

# The Advocate Newsletter

## July/August 2026

Vol. 51 No. 4

### Aurora Historical Society

Aurora, Colorado



### Embrace your city and its history

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July/August 2026

Dear Aurora Historical Society Members,

We are sponsoring two outstanding field tours this summer. On July 25, we will visit Building 500, the historic main structure of the former Fitzsimons Army Hospital, renamed Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in 1974 and now part of the Anschutz Medical Campus. Building 500 opened in 1941 and it was at that time the largest hospital ever built by the U.S. army and the largest structure in Colorado ([Building 500 Renamed the Fitzsimons Building - 9/14/2018](#)). A suite of rooms on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Building 500 commemorates the site of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's seven-week stay (September 24 to November 11, 1955) as he recuperated from a heart attack. What is known today as the Eisenhower Suite has been restored as it was in 1955 ([Tour the Eisenhower Suite](#)). We are joining with the Highlands Ranch Historical Society for a tour of the Eisenhower Suite, followed by lunch in the Bushnell Auditorium.

On August 23, we will tour Mount Nebo Memorial Park, Aurora's newest historic landmark. It was founded in 1898 and incorporated in 1904 as a Colorado non-profit traditional Jewish cemetery ([History - Mount Nebo Cemetery](#)). The tour will be led by Phil Goodstein, who has been described as "Denver's crankiest historian" and recently published "Denver Jewish Cemeteries", Vol. 3 of the [Scenic History of Denver Cemeteries](#).

Please contact Gregg Chase ([greggcchs@gmail.com](mailto:greggcchs@gmail.com)) to register for both of these tours.

I have a personal connection to the former Fitzsimons Army Hospital and Aurora in general. My maternal

grandfather, Lt. Col. Floyd Robbins, was treated there for malaria that he contracted in the South Pacific during World War II. His son, Floyd Robbins Jr., was a paratrooper during WWII, who got tangled in the lines of his parachute, broke his shoulder, and recuperated at Fitzsimons. Another bit of coincidence is that my father was briefly stationed at Buckley Field (now Buckley Space Force Base) in 1945, at about the same time as his future father-in-law and brother-in-law were mending at Fitzsimons. It seems that I was destined to move to Aurora and eventually live less than 5 miles east of Fitzsimons Army Hospital where my grandfather and uncle were hospitalized and slightly more than 1 mile west of Buckley Field where my father was stationed more than 80 years ago. Life is strange.

Sincerely,  
Gordy Tucker, President

#### Historical Society Officers

President: **Dr. Gordon Tucker**  
Vice President: **Keith Outcalt**  
Secretary: **Lynne Evans**  
Treasurer: **Gregg Chase**  
Directors: **Nadine Caldwell**  
**Susan Hicks**  
**Judy Keilman**

#### Historical Society Committees

Education & Historian: **Keith Outcalt**  
Hospitality: **Judy Keilman**  
Membership: **Gregg Chase**  
Newsletter: **Michael Lockwood**  
Program: **Susan Hicks**  
Publicity: Vacant  
Website: **Lynne Evans**

# meet your OFFICERS



From l to r:

Gregg Chase, Treasurer, Judy Keilman, Director, Dr. Gordon Tucker, President, Susan Hicks, Director, Secretary, Lynne Evans, Secretary, Nadine Caldwell, Director, Keith Outcelt, Vice-President

**Join or Renew  
Membership**

Our membership dues come due in January each year now so you can send your payment for year 2026 to Gregg Chase, 25762 East Kettle Circle, Aurora, CO 80016.

## Memberships:

|            |      |              |       |
|------------|------|--------------|-------|
| Individual | \$15 | Contributing | \$30  |
| Family     | \$20 | Life         | \$200 |
| Student    | \$10 | Business     | \$200 |

If you wish to receive a hardcopy there is an additional \$5 charge

You can now pay your dues online at the AHS website on the join today page using PayPal.

<http://auroracohistoricalsociety.org/join-today/>

WALL  
CIVIL  
WAR

Got Questions?

## Ask a Historian

E-mail your question to [koutcelt@gmail.com](mailto:koutcelt@gmail.com)

**THANK YOU  
NEW & RE-NEWING  
MEMBERS**

**May/June 2026**

**May** – Gordon Tucker

**June** – None

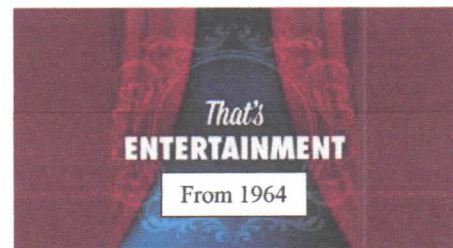
## Member Benefits

### FOX Discount

We have a discount for 20% off tickets for just this sort of thing. The discount code is CULTURAL. Anyone can use that for our Season shows online or over the phone (not valid for special events, cabarets, or rentals).

### Aurora History Museum

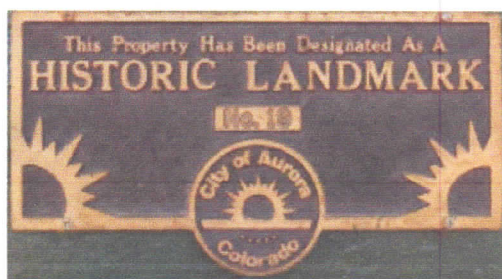
Entrance to the Museum for AHS members is paid for by the AHS. Mention you are a family member to the AHS family membership at the front desk.



Movie: The Carpetbaggers

TV show: Bewitched

Music Album: Meet The Beatles



## Aurora, Colorado Historic Landmarks & Cultural Heritage Sites

There are 34 Historic Landmarks and 6 Cultural Heritage Sites in Aurora, Colorado. Each newsletter we'll show them to you one by one

### Aurora Fox Art Center Aurora Landmark #5 Article written by Keith Outcalt



### *The Aurora Fox Arts Center*

Best known for its tall neon marquee, the Aurora Fox Art Center was named a city landmark in 1987. The theater located at 9900 E Colfax Ave. was the city's fifth landmark, and the first commercial property to receive landmark status in Aurora.

By 1946, local officials, as well as military officials, saw the need for a new theater in Aurora. The Fitzsimons Theater wasn't open to the public or large enough to meet the needs of larger functions on the base. With the help of Lt. Col. Homer Preston, Judge Advocate for the Army and a longtime supporter of the growth of Aurora, Washington, D.C. released military supplies to be used to help construct a theater. That's why the Aurora Fox was built from a Quonset Hut.

Local architect Charles Strong was hired to design the front of the building and the interior of the theater. Strong was a respected architect in the Art Deco and Art

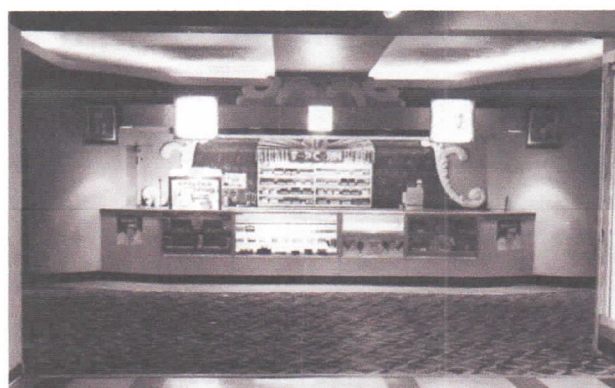
Moderne era who designed Denver's Poet's Row. By 1945, Charles Strong was working with several large theater groups to design theaters.

Strong used the Quonset hut design and added a 61-foot marquee whose tip was level in height with the top of the Daniels and Fisher Tower in Denver. Neon for the marquee was installed by longtime Denver neon bender Shorty Hanger. The theatre space accommodated 670. The exterior boasted coral Carrera glass, which is no longer manufactured, to contrast with the sweeping lines of the turquoise marquee. The new theatre also had the most modern sound and projection equipment, the latest in automatic heating and cooling, plus germicidal lamps that purified the air. Its interior was designed with a rich art deco décor of off-white and light blue with plush wine-colored velvet couches in the lobby. Detailed artistic murals were painted on the wall and ceiling inside the auditorium.



The Fox in 1954

The gala opening of the Aurora Fox was held October 30, 1946. Admission was 55 cents for adults, 35 cents for military personnel, and children under 13 were charged 9 cents. A parade led by the William Smith High School Band was followed by the volunteer fire department. A crowd also gathered to view the fireworks display. The first movie shown was "Claudia & David" starring Robert Young and Dorothy McQuire.



The Fox concession stand in its prime, circa 1962

In the years after the theater opened, the area between Elmira and Hanover became known as “Miracle Mile” because of the increase in business and property development spurred by the opening of Aurora’s first major theater. The Theater offered job opportunities for high school students at the concession stand selling penny candy and popcorn or taking tickets. The Aurora Fox was successful through the late 60s and early 70s. But a number of more modern theaters were built along Havana and farther south, as Aurora grew away from Colfax. The Fox went into a period of decline throughout the 70s.



Roof damage following the fire in 1981

On November 18, 1981, a major fire broke out in the trees on the west side of the building causing major damage to the theater, including a scorched roof, extensive smoke damage and water damage. The majority of the damage was to the auditorium. The theater was threatened with demolition. It’s unclear exactly what started the fire.

A group of interested community members, with support of the Downtown Aurora Business Association approached local neighborhood associations and arts groups to determine the feasibility of saving the theater. Their idea was to create a visual and performing arts center. The Aurora Arts and Humanities Council, the City of Aurora performing arts groups, the Aurora Arts Club, and the Aurora Rehabilitation Authority approached City Council in June of 1982 with a plan for the City to purchase the building and renovate it. The groups were challenged to raise enough private funds and seek grants to cover half the costs, and the City would then match those funds to pay for the project – a total of \$343,000 was raised along with \$127,000 in volunteer time. The city contributed the remaining approx. \$430,000. Plans reduced the number of seats by more than half, created a platform stage and back stage.

In 1983, the City purchased the building and renovations began. The art deco murals were not salvageable, but the renovation group used their design as inspiration for

creating the one-of-a-kind carpeting throughout the new theater.

On March 8 and 9, 1985, the Aurora Fox Arts Center held a grand opening with festivities offered throughout the month. The first production in the newly renovated performing arts theater was “Harvey” by Mary Chase.

Since it was reopened, the arts center has offered 40 successful seasons of innovative and cutting edge productions to become a respected professional theater, operated by the city of Aurora’s Library & Cultural Services Division. The Fox is the permanent home to the Aurora Fox Theater Company, as well as rental home to several local performing arts organizations.

A series of renovations, beginning in 2023, replaced the carpet and seats in the mainstage theater along with updates to electrical and HVAC systems. But the most visible change was repairing and replacing the neon and repainting the historic neon marquee. Over the years the sign had been painted a number of times and one of the goals in the renovation was to return it to its historic color. The sign had last been painted in a 1980s era mint green. Aurora’s Preservation specialist, Chris Geddes, discovered paint and documents from the Hanger Signs, the sign’s original manufacturer pointing to a red and white and yellow paint color palette. These changes will help the Fox theater bring new and innovative theater to Aurora and the historic Fox sign continue to shine on East Colfax for years to come.



The Fox marquee returned to its original scheme

### **Further Reading:**

Decker, Julie and Chris Chiei (ed.), *Quonset Hut: Metal Living For The Modern Age*, Princeton Architectural, 2006.

Dorward, Rebecca. *First Sun of Colorado: Aurora*. Carlsbad: Heritage Media, 2001.

McFadden, Carl Vincent and Leona M. McFadden. Early Aurora. Aurora: Aurora Technical Center, 1978.

Mehls, Stephen, Carol Drake and James Fell Jr. Aurora: Gateway to the Rockies. Evergreen: Cordillera, 1980.

"Colorado Architects Biographical Sketch: Charles Strong," Colorado Historical Society, Available online at [www.historycolorado.org/sites/default/files/media/document/2017/Architects\\_strong.pdf](http://www.historycolorado.org/sites/default/files/media/document/2017/Architects_strong.pdf)

"History of the Aurora Fox," Aurora Fox; Aurora Library and Cultural Services Division, Available online at <https://www.aurorafoxartscenter.org/history-of-the-fox>



**Aurora Historical Society July 25 meeting  
Tour the Eisenhower Suite  
10:00am at the former Fitzsimons Hospital**

In partnership with the



**Highlands Ranch Historical  
Society**

Rare opportunity to explore this historical venue with the preserved hospital rooms where President Dwight D. Eisenhower stayed 7 weeks after suffering a heart attack in 1955.

The suite is located on the 8th floor of Building 500 at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (formerly Fitzsimons Army Medical Center).

- Visit the 8th floor of Building 500 where Eisenhower recovered from his heart attack in 1955.

- Hear a history of Fitzsimons in the Bushnell Auditorium, where Eisenhower's staff worked.
- Tour the preserved Eisenhower suite with Neil Krauss, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Initiative and Community Engagement.
- The Eisenhower Suite includes: Presidential hospital room, Secret Service sitting room, Nurses' station.
- Several rooms have been restored as historical time capsules.
- Join Aurora Historical Society members for an optional lunch (\$20 cost) from Modern Market.
- Minimal walking and standing required, and the tour is indoors.
- Optional activity to walk around the outside area near Building 500. So much history and beauty in this location.
- The Building 500 is beautiful, built and decorated in the Art Deco, Art Moderne, and Modernistic military hospital design.



Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
(formerly Fitzsimons Army Medical Center)



The Eisenhower suite

## At Our May Meeting

The May meeting of the Aurora Historical Society brought members together for an evening that was equal parts education, celebration, and society business — a fitting close to the 2025–2026 program season.

### The Highline Canal – from Waterway to Urban Park

*"From the time I was six, this weedy watercourse had been my sanctuary, playground, and sulking walk. It was also my imaginary wilderness, escape hatch, and birthplace as a naturalist. Later the canal served as lover's lane, research site, and holy ground of solace."*

Robert Michael Pyle, *The Thunder Tree*

Naturalist Robert Michael Pyle grew up along the High Line Canal near Hoffman Heights Park in Aurora. His celebrated memoir is a reminder that this modest ditch has shaped lives as well as landscapes. This cherished natural pathway was a fitting subject for an AHS evening.

Rachel Stenz gave members a rich look at one of the metro area's most beloved landmarks. The "Big Ditch" was conceived by James Duff and financed by a group of British investors based in London. Hand-dug over four years from 1879 to 1883, the canal's circuitous route preserved a two-foot drop in elevation per mile, and where it intersected rivers, wooden flumes carried the water across. The intent was to deliver water to farmers along a 71-mile stretch — a promise it frequently failed to keep.

Rainfall is capricious in our arid climate, and the canal could only deliver what nature provided. Farmers who paid for water and received none sued repeatedly. In 1924 the City of Denver purchased the beleaguered waterway for \$1.05 million. As more efficient systems developed, water flow was eventually shut off and focus shifted to preservation.

The High Line Canal Conservancy was established in 2014 to steward this 860-acre linear park — one of the longest continuous urban trails in the country. Ms. Stenz spoke enthusiastically about the Conservancy's ongoing conservation efforts, surveys, and studies along the canal's full length, and the rare value of this natural greenbelt for the entire metro area.

The High Line's story is one of transformation. Its true purpose was one that James Duff never imagined. As cities and towns grew, the curves of the canal were embraced by streets and neighborhoods. The ditch rider's path now hosts walkers, birders, families on Sunday bike rides, and equestrians enjoying the shade of iconic cottonwoods. It is indeed "the holy ground of solace" in our busy lives.

### Annual Potluck -

The annual potluck lived up to its reputation. Thirty members gathered to enjoy a variety of goodies including delicious potato salad, watermelon, various salad offerings, marble cake, and cupcakes along with the usual ham and fried chicken. This tradition is a memorable send-off into summer. There were plenty of leftovers to take home. Thank you to all who participated and who generously provided a splendid buffet.

### Business Meeting -

Minutes from the March meeting were approved, President Gordy Tucker delivered his report, and Treasurer Gregg Chase presented the financial update. Members voted to approve updates to the Society's bylaws, voted in officers, and Keith Outcalt previewed the field trip calendar for the coming summer. He noted:

- On July 25, AHS joins the Highlands Ranch Historical Society for a tour of the Eisenhower Suite in Building 500 at the former Fitzsimons Army Hospital — the room where President Eisenhower recovered from his 1955 heart attack.
- On August 23, noted Denver historian Phil Goodstein leads a walking tour of Mount Nebo Memorial Park and Cemetery, Aurora's historic landmark Jewish cemetery founded in 1898.

The new program season opens in September. We are hoping to welcome Dr. Justina Ford as our first speaker. Later in the season we propose: the story of Adelia Wells, a courageous woman homesteader; a look at the Denver Art Museum's indigenous art collection; a peek into Denver's Victorian-era spiritualist side; and a curator's-eye view of the Aurora Art Museum, where staff share their favorite objects from the collection. We welcome suggestions for programming. Contact Susan or Keith.

### Heritage Objects Sale —

The Heritage Objects Sale offered members a rare opportunity to take home a handcrafted treasure rooted in indigenous cultural traditions. Items were generously donated by a contributor who believes in preserving Aurora's past for future generations. They reflected the artistry of several distinct Native American traditions: handmade baskets in the Apache, Cherokee, and Gulf Coast styles; decorative mugs from the Acoma tradition; and pottery pieces bearing Acoma and Hopi influences. Five pieces found their way home with members who will treasure them.

All proceeds from the sale go to support the Aurora Historical Society's ongoing work to preserve and maintain Aurora's historic sites. The Board thanks the members for your support.



## Remembering Aurora

*Michael Lockwood, Aurora Historical Society*

An Aurora native, a graduate of the Aurora Public Schools (Vaughn Elementary, North Middle School & Aurora Central High School), Aurora has been a big part of my life ever since I was born. Having grown up here, I have several memories that I'd love to provide for your reading pleasure via The Advocate newsletter. For those of you who have Aurora connections that go back as far as the 1950's the recollections presented may bring back waves of nostalgia. And while I have 60 years of memories to relate, if you have some stories you'd like to share, please feel free to contact us at the Aurora Historical web site: [www.auroracohistoricalociety.org](http://www.auroracohistoricalociety.org)

### REMEMBERING: Long Lost Restaurants

I've written before about certain restaurants that are no longer with us but the memories of some of them keep coming back. So here is a partial list of the ones that came to mind as I was writing this.



Mr. Steak on Havana – A free steak on your birthday. I think later they changed it to a percentage off based on your age



Burger Chef on Peoria - Aurora Central teens gathered there at lunch time.



Round The Corner in Buckingham Square – Those quirky table phones and bright red and blue upholstered booths. Mushroom burger was amazing



Pfeifer's and the White Spot on Colfax – Local favorites for the older generation when I was a teen.



Dozens on Havana – A breakfast favorite for my wife & I when we became empty nesters.

### Honorable mention:

The Black Angus on Havana,  
Taco John's on Colfax & Yosemite,  
The Red Barn on Colfax,  
Tico's on Montview,  
The White Way Grill on Colfax,  
China Doll on Montview,  
94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
The Buckingham Broker on Havana & Mississippi, The  
Lady & The Dove on Parker Road,  
The Rusty Nail on Chambers Road,

Time waits for no man and our history will eventually become shared memories of people and places. Preservation can help keep those memories a little more tangible so that it, too, can be shared with future generations.



## City of Aurora Trivia Questions From Aurora Advocate

1. Jul 1951 – A sign from the City of Aurora notified who that they would not be receiving police or fire services? [Vol 5 No 33]

- a. Mission Viejo
- b. Hoffmantown
- c. Altura

### PUBLIC NOTICE

November 25, 2024

The final service line inventory for Nephi City's water system has been classified as non-lead, meaning no lead, galvanized, downstream of lead, or unknown service lines were found. The system was determined to be non-lead by performing a detailed review of available records such as:

2. Aug 1956 – The Chamber of Commerce was selling tickets to win what? [Vol 9 No 39]

- a. A trip to newly opened Disneyland
- b. A complete kitchen remodel
- c. 1956 Chevrolet station wagon



3. Jul 1961 – C. Porter Moore threatened the City with a lawsuit why? [Vol 14 No 37]

- a. Noise from the AFB
- b. De-annex land east of Lowry AFB
- c. Broke his fence letting his cattle out



4. Aug 1966 – Carlyle Skogen won what award? [Vol 18 No 40]

- a. Aurora Advocate Home Improvement
- b. Aurora Advocate Best Garden
- c. Aurora Advocate Best Show Dog



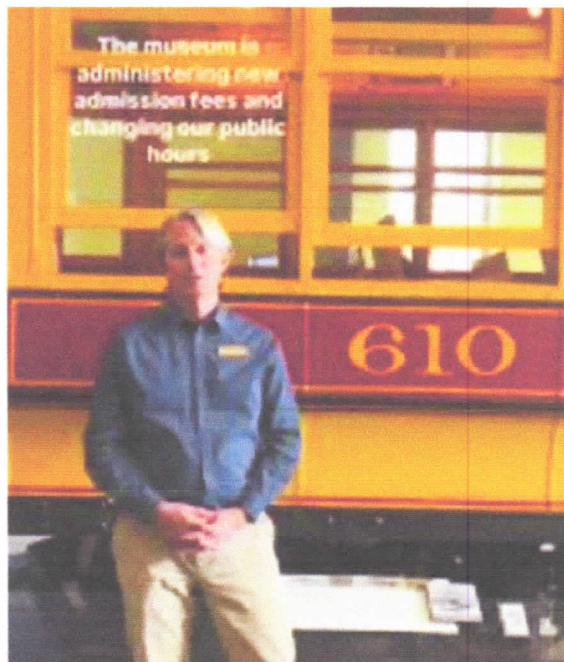
5. Jul 1971 – What got the Aurora mobile home owners up in arms? [Vol 24 No 37]

- a. A new aggressive eviction policy
- b. Relocation of mobile home parks
- c. A \$1 semi-annual inspection fee



# Changes at Aurora History Museum in 2026

by: T. Scott Williams, Director, Aurora  
History Museum & Historic Sites



This past year, the AHMHS Team has served and engaged the entire community to interpret and foster pride in Aurora's story every day through providing exhibits, events and educational programming for all ages. We have strived to find new ways for museum and historic site supporters like you to participate in our programs and increase your knowledge about Aurora's people, places and things!

The main purpose of this message is to provide you with news of changes to the AHMHS operations beginning next year. The Museum is introducing modest admission fees (\$5 for adults and \$1 for children) and adjusting public hours (Open Days: Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.) in 2026, in response to the city of Aurora's budget shortfall.

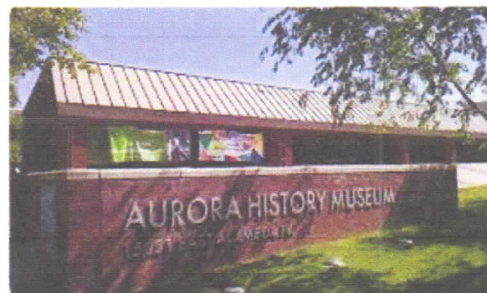
The updates will allow the museum to continue delivering the exceptional experiences, community events and innovative storytelling that have made it a cultural cornerstone in Aurora, while maintaining accessibility through affordable pricing, annual memberships and multiple free community days each year.

The AHMHS will offer three tiers of Annual Museum Memberships including: Individual - \$25, Family - \$50 and Organizational Membership - \$100. For more specific information about admissions and annual

membership benefits please visit our website at [AuroraMuseum.org](http://AuroraMuseum.org). The new admissions, hours and annual memberships will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026.

On behalf of the entire Museum & Historic Sites team, I thank you for your past support and I humbly ask for your continued support as we change our business model in 2026. I hope to see you at the museum and please join us in preserving Aurora's history!

## Upcoming Events at Aurora History Museum



for tickets, registration and more information visit [AuroraMuseum.org](http://AuroraMuseum.org).

### **Morning at the Museum**

**Every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.**

Spend the morning with your preschooler at the Aurora History Museum for stories, crafts and hands-on activities. A new program is offered every week. Please note, children must be supervised by an adult. Cost: Adult admission is free with \$1 children's admission for this program.

### **Coal Creek School Days**

**Every Friday 10:30 to 11:15**

Beginning on June 5, the Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites will open the historic Coal Creek School House for fun, kid-focused programming on Friday mornings. With new programs each week you won't want to miss this summer event. No Program on June 19 or July 3.

Free event. Location: 15500 E. First Ave.

### **Local Cost of Freedom Gallery Talk**

**Saturday, July 4, 2 p.m.**

Explore the Local Cost of Freedom exhibition about Colorado Servicemen who died in foreign wars and learn more about the men featured. Our Exhibit Curator will discuss the process of finding and recording the names, photos and stories for the Local Cost of Freedom. Free event. Please register.

### **City of Aurora Fourth of July Spectacular**

**Saturday, July 4, 6 to 10 p.m.**

Join the fun and see the fireworks at the Aurora

Municipal Center. AHM will be open with free admission from 2 to 8 p.m.

Free Event, no registration required.

### **Sci Fi land Talk**

**Saturday, July 11, 2 p.m.,**

Discover one of Aurora's most interesting failures, the surprising story of Science Fiction Land, the wildest theme park that was never built, featuring futuristic rides, a monorail and security guards with jetpacks.

Free Events, no registration required.

Location: Tallyn's Reach Library, 23911 E. Arapahoe Road

### **History Hike: Colfax: A Road Through Time**

**Saturday, July 18, 4 p.m.**

See how Aurora has changed along Colfax, from the time of the trolley to today. We will meet at Centennial House and walk two miles through "Original Aurora."

[Cost: \\$4 per person.](#)

### **Colorado, Leading the Nation: A Colorado Day Presentation**

**Saturday, Aug. 1, 10:00 a.m.**

Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Colorado's statehood with a discussion about times the state was on the forefront of American policy. From early questions about who could vote to more modern policies, discover how Colorado has led the nation.

[Cost: Program is included with museum admission \(\\$5 or free for members\).](#)

### **Proclaiming Colorado's Black History Exhibit Reception**

**Saturday, Aug. 1, 2 to 5 p.m.**

This is your chance to dig deeper into the award-winning "Proclaiming Colorado's Black History" exhibit created by the Museum of Boulder while it's right here in Aurora. Join us for refreshments and speakers discussing Black history and culture in Colorado.

[Free Event.](#)

### **History Hike: The Smoky Hill Trail**

**Saturday, Aug. 8, 7:30 a.m.**

In the 1860s, the fastest route west to Colorado was the Smoky Hill Trail. The middle branch of the trail went through Aurora and was known as the Starvation Trail. Learn why and see the landscape how westward travelers saw it over 150 years ago.

[Cost: \\$4 per person.](#)

### **Centennial House Open Day**

**Sunday, Aug. 9, 9 a.m. to noon**

Located in Original Aurora, Centennial House is a Queen Anne style home. It is the oldest of the nine remaining

houses Donald Fletcher built for his speculative community east of Denver. We will have snacks and lawn games.

[Free event, please register.](#) Location: 1671 Galena St.

### **Historic Site Open Day: DeLaney Farm**

**Saturday, Aug. 8, 3 to 6 p.m.**

DeLaney Farm was settled before the city of Aurora was founded. Explore the historic buildings, including the oldest remaining home in Aurora and the DeLaney Round Barn. There will be pioneer games and crafts for kids.

[Free Event, please register.](#)

Location: 170 S. Chambers Road

## **Aurora Museum Exhibits**

### **. Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora's Filipino Community**

The Aurora History Museum and the Aurora Office of International and Immigrant Affairs celebrate Aurora's vibrant Filipino community with the new exhibition "Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora's Filipino Community."

This exhibition is part of the "Mosaic of Cultures" series, which promotes understanding of Aurora's culturally diverse populations while incorporating the voices of those local communities into the city's history.

The Filipino community in Aurora represents a rich tapestry of traditions, customs and cultural practices. From vibrant festivals to traditional music and dance, the Filipino community has added a unique and colorful dimension to the cultural fabric of the city. The exhibition will allow residents and visitors to learn about and appreciate the diverse cultural heritage. The exhibition will run through April 2027..

### **"The Local Cost of Freedom: Aurora's Fallen in the Sesquicentennial Story."**

The Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites reflects on 150 years of Colorado statehood and 250 years of an independent United States with an exhibit that honors the servicemembers from Aurora who gave their lives for our freedoms.

"The Local Cost of Freedom: Aurora's Fallen in the Sesquicentennial Story" places local stories within the larger framework of American history. Across the nation and the state, countless lives have been lost in the name of freedom, and the bravery of Aurora's fallen is part of this enduring legacy.

## On Display in the East Hallway

### Aurora's Historic Photos

Photos have a way of connecting the current generation with their past. This exhibit showcases a small sample of the over 30,000 images archived at the Aurora History Museum.

## On Display in the Theater Room Trolley Trailer #610

This exhibit takes a deep dive into the history of electric streetcars in the Denver metro area and explores the story of Aurora's Landmark, Trolley Trailer #610 before it was an exhibit at the Aurora History Museum.

This exhibit was chosen to return to our museum by visitors in June and July 2023.

## Growing Home & Trolley Trailer No. 610

Growing Home is a permanent exhibit about Aurora's history featuring Trolley Trailer No. 610, a fully-restored 1913 historic trolley trailer. The exhibit highlights people, places, and events from Aurora's history. It features over 100 historic photographs and objects, and

the fully restored 1913 historic Trolley Trailer No. 610 in the new Ruth Fountain gallery. Go inside the trolley and experience 100 years of history first-hand. The exhibit was designed by Dennis Meyer of Filament Design/Build with support from museum staff.

In October 2012, the Aurora City Council approved funding for the construction of a new gallery and addition at the Aurora History Museum. Council resolved to name it in honor of Ruth Fountain, a former city councilwoman, community activist and museum supporter.

The Aurora Museum Foundation was instrumental in raising funds and in-kind donations through grants and support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals. The 1,630 square foot gallery was completed in November 2014. The addition was designed by Humphries Poli Architects and built by Palace Construction.



Admission: \$5 Children (2-17): \$1

Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

15051 E Alameda Pkwy, Aurora, CO 80012

303.739.6660

## Join the Aurora History Museum

Be a history hero and help us champion Aurora's history by becoming a member of the Aurora History Museum. Three levels of membership are available. **Individual - \$25, Family - \$50 and Organizational - \$100.** Each tier includes free admission, invitations to members-only events, 10% off purchases and event fees. [Become an AHM member today!](#) For more specific information about admissions and annual membership benefits [please visit our website](#).



 **Aurora<sup>®</sup>**  
**Museum**  
FOUNDATION

The Aurora Museum Foundation is a non-profit dedicated to the historical and cultural enrichment of the community by advocating and fundraising to ensure the continued viability of the Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites. Each year AMF takes part in a variety of community projects to raise funds for the museum and to preserve the history of Aurora.

[Visit the AMF webpage](#) or [email the AMF](#) for more information.



Baker, Susan  
Barnes, Mildred  
Bartholomew, Randy & Barbara  
Beach, Mr. & Mrs. Robert L.  
Beach, Robert  
Benedict, Sally & Van I.  
Bennett, Mr. & Mrs. Don  
Bottoms, Jack & Ruth  
Brown, Dick & Kay  
Caldwell, Nadine  
Caron, Dean & Theresa  
Chase, Gregg & Mary  
Crawford, Judi & Jessica  
Daniels, Kimberly & William  
Drollinger, Don & Carol  
Elwell, Tom & Dottie  
Essex, Joyce Brown  
Evans, Lynne  
Fanning, James  
Fletcher, Robert & Cindy  
Fugler, Carl & Gloria  
Gehler, Robert & Terri  
Gigikos, John & Lila  
Heckman, Dorothy  
Heflin, David & Mary  
Hensler, Bill & Sue  
Hicks, Susan  
Hogan, Becky  
LeGare, Bob  
Jordan, Ralph & Sharon  
Keller, Chris & John

Dunning, Anabelle (1976-1979)  
Metcalf, Gladys (1980-1981)  
Stadt, Florence (1982)  
Elwell, Dottie (1983-1984)  
Johnson, Elizabeth (1985-1986)  
Pierce, Mary (1987-1988)

Letofsky, Jane Anne  
Lindemann, Ingrid  
Lockwood, Michael & Kathryn  
Lord, Pat  
Lusche, Jim & Pat  
McClure, Kirby & Roberta  
McFadden, Joyce  
McGrath, Jane & Isaacson, Thomas  
Metcalf Jr., Traver  
Monroe, Vernon & Helen  
Morey, Bill & Teresa  
Murray, June  
Nicholls, Edwin  
O'Brien, Joe & Betsy  
Perkins, Steve & Jan  
Peters, Charlie  
Pierce, Brad  
Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. Walter  
Sala, John & Elizabeth  
Sanders, Dr. & Mrs. Randall  
Scherling, Richard & Beverly  
Schmunk, Ruth  
Severson, Carl  
Sherfick, Donald & Charline  
Spencer, Vernon  
Steele, Laurence & Virginia  
Tedrick, Katherine & John  
Ulmer, Keith & Mary  
Vickers, Mary  
Wiggins, William & Lori  
Wilterdink, Larry & Carol

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Creager, Jo (1989-1990)  
Sanders, Kathy (1991-1992)  
Creager, Jo (1993)  
Hood, Shirley (1994-1995)  
Brown, Connie (1996-1998)  
Betka, Charyn (1999-2000)

## In Memoriam

*In remembrance of Society members who are no longer with us.*

Armstrong, William  
Beach Sr., Robert  
Creager, Jo (past president)  
Dunning, Annabelle (past president)  
Fountain, Ruth (past president)  
Haag, Col. (Ret) George  
Harding, Dexter  
Harding, Julie  
Hogan, Stephen  
Hood, Shirley (past president)  
Kerns, Peggy  
Lincoln, Joseph & Jeannine  
Lindemann, Donald  
McClure, Janice  
Moore, David  
Murray, Bev  
Murray, William Jr  
O'Brien, Mr. & Mrs. John  
Penn, Ruth  
Preston, Mary  
Scherling, Beverly  
Sparks, Juanita  
Stadt, Florence (past president)  
Travis, E.A.  
Tupps, Edythe  
Watson, Elizabeth  
Weddig, Frank & Pat  
Whitmore, Ruth  
Wiley, Robert  
Woodbury, Ruth

Fountain, Ruth (2001-2009)  
Sweeney, Sandy (2010-2018)  
Evans, Lynne (2019-2025)  
Tucker, Dr. Gordon (2025-present)

# COMING IN AUGUST 2026



## Mount Nebo Field Trip

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Reservations: [greggcahs@gmail.com](mailto:greggcahs@gmail.com)

Cost: \$15.00 for non-members

Sponsored by: The Aurora Historical Society

## Mount Nebo with Phil Goodstein.

Date: Sunday, August 23, 2026

Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Location: 11701 E 13th Ave, Aurora, CO  
(meet near the front gates)

Reservations: [greggcahs@gmail.com](mailto:greggcahs@gmail.com)

Hear noted historian and speaker Phil Goodstein discuss Aurora's newest historic landmark, Mount Nebo Cemetery. Phil Goodstein recently published "Denver Jewish Cemeteries", the third in his "Scenic History of Denver Cemeteries" series.

Discover important people buried in this beautiful hidden cemetery, right here in Aurora.

This is a cemetery tour. Shade and seating will be limited. Ground may be uneven. We will bring water, but please prepare and dress for the weather.

[aurorahistoricalociety.org](http://aurorahistoricalociety.org)

## AURORA ADVOCATE "YOUR HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER"

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### Advertisements in the Aurora Advocate

July 1963 - Vol. 15 No. 36

August 1963 - Vol. 15 No. 40

## Aurora Auto Mart Summer Time Specials

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1952 Plymouth . . . . .                      | \$ 75. |
| 1958 Renault . . . . .                       | 295.   |
| 1958 Buick 4 Dr., Hard Top . . . . .         | 595.   |
| 1959 Ford V8 Stick Shift . . . . .           | 595.   |
| 1961 Chev. Impala, 2 Dr., Hard Top . . . . . | 1795.  |
| 1957 Ford Victoria, 1 Owner . . . . .        | 695.   |
| 1960 Valiant, 9 Pass-Wagon . . . . .         | 1295.  |
| 1959 Chev. Impala, 2 Dr. H.T. . . . .        | 1295.  |
| 1961 Comet, 4 Door . . . . .                 | 1495.  |
| 1961 V.W. . . . .                            | 1395.  |
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| 1959 Chev. Wagon . . . . .                   | 1295.  |
| 1960 Falcon, 2 Dr. . . . .                   | 1095.  |
| 1958 Chev. BelAir, 4 Dr. . . . .             | 895.   |
| 1959 Rambler Wagon . . . . .                 | 795.   |
| 1962 Olds, 2 Dr. . . . .                     | 2295.  |
| 1962 Chev Impala, V8. . . . .                | 1995.  |
| 1952 Ford, New Motor . . . . .               | 195.   |

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Tuesday thru Saturday

### Trivia Question Answers:

1) b 2) c 3) b 4) a 5) c