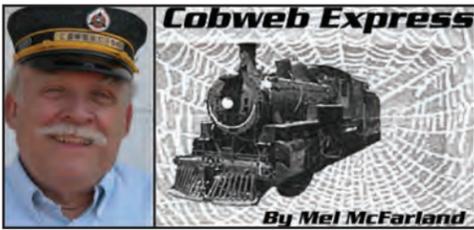


Crime in Monument!



One October night in 1894, the Rose Hardware store in Monument was broken into. The theft included blankets, pots, pans and about anything you might need to set up a camp. Some \$500 in cash as well as six fine Colt revolvers were also taken. Three men were seen loading items into a wagon behind the store. Before the police arrived the men escaped. The crew that accomplished this deed were all experienced thieves.

The crime spree started up in Denver, where the men had escaped from the county jail a few nights before. They were under arrest for wrecking a Santa Fe train and other crimes near the tracks in Littleton. Spotted near Castle Rock, the trio managed to slip away. It seems that somewhere near Palmer Lake they managed to steal a wagon and team from one of the ranches not far from the railroad. It was thought that they had traveled on a south bound freight train from Littleton. In addition, a couple of railroad maintenance cars were broken into near Palmer Lake and Monument.

Deputies from Denver were joined by others from El Paso County in searching for the men. Reports started coming in about other thefts along the road to Colorado Springs, but no luck was had and the men eluded capture. The town of Fountain and other little settlements along the road to Pueblo also reported that crimes were being discovered. It seems that the route was being dotted by reports of their sightings and deeds, but they continued to avoid arrest.

Reports of sightings began to take unusual turns. It seems that near Walsenburg they split company. One in each direction except north was suspected. As their names were well known by law enforcement it was not too long before each was captured. The crime wave was settled after a couple of weeks. This time they were sent to a more secure lock-up in Cañon City!

Pages of the Past

(1958 - Present)



Sixty Years Ago (1961)

JOIN THE HOUSEWIVES BOWLING LEAGUE!

This advertisement invited women to join a bowling league at the local bowling alley, Fountain Valley Bowl. It states that bowling and instructions would be free. The bowling alley also encouraged the women to bring friends and family along.

Fifty Years Ago (1971)

WIDEFIELD FAMILY BILLIARDS PARLOR HOLDS GRAND OPENING

Opened by Hugh Trabandt and Dick Lambert, the Widefield Family Billiard Parlor was located inside of the Widefield Mall. When they announced the grand opening, they had an authentic old western stagecoach on hand to give free rides to children through the streets of Widefield and Security. The parlor had some of the finest equipment during the time, like Brunswick tables and various pinball machines. (Photo by Ed Rinehart)



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Forty Years Ago (1981)

EXCITING BUT SAFE

Bill Raisner, of LEAF Handgliding in Colorado Springs, held a hand-gliding demonstration at the Deerfield Hills Community Center on Jan. 7. The demonstration was just at the ground level, and children in the area got to experience the sensation of wearing a hand-gliding rig. Some children were even able to get the rig "flying" and 2 feet off the ground! (Photo by Getchell)

Thirty Years Ago (1991)

DODY SINGS FOR OPTIMISTS

Jack Dody sang and played guitar for the Fountain Valley Optimists during a program he gave for the club at its regular breakfast meeting at the Tomahawk restaurant. The program was to help children realize what they do in life is up to them. His 12-string guitar and sound system were a part of the presentation that promoted the use of Bum'd Outs hotline, a 24-hour number that young people can call to get help with problems. (Photo by Carl Wiese)



Twenty Years Ago (2001)

POWERS PROGRESSES...

Pikes Peak provided a scenic backdrop in this photo of the worksite for the South Powers Boulevard Extension at Fontaine Boulevard, just east of Widefield. The extension would allow drivers to take Powers south of Fontaine and then east to Fountain Mesa Road and Interstate 25. (Photo by Karen Johnson)