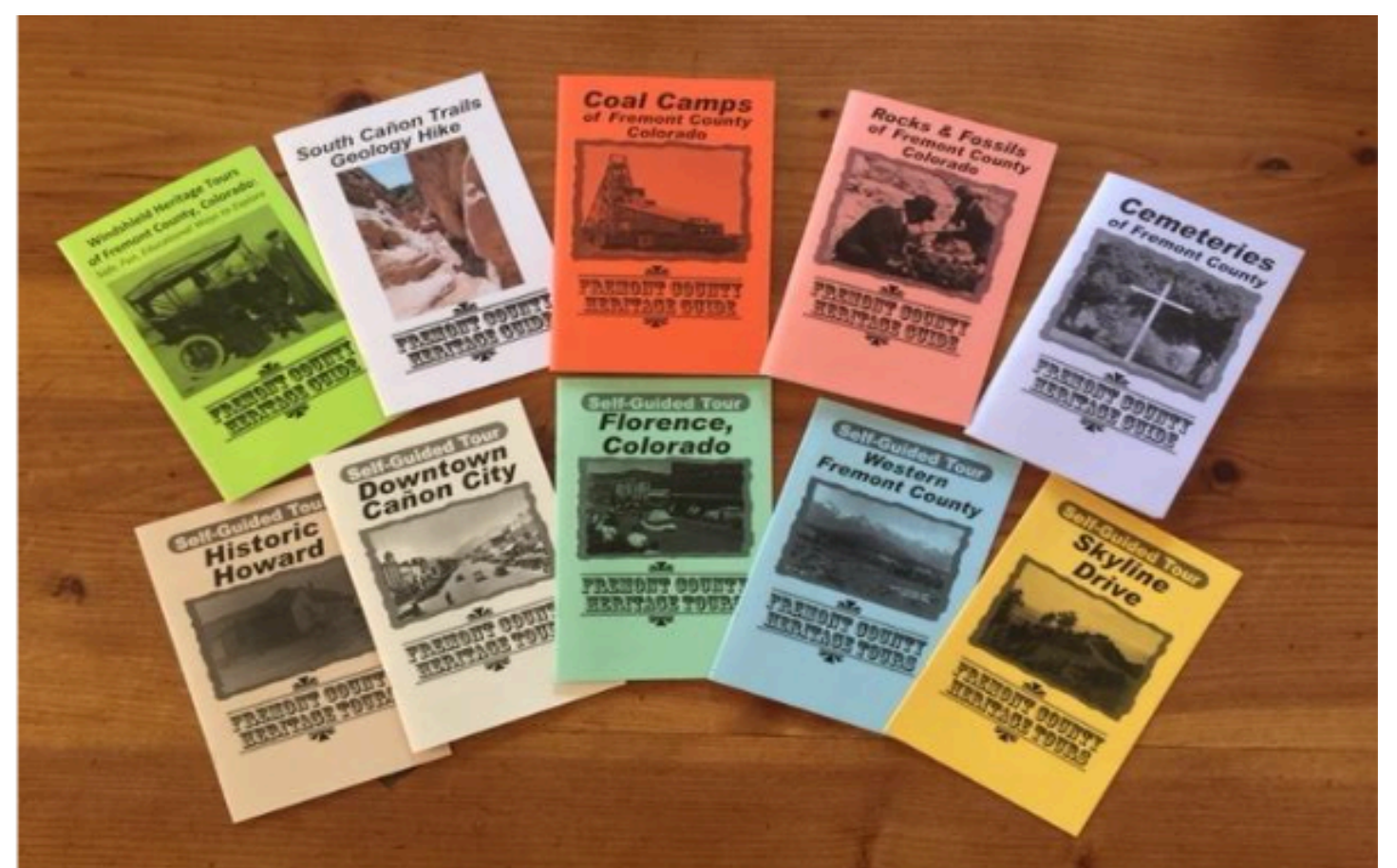
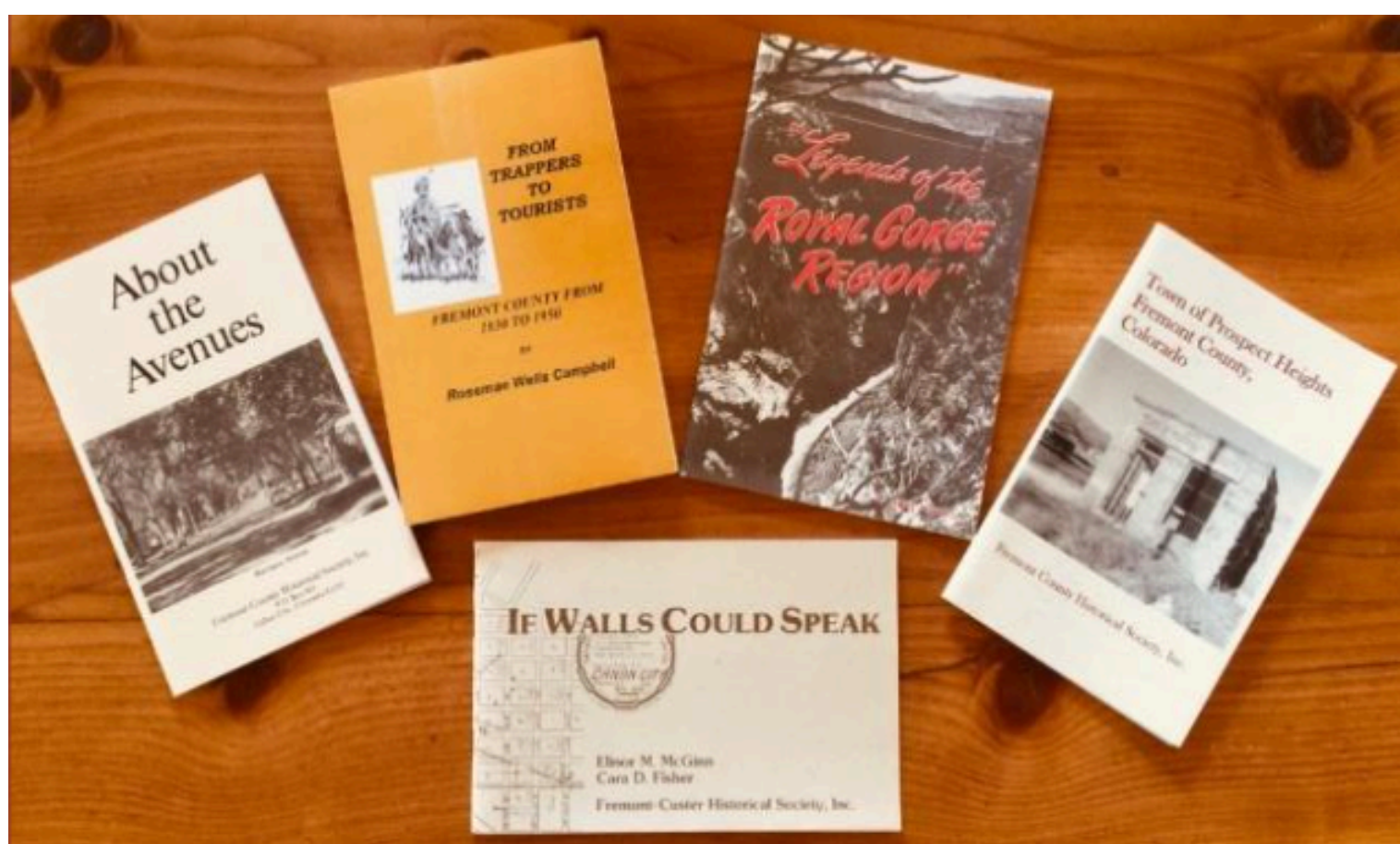


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ROYAL GORGE REGIONAL BOOKS FOR SALE

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 Canon City and Florence.

These have been added to the library of Fremont County Historical books published in the past four years by the Historical Society. The titles are *Canon City*, *Skyline Drive*, *Florence*, *Howard*, *Windshield Tours*, *South Canon 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.

CANON CITY AREA

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

FLORENCE AREA

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

WESTERN FREMONT COUNTY AREA

1. HOWARD MUSEUM (CHURCH)
2. COTOPAXI STORE
3. COTOPAXI-MULLINS HISTORY CENTER

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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Colorado Mountain Land Office
Real Estate - Lot Development & Project Management




Earl Pfeiffer
Broker - Home Builder - Owner
719-275-2501
Earl@ColoMtnLand.com

457 Shannon Road
Cotopaxi, CO 81223
(by appointment only)

  CRC 058278

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.



ROYAL GORGE **REGIONAL MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER**

612 Royal Gorge Blvd.
Cañon City, Colorado

Open 10am - 4pm
Wed. - Sat.

museum.canoncity.org
719-269-9036

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Cañon City, CO 81215
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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.
Director@theccgac.com or admin@theccgac.com.

Paul and Karen Austin/Owner
2625 E. Main, Cañon City, CO 81212
719-275-5055

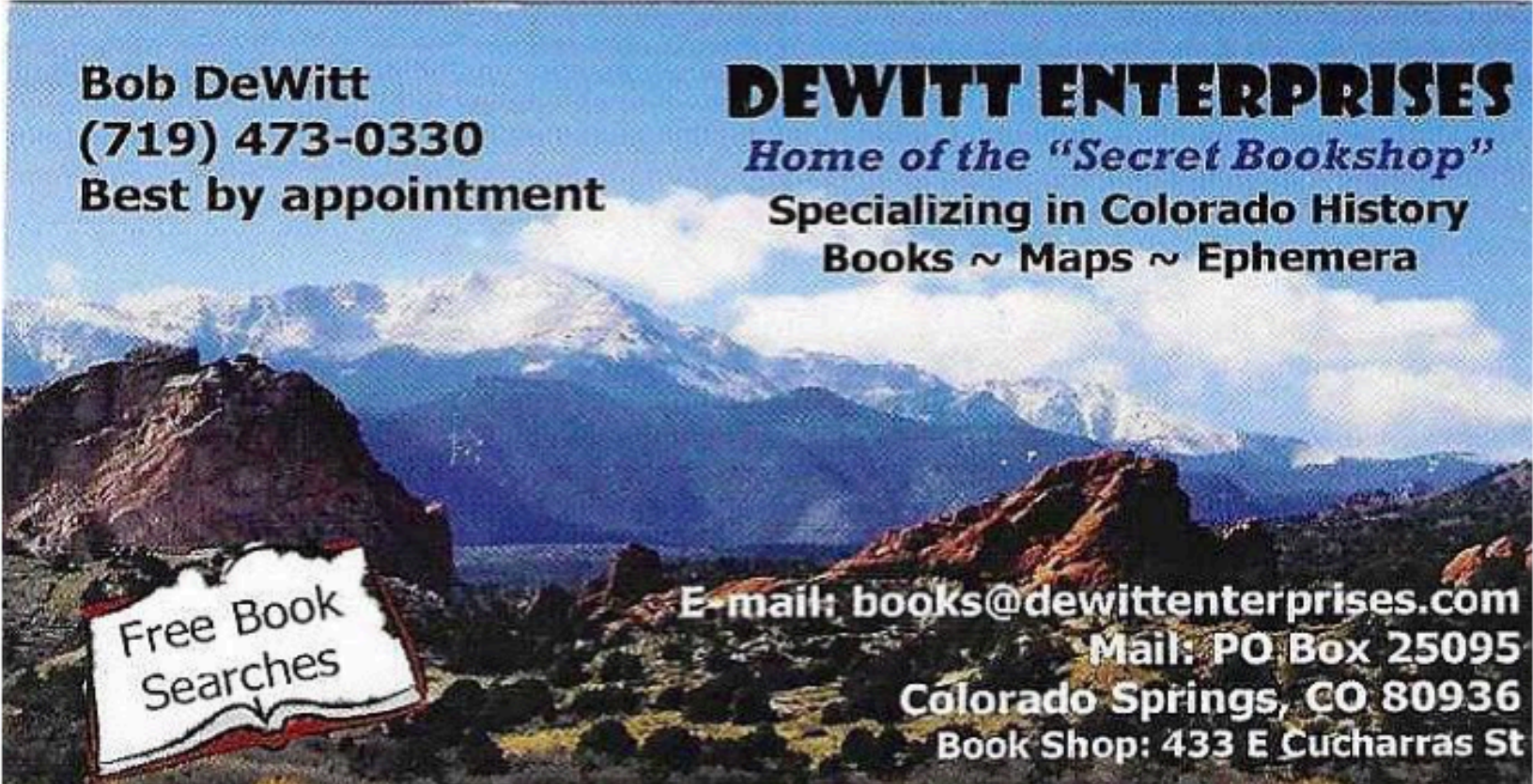


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