



Downtown Spotlight

January 2012

Downtown Awards Highlight January Luncheon

Following custom of the past four years, the Pueblo Downtown Association will present its Downtowner Awards at the January 26 luncheon. The meeting and presentation will be held at the Pueblo Convention Center at 11:45 a.m. The awards are presented to those people and businesses we feel have made a significant contribution to the betterment of Downtown Pueblo. This year's awards will be presented to Dean Dennis, Signs by Scott, Tammy Fesmire, Waterfront, LLC and Steve Shirley.

All general meetings are open; you need not be a member to attend. We call our full members to remind them about meetings. Cost to attend the meeting is \$15; reservations may be made by email to margaret@pueblodowntown.com or by calling the office at 543-7155. Please make your reservations no later than noon on Monday, January 23. Reservations for the meeting which are not cancelled by noon on Tuesday will be billed at the \$17 rate. We accept Master Card and VISA for meetings, dues and purchases of Downtown Association merchandise.

Dean Dennis, Vice-President of Business Development and Client Relations for Global Spectrum and General Manager of the Pueblo Convention Center, has been a Pueblo and Downtown supporter since the early 1990's. From 1992 to 1997 Dean was Vice President of the Convention and Visitors Council for the Pueblo Chamber. When the Convention Center was built he left the Chamber to become General Manager of the Pueblo Convention Center for Globe Facility Services; in 2001 he was promoted to Vice President to develop new business in North America. Dean came to



Pueblo from Center, Colorado; he attended Adams State College and later University of Southern Colorado (CSU-Pueblo now). He has served The Colorado Travel & Tourism Authority and the Tourism Industry Association of Colorado.

Signs by Scott has been a Downtown business for nearly 20 years. Scott Hitchcock, business owner, has served on the board of



directors for the Pueblo Downtown Association and is a past president of the organization. His business has created the historic banners you see on the streets of the area. He services a large clientele of local businesses with signs and banners.

Each year the board has selected one of its members to present with a Downtowner Award; Tammy Fesmire is the current Secretary for the Pueblo Downtown Association. She is the Pueblo President for Sunflower Banks and is active on many local boards and committees. Tammy came to the

Association board in the early 1990's. Over the years she has chaired the Membership Committee, served as President of the Association and been a good representative for Downtown Pueblo. The Art Project and the installation of streetscape items began during her presidency.

The board also looks at construction and rehabilitation of buildings in the area. During the 2010-11 year the board had four buildings to choose from. For this past year, the board selected the Waterfront Building on the Riverwalk and its developer Rudy Padula to receive a Downtowner Award. The building had been in need of repairs and unattractive until the considerable work put into it by Dr. Padula.



Steve Shirley was selected to receive a Downtowner for his many years of service in co-coordinating the volunteers for the Pueblo Christmas Parade of Lights. Without Steve's help we would not have been able to present more than 20 years of parades for the enjoyment of Pueblo's citizens.

Street Talk

Where Were We 14, 10 and 5 Years Ago?

by
Margaret
Ward Masias

Since we mailed out our 2010/11 Annual Report last week, I thought it might be interesting to see what we were doing in five year increments of the past.

I did begin 14 years ago because it was the first annual report we published. At that time we told our 125 members about the organization, introduced them to the Board, talked about the membership and meetings, talked

about the re-design of the newsletter, promotions, the Renaissance Project, banners & holiday decorations and area improvements. We took in about \$33,500 and had spent about \$26,600 during the year. As is the case today, memberships accounted for the majority of the income, 59%; promotions was the main expenditure at 33% followed closely by Street Decorations at 24%. Fundraising was primarily the auction with funds devoted to purchase of holiday decorations that year the auction accounted for 19% of our income. Our support for the Renaissance Project accounted for 4% of our expenditures. At that time our board was made up of Val Henderson, ESI, president; Tom Bruss, Pueblo Broadcasters, vice president; Margaret Ward-Masias, *Pueblo Chieftain*, secretary; Judy McGinnis, *Thrifty Nickel Want Ads*, treasurer; Kerry Gladney, Pueblo Bearing, past president, Cathy Ames-Farmer, *Pueblo Business Journal*; Tammy Fesmire, First National Bank-Colorado, Becky Higley, Sweet Dreams; Paul Pumphrey, Cleaver Carpet and Karen Ross, Colorado National Bank. Our Christmas promotion that year was "Baubles, Bangles & Downtown Bucks." The board began discussions of on-street amenities since a decline in retail looked to be beginning.

By the 2000/01 fiscal year our membership had declined to 120—if one looks at the rosters for those years, several retail establishments had disappeared from the area. The organization took in about \$39,000 that year and spent about \$35,000. Dues accounted for 57% of the income; asset purchases and maintenance (banners, brackets, and streetscape) accounted for 40% of our expenditures. Our officers were Tammy Fesmire, president; Kerry Gladney, vice president/finance; Tom Bruss, vice president/community liaison; Margaret Ward-Masias, secretary and Judy McGinnis, treasurer—all of them employed by the same people as four years before. The rest of the board consisted of Scott Hitchcock, Signs by Scott, membership chair; Peggy Willcox, Minnequa Bank, promotions chair; Hannah Rush, Rush's Pueblo Lumber, streetscape coordinator; Jeanne Perez (Santillanez) Pueblo Convention Center, meetings coordinator and Karen Trujillo, Pueblo Marriott, project assistant. That year marked the beginning of exhibits for the Art & Soul

of Pueblo Street Gallery; the Downtown Association and its members have been the major support for the gallery since its inception. The *Shining Star* awards had begun during the time between 1996 and 2000. The major newsmaker during the year was the Association's general meeting time devoted to the preservation, or not, of the buildings on the 200 block of North Santa Fe Avenue (ultimately the buildings were rehabilitated). The Association was still making presentations for CDBG funds for projects in the area, nothing was funded that year.

In 2005/06 our membership level was 115; once again a number of businesses listed five years before were not in existence. The Association took in \$49,000+ that year and spent about \$41,000, keeping back funding for the Santa Fe Streetscape project which was scheduled to begin soon. The board consisted of Margaret Ward-Masias, Ray's Rubber Stamps, president; Kerry Gladney, vice president/finance; Tom Bruss, vice president/community relations, Patricia Williams, Pueblo Bank & Trust, secretary and Judy McGinnis, treasurer. Other board members were Scott Hitchcock, membership chair, Peggy Willcox, promotions chair, Sean McCarthy, Castle Investments who organized *The Apprentice-Pueblo Style* competition which involved the CSU-Pueblo and students from the local school districts; Tammy Fesmire and Jeanne Santillanez both project assistants. *The Apprentice-Pueblo Style* competition was the major event of the year; the Association also had a paid intern from the Hasan School of Business at the University. The *Walk through Time* Historic Downtown calendars were begun that year. New bulbs were placed in the 112 lighted holiday decorations that year. The auctions begun in the early 1990's were still being used as a fundraiser for streetscape expenses. Association officers were active on the committee to do the Santa Fe Ave. streetscape project. The Association received an award from the Pueblo County Historical Society for the *A Walk through Time* banners with historic photos it placed on the streets.

I am running out of space, but I would encourage you to look at the story on page 5 and compare our income and expenditures with these years. You will find the percentages remarkably similar.

New Member: We welcome Springside Cheese Shop to our membership. You can get real, fresh cheese right here at 517 W. 5th Street, #104; your discount cards are also welcome at Springside. We also appreciate the return of Stoehr Cleaners to our midst. As always we encourage you to think of member businesses first for your purchases.

Guest Columnists Welcome: If any of you would like to send a guest column for this space, it would be welcome. You will receive a by-line with your contribution. All you need to do is email your material of 500 words or less to margaret@pueblodowntown.com by the end of the month before publication (i.e. January 31 for February 2012).

Southside Lawn & Landscaping

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Specializing in hardscape and water features
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See our work on Santa Fe between 5th & 6th in Downtown!

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Gifts Galore & City Center Cash: Promotion Aimed at Increasing Holiday Business

The *Gifts Galore & City Center Cash* promotion wrapped up on December 15 with the drawing of three names and the awarding of *City Center Cash* in the amounts of \$50 to Chris Williams, \$150 to Linda Moden and \$250 to Celeste Helfter. The cash certificates were all in \$10 denominations and could be spent only in the stores listed on the back. As of the writing of this article \$240 had been redeemed all of it spent at the Mesa Junction's Colorado Fiber Arts. Businesses receiving cash have until January 20 to submit their "Cash" for reimbursement. If you have Cash call the Downtown Association office, 543-7155.

Gifts & City Center Galore CASH

I would like to pass along some of the statistics from the promotion. There were a total of 1671 registrations during the four week period. No one area seemed to have a proportionally higher number of registrations. The 11 stores north of City Hall accounted for 667 registrations; the seven on Union Avenue itself had 631 (more than half of those from Daily Grind which has a lot of visitors each day); the three stores on Mesa Junction had 175 registrations while the two restaurants on the Riverwalk accounted for the balance. We asked for addresses and zip codes on the registrations forms, 92% complied or gave us enough information to determine where they lived. As has been the case with the registrations we get at *Music & Munchin' on Main*, 36% of registrations come from the southwest part of the city (zips 81004 & 81005). The

northeast portion provided 14% while 11% came from Pueblo West. Zip codes 81003, 10%, and 81008, only 4% rounded out most of the city. The St. Charles Mesa accounted for 7% while the towns which make up the rest of the county provided 2% of the registrations. What we used to refer to at the *Chieftain* as the retail trade area accounted for another 4.5%. Colorado Springs and the Denver area had 1% each. We had a few out of state registrations including a couple from California. I have all of the registration forms divided by zip at the Downtown Association office if anyone wants to examine them. Just call 543-7155 and make a morning appointment to look at them.

The businesses I have talked to have all felt that the promotion was a good one. We will give serious consideration to doing it again next year. I can tell you that all of the people I called, both "merchandise" prize winners and *cash* prize winners were very excited to win. I am sure we accomplished one goal; that of giving these shoppers a good impression of shopping in the area.

We would like to thank the businesses who participated in the promotion. They include 12 Downtown Association members Angelo's Pizza and A More, Armstrong Jewelers, Country Oven Bakery, 80/Twenty Wines, El Pueblo Museum Gift Shop, Exquisite Taste, The Flower & Herb Co., Inc, Fox's Garden Supply, Great Divide Ski, Bike & Hike, Sisters' Courtyard Tea Room, Spangler's Home Fashions and Ten Spot II. Non-member Downtown stores participating were Cowboy Supply, The Greatest Gift, Muggsy's Inn and The Wine Gear Store. Union Avenue participating merchants who are not Association members were The Daily Grind, The Gold Dust, Golden M Southwestern Arts, Nourish Foods, LLC and the Party People. Mesa Junction stores participating were The Bookery, Colorado Fiber Arts and Schnarre's Cards & Gifts.

Locate Your Business or Office in the Historic Heart of Pueblo

This directory is provided by the Pueblo Downtown Association to give prospective newcomers information about whom to contact for space in the area. Properties listed are Downtown Association members; there may be other properties in the area which do not appear here. All area codes are 719 unless otherwise noted.

3rd & Main:

1. Jordan Block, Michael Jordan, 543-8178
2. PEDCo's BTC, offices, 160 to 1,326 sq. ft., 2 "virtual offices" or day offices, light manufacturing space in basement, 546-1133
3. ABC Bank/Lottery Building, 2,500-7,000 sq. ft., Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426
4. 307 N. Main, 5,000-10,000 sq. ft., Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426

4th & Main:

400 N. Main, approx. 2,400 sq. ft., Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426

5th & Main:

The New Thatcher Building, 1-man offices, 2-office suites, 1,800 sq. ft. of open space area, other options available, Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426.

6th & Main:

1. 514, 516, 522 & 524 N. Main, tenant improvement allowance, Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426
2. RBC Wealth Management Building, 1,300 sq. ft. suite—can be divided in half, Sound Venture Realty, 542-8426
3. 627 N. Main, approx. 4,000 sq. ft., Sound Venture Realty 542-8426.

8th & Main:

Wells Fargo Building, Ali'i Management, Scott Luinstra 542-1333

13th & Main:

Dan Molello, Jones-Healy, Inc., 545-8181

8th & Grand:

4,000+ sq. ft. also parking, loading doors. Call 542-3379, ask for Bart.

13th & Grand:

Dan Molello, Jones-Healy, Inc., 545-8181

5th & Greenwood:

1. Greenwood Square, Kerry Gladney, 544-0583
2. Metro Plaza, Kerry Gladney, 544-0583

West 4th Street:

1. 710 W. 4th St. Near proposed judicial center, 1,400 & 2,100 sq. ft., Rollie Leyh, 542-3876
2. 801 W. 4th St., Central Pueblo Ctr, Dan Molello, Jones Healy, 545-8181

Riverwalk:

1. 101 S. Main St., Waterfront Bldg, retail, office space, Rudy Padula, 671-4027
2. 102 S. Victoria, Olde Towne Carriage House Bldg, restaurant or pub space, lower level, 543-1012, email otch@oldetownepueblo.com view at www.oldetownepueblo.com

Many Downtown Locations:

Sound Venture Realty, (719) 542-8426

Downtown Happenings

Sangre de Cristo Arts Center

Purchase art classes online at www.sangredecristoarts.org/education any-time, anywhere. Find out what's coming up by visiting www.sdc-arts.org.

Art Exhibits:

Through Jan. 21, *Structures in Cloth: Studio Art Quilt Associates*, Hoag Gallery

Through Feb. 5, *Seasons by Marty Brens*, Regional Gallery

Through Feb. 5, *Contrast and Drama: Allan McConnell Photography*, 2nd Level Foyer Gallery

Through Feb. 5, *Southern Colorado Water Color Society Signature Members*, 3rd Level Foyer Gallery

Jan. 21-May 12, *EnvironMental*, White Gallery

Jan. 28-April 21, *Aaron Williams: Metal Sculpture*, Hoag Gallery

Feb. 4-April 21, *Legendary Landscapes: Gene Kloss*, King Gallery

Feb. 11-May 5, *Kristen Knight*, Regional Gallery

Feb. 11-May 5, *River of Words*, 2nd & 3rd Floor Galleries.

Buell Children's Museum:

Through Aug. 25, *Recycled Fairy Tales*, creativity re-told, re-imagined and renewed in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the *Brothers Grimm's Fairy Tales*.

Education:

Friday Arts Academy begins Jan. 20. Register online at sangredecristoarts.org/education.

Performances:

Festival Fridays, 6-10 p.m., \$4 in advance, \$5 at door

Friday, Jan. 20, Motown Vibes with Suga Bear & the Showtime Band

Friday, Jan. 27, Noche de Musica with Bad Habitz

Friday, Feb. 3, Beach Party with the Martini Shot

Business & Technology Center

3rd & Main, Lobby and Atrium areas

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Artwork by two local artists, Lisa Bailey and Rayann Orr. Art is labeled and priced for sale.

5th & Main Art Gallery

Historic Federal Building

Pueblo Plaza Ice Arena

1st & Grand, 553-2730, www.pueblo.us/index.aspx?nid=328

Mondays 5-7 p.m.,

Tuesday & Thursday 5:15 - 7:15 p.m.,

Friday 12:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Laser Lights, Friday: 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., Sat: 1-3 p.m., 5:45-7:45 p.m.

Rosemount Museum

14th & Grand www.rosemount.org. 37-room, 24000 square-foot mansion built between 1891 and 1893 by prominent Pueblo businessman John A. Thatcher. More than 85% of the furnishings and artifacts displayed or original to the family. Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sat. Admission \$6 adults, \$5 seniors, \$4 children 6-18. Tours every half hour; last tour at 3:30 p.m. Grounds and veranda may be rented for special events. For group tours and information call 545-5290.

Closed through January 31. Open Wednesday, Feb. 1.

SAGE Art Academy

302 N. Main Street, 719-696-9490, www.sageartacademy.com. Fine art classes ages 3-5 & Older. See art grow in everyone. Weekly classes, monthly workshops, Downtown date nights, kids birthday parties.

Southeastern Colorado Heritage Center

Victoria & B Street. In the 1924 Denver & Rio Grande Western Freight Depot near historic Union Depot and the Railway Foundation Museum. Exhibits of historical, cultural groups of southeastern Colorado. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sat. Adults \$5, Senior & Military w/ID \$4, 6-12 \$3, Heritage Center Members and under 6 Free. 295-1517 or website for tours and information. Jan. 19, 7 p.m., *Saddles, Cowboys and a Horse named Lucky*, presented by storyteller and musician Jane Milne. Admission \$10, call Heritage Center for tickets.

Pueblo Performing Arts Guild

A voice for the Arts: Connect to the Arts @ PuebloPAG.org. Performing Arts Calendar, audition listings, performing arts links.

First Friday Art Walk

Feb. 3, 5-9 p.m. 19 locations in Pueblo's City Center are open extended hours with newly hung shows, refreshments and music. Create your own free walking tour by starting at one gallery and picking up a guide. Live street performances at the corner of Union and C.

Impossible Playhouse

1201 N. Main St., 542-6969, www.impossibleplayers.org, also on Facebook. Available for community rentals; contact us at number listed. *Proud to be impossible since 1966.*

January 23 & 24, 7 p.m. Auditions for *A Comedy of Heirs*, by local playwright Tom Massmann. Directed by Trish Thompson; produced by John Ercul. Roles for six males and two females of varying ages. Open to everyone, back stage help always welcome.

Damon Runyon Repertory Theater

611 N. Main Street, www.runyontheater.org. Reservations and information 564-0579.

Jan. 20, 21, 27, 28 at 7 p.m., *Pueblo's Geeks vs Planes, Trains and Automobiles*. \$14

Jan. 22, 28, 2 p.m., *Pueblo's Geeks vs Planes, Trains and Automobiles*. \$14

Feb. 4, 8 p.m., *Comedy Tonight at the Runyon with Dan McGowan*,

Admission \$19 includes 1 drink. 18 and older only

Feb. 11, 7 p.m., *Camelot*, \$14-\$22

Feb. 12, 2 p.m., *Camelot*, \$14.

Steel City Theatre Company

Ticket information www.sctcpueblo.com or 994-8298.

Jan. 20, 21, 27, 28 at 7:30 p.m. *Boy Gets Girl* (rated R)

Jan. 22, 29 at 2:30 p.m. *Boy Gets Girl* (rated R)

Center for American Values

Riverwalk at South Main, Riverwalk level #101, 543-9502. www.american-valuescenter.org. Open 10 a.m.- 2p.m. Mon-Sun. Admission is free. The Center which is part of the Walk of Valor, exhibits more than 140 portraits of Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients.

Broadway Theatre League

All 2011-12 performances held in Arts Center Theater while work is progressing on Memorial Hall. Season tickets are \$120; individual performances \$40 subject to availability. Call 295-7222 for information and purchase.

Pueblo's Riverwalk

www.puebloharp.com. For reservations of facilities or to arrange walking tours call HARP Authority, 595-0242 or email info@puebloharp.com.

Downtown Happenings

Pueblo Convention Center

1st & Main. For Information about events or to book space call 542-1100.

- January 19 Colorado Department of Education
Pueblo City Center Partnership
- January 21 Top Shelf Entertainment
- January 24 City of Pueblo Public Works Department
Colorado Healthcare Association
- January 26 Pueblo Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting
- January 27 Latino Chamber of Commerce
- January 28 Pueblo Chamber Legislative Breakfast
- February 1-3 CSU Extension Southern Region
- February 1 CSU- Pueblo Signing Day Dinner
Pueblo Community Health Center Foundation
- February 3 YWCA Chocolate Indulgence
- February 4 Pueblo County Republicans
- February 8 Mental Health America of Pueblo
- February 9 Business During Lunch
Southern Colorado Residential Rental Association
Pueblo County Historical Society
- February 14 Pueblo Convention Center Valentine's Day Wine Dinner
- February 15 Connections Academy

These events are published so that area businesses will know who will be Downtown. We encourage retailers and restaurants to make these folks feel welcome.

El Pueblo History Museum

301 N. Union. Call 583-0453. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, children 6-12, students with ID. "Family Saturdays" children 12 & under—free. For docent-led tours for groups of 10 or more, contact the museum office at least one week in advance.

Ongoing: Friday Afternoons, 2 – 4 p.m. Workshops for children 7 to 12. New projects each Friday. Cost is \$1 per Friday. Registration required.

Through Feb. 25: *Exhibit of Fine Art by Visual Artists Pueblo*, featured works include *Sand Hill Cranes* by Radeaux, *Razz* by John Wilbar, *Summer Day* by Starr Miller and *A Little Bit of Santa Fe* by Rayann Orr. Art work is for sale. Admission to the gallery is free. High Vista Gallery is open regular museum hours.

Small Business Development Center

301 N. Main Street, 549-3224

www.coloradosbdc.org. email SBDC@pueblocc.edu.

Jan. 20-21, Antlers Hilton, Colorado Springs, *Revenue North Small Business Growth Summit*. More than 60 topics of interest to small business people. \$99 per person or \$299 for staff of 5. Business consulting available through Colorado SBDC Network.

Jan. 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m., *Economic Gardening/ GIS Seminar*. Presenter Chris Markuson, Pueblo County GIS Manager. By supplying local businesses advanced market analysis using GIS, and by bringing together entrepreneurs, community resources and government in a collaborative fashion, entrepreneurs are given tools they need to succeed. Local entrepreneurial businesses pay a livable wage, offer employee benefits and are not tempted to relocate when the cost of doing business is cheaper elsewhere. Co-Sponsor: Ent Business Banking.

2nd Annual Frostbite Fish-Off

Jan. 20-22 on the banks of the Arkansas River just below the dam. Last year more than 50 anglers from throughout the state and nation came to Pueblo for the event. Let's all make these folks welcome to the downtown area.

Pueblo Downtown Association

Dates for upcoming membership meetings. Locations, times and programs are subject to change. If you would like to sponsor a meeting or get more information about meeting programs call Margaret Ward-Masias at (719) 543-7155.

January 26, 11:45 a.m. Pueblo Convention Center,
Program: Downtowner Awards, Sponsor: CTU

February 23, Nacho's, Program: TBD,
Sponsor: Sunflower Bank

March 22, 11:45 a.m. Angelo's, Program: The New
Judicial Center, Sponsor: available

April 26, 11:45 a.m., Location: TBD; Program: The E
District, Sponsor: available

May 24, 11:45 a.m., TBD, Sponsor: Pueblo Bank & Trust

June 28, 11:45 a.m., Pueblo Convention Center, Program:
tbd, Annual Meeting, Sponsor: US Bank



Annual Reports Distributed

The Annual Report for the Downtown Association was mailed to members on December 27. It is a recap of our activities for the past year and provided you with information about our income and expenditures. The Report also provides information about our intentions for the coming years.

The report highlights the "Pueblo Products" we have created to raise funds for our activities. We also give you a glimpse of the preliminary work on the new event *Dancing with the Pueblo Starz*. The Association took in about \$56,600 during the past year and paid out about \$49,100. Much of the difference was accounted for by early income from the *Dancing* event which actually occurred in this fiscal year. Expenses were fairly evenly divided between fund-raising costs, office & staff, communications, meetings and streetscape. The report talks about our participation with the new City Center Partnership and Destination Pueblo in addition to our ongoing projects for street furniture, maintenance of street plantings, communications and other events to name just a portion. It is worth the read.

If you are not a member but would like to see what the organization is all about, call Margaret at the office and we will get you a copy. In addition to members, we distribute the report to government elected officials and professionals.

Convention Certificates Program

The Pueblo Downtown Association has a program aimed at getting conventioners into downtown retailers. At selected conventions, the Association will present \$25 certificates to a conventioner. These certificates will list a single retail business or restaurant. Once the certificate has been presented to the business, that business may bring the certificate to Pueblo Bearing to receive \$25 cash for the certificate or may mail it to the Association at P.O. Box 1953, Pueblo, CO 81002 to receive a payment by check. The certificates are printed on dark red paper. Retailers may issue their own certificates for specific conventions if they wish. Call Margaret at the Downtown Association office, 543-7155 for information.

The Pueblo Blanket



Featuring photos of
20 Pueblo landmarks!

- Wonderful Pueblo keepsake
- Great gift for college student or former Puebloan
- Cozy throw • Wall hanging!

100% cotton • Cold water machine wash, gentle dry • Made in U.S.A.

Produced by

Pueblo Downtown Association

Available at

Exquisite Taste on Union Avenue
& Reflections Plus at Pueblo Mall



Historic Downtown Pueblo Calendars

Now available at these fine Pueblo merchants:

*JR's Country Stores (in Pueblo),
Rush's Pueblo Lumber, Exquisite Taste,
Sisters' Courtyard Tea Room, Pueblo Bearing,
3 Peaks Gift Shop / Arts Center,
Rosemount Museum Gift Shop,
The Bookery, Schnarre's Cards & Gifts,
El Pueblo Museum Gift Shop,
and Reflections Plus*

Great for gifts! * **Supplies limited** * **Get yours today!**

Proceeds go to Pueblo Downtown Association's streetscape program.

Downtown Discount Card Savings

The new Downtown Association Discount cards are for sale now. If you are an Association member you can purchase cards for only \$5 each. With discounts from 27 restaurants and retail businesses (see page 6), you'll save hundreds for dollars in savings during the next year. Members can get cards through the Association by emailing margaret@pueblodowntown.com or call the office 543-7155. For non-members cards are available for \$10 each at any JR's Country Store in Pueblo, Exquisite Taste, 80/Twenty Wines, Ten Spot II and Sisters' Courtyard Tea Room. If you are a retailer and would like to sell cards, please contact the number above and we can get you cards to sell.



1. Angelo's Pizza and A-More, Riverwalk, 10% off dine-in individual meals and soft drinks
2. Camera Craft, 2nd and Main, 10% off photo printing
3. Carleo Creations, 608 N. Main, 25% off in-store merchandise
4. Classic Corner, 415 W. 4th St., Suite B, 5-10% off framing
5. Country Oven Bakery, 5th & Greenwood, 10% off baked goods
6. The Deli, 612 N. Main Street, 10% off individual food & soft drinks
7. Do Drop Inn, 1201 S. Santa Fe Ave., \$5 off large pizza
8. 80/Twenty Wines, 5th & Greenwood, 10% off selected wines
9. Exquisite Taste, 327 S. Union, free ice cream cone with \$10 or more purchase
10. Flower & Herb Co., 321 S. Union Ave., 10% off floral and gifts
11. Gray's Coors Tavern, 4th & Elizabeth, 5% off food purchase
12. Greenlight Tavern, 3rd & Santa Fe, Friday show 2 for 1
13. J.R.'s Country Stores, 5 cents off per gallon gasoline
14. Mobile Record Shredders, 205 N. Elizabeth, Ste 120, 10% off shredding at store
15. Nacho's Restaurant, 409 N. Santa Fe Ave, 20% off entire ticket, both locations
16. Patti's Restaurant, 241 S. Santa Fe, 10% off any meal
17. Pueblo Marriott, 1st & Main, 20% off food—no special events
18. Rosemount Museum, 14th & Grand, \$2 off admission per visitor
19. Rush's Pueblo Lumber, 2nd & Grand, 10% off cash sales
20. Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 S. Santa Fe, Buy 1, get 1 free admission
21. Shamrock Brewing Co., 108 W. 3rd St., 10% off food items
22. Signs by Scott, 123 W. 4th Street, 10% off sign orders up to \$500
23. Sisters' Courtyard Tea Room, 517 W. 5th St., Free pot of tea w/purchase of two scones
24. Southside Lawn & Landscape, 564-0858, 3% off \$10K+ pre-paid residential jobs
25. Spangler's Home Fashions, 4th & Grand, 20% off area rugs
26. Springside Cheese Shop, 517 W. 5th St., #104, 10% off purchases
27. Ten Spot II, 125 S. Union Ave., 10% off entire purchase

A Walk Through Time

Information & photos gathered by Margaret Ward-Masias

Frank Pryor Furniture Co. 1881-1985

On the southwest corner of 2nd and Main Streets sits a building which was built in 1881 or 1882 to house what became the Frank Pryor Furniture Co. The original building was built of brick as are most of the buildings from that era which are still standing today;

the stucco which covers the surface was added at a later time. The file at the Rawlings Library's Western History collection has four stories and an ad in it. I will use more of the information in the April 2, 1924 *Pueblo Chieftain* story, but will select information from the others and from internet sources which were provided by Judy McGinnis.

The 1924 story begins, "Forty-three years ago yesterday, April 1, 1881, Frank Pryor and W.A.L. Cooper of the firm of Pryor, Hagus & Cooper, then engaged in the furniture and carpet business in Leadville, came to Pueblo to look the town over and see what the prospect was for business here—Leadville at that time being rather quiet. They walked from one end of Pueblo's business section to the other, and standing on the old wooden bridge that formerly spanned the "mill ditch" at the junction of Union avenue and Main street, Mr. Pryor said: 'Well if this town ever amounts to anything—and I believe it will—this is where the center of business will be, and that corner there is the one we want,' and after 43 years this prediction of Senator Pryor's is well verified, judged by the present appearance of Pueblo. Mr. Cooper acquiesced in what Mr. Pryor said and they bought the corner where the Pryor Furniture Company's store now stands, and in a few days they had a contract let for the store of the Pryor, Hagus & Cooper Furniture Company, and in a short time the building was completed and stocked and the firm was doing a rushing business, for in those days, 1881—Pueblo was pulsating with life and activity and building fast. In fact the demand for furniture and carpets in the early eighties was so great that Pryor, Hagus & Cooper were doing a good business before their store was ready for occupancy. And as they were young and active and remained in Pueblo, Pryor and Cooper soon built up a splendid trade in Pueblo, while Mr. John Hagus remained in Leadville and looked after the closing of the firm's business there." Several years later Hagus and Cooper moved to Denver and opened a furniture store there. One of the pieces of information Judy McGinnis found on the internet was a directory from 1882 which lists Pryor, Hagus & Cooper at 109-111 W. 3rd, probably a temporary location while the building was under construction.

A couple stories from 1890 newspapers detail much of the layout of the store. At that time the first floor was devoted mostly to wood furniture. An April 16, 1890 story lists the items on the first floor as tables, chairs, secretaries, music racks, easels, pictures, sideboards, bookcases and wardrobes; apparently there were a few rugs in the aisles between pieces. The second floor was devoted mostly to soft goods, carpets, rugs, and curtains. The writer states, "Here also are shown some lovely silk and chenille curtains at prices that cannot be duplicated outside of the factories. Think of a genuine chenille curtain being sold for \$5 a pair! Just about one-half value and 250 pairs to select from!" The third floor was devoted to the display of upholstered furniture. The writer says, "... where the finest line of parlor furniture ever bought to Pueblo is shown." The January 1, 1890 story states that even the basement of the build-

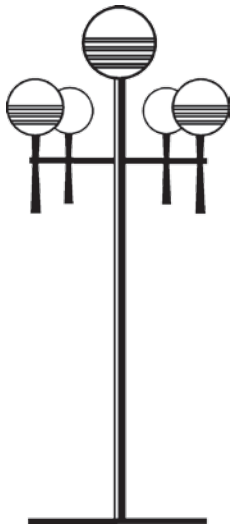
ing "is called into requisition to hold the immense line of goods which he carries." A February 10, 1910 story talks about the new electric sign which the company installed—apparently one of the few that were in the area—and the writer thinks it is brighter than any existing.

The 1924 story's next to last paragraph reads, "With the rest of us the Pryor Furniture Company has suffered its vicissitudes and gone through two or three disastrous and costly floods, but has always come back stronger and better than before, and today is the leading and best known furniture and carpet and rug houses in Colorado." Floods were not the only problem, another internet nugget about Hose Co. #3 states "There was a fire at the Frank Pryor Furniture Co at 2nd & Main Streets on August 24, 1903. Mr. Pryor was quoted as saying, 'The firemen did some of the best work I ever saw,' and gave a \$100 check to the fire department."

The founding Frank Pryor was born in Wisconsin in 1850. His son, Frank Pryor, Jr. was born in 1885 and lived until 1967; he was the Pryor who would have been managing the store in 1924 with his brother Wilbur, 1887-1977. The 100th Anniversary ad which ran in the *Pueblo Star-Journal* and *Chieftain* on August 2, 1981 thanks the people of Pueblo for supporting the family including the 3rd and 4th generations which were operating the store at that time. Frank L. Pryor, born 1924 passed away in 2005. The obituary states that he retired from the furniture store in 1986; that matches with the listings in the City Directories which show the company in business in 1985, but not 1986. The location is listed on the Assessor's website as belonging to LDC Properties.

Information for this story was mostly obtained from the Western History Collection at the Rawlings Library. Additional information came from internet sources and provided by Judy McGinnis. The historic photo came from the Pueblo County Historical Society's photo collection. The current photo was taken by the author.





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