

# THE SANFORD HISTORIAN

*Today is tomorrow's history.*

Issue 3

August 2021



**How is your garden growing?** Have you enjoyed the fragrance of flowers or the taste of a tomato from your own garden, savoring the fruits of your efforts?

Setting aside some time for purposeful attention to writing or recording special moments of your history and heritage will ensure that your Garden of Memories is enjoyable for now and for generations to come.

*Frankie Colton,  
Sanford Museum Board President*

## MUSEUM HOURS

The museum is currently open by appointment by calling one of these numbers:

(719) 580-4114

(719) 588-5540

(719) 588-6410

We would love to establish more regular hours on an ongoing basis if we are able to expand our pool of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact a board member at one of the phone numbers listed above.

## SAVE THE MUSEUM

The Sanford History Museum is facing some big challenges in the near future. The building that houses the museum is showing signs of age. If you visited recently you may have noticed some irregularities in certain parts of the floors, walls, and ceiling. The building itself belongs to the Town of Sanford. In consultation with the

Town, the museum board has arranged for an assessment by a structural engineer with expertise in old adobe buildings. The results will guide future decisions about how best to save this historic building and its precious contents. We will keep you posted in future issues of the Sanford Historian.



Sharp-eyed visitors to the Sanford Museum have noticed that some of the photos on display depict community events and celebrations that took place at the bowery. Some people may ask, what is a bowery?

A bowery is an open-walled structure with a simple timber frame and layers of tree boughs laid over the top for a roof. In early settlements, a bowery was often one of the first things constructed in a community as a gathering place for meetings and social events until more permanent structures could be built.

During the summer in Sanford the bowery would have offered some protection from sun and rain, while leaving pleasant summer breezes to flow freely through the crowd. During your next visit to the museum, keep an eye out for examples of how the bowery was a central part of life in early Sanford.

You can see a similar bowery at [www.thisistheplace.org/heritage-village/buildings/bowery](http://www.thisistheplace.org/heritage-village/buildings/bowery)



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

*Please see the display in the Sanford Museum Library to learn more about Sanford's Catawba settlers.*

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## **Future Biograph Corner Features**

Would you like to submit a short biography of someone in Sanford's history? Send it to

[administrator@sanfordhistorymuseum.org](mailto:administrator@sanfordhistorymuseum.org)

## **THANK YOU**

We appreciate our volunteers! A special thanks this month to April Dunn and Kim Miller for fixing the sign above our door.

There are many ways to volunteer at the Sanford Museum. If you would like to help, please contact one of our board members.

**We invite you to become a Friend of the Sanford Museum.** Annual dues are only \$50.00, or contact a Board member about using volunteer hours in lieu of payment. Donate at [www.sanfordhistorymuseum.org](http://www.sanfordhistorymuseum.org) Or make checks payable to *Sanford History Museum* and mail to:  
Frankie Colton, Sanford History Museum  
295 Greenleaf St, Sanford CO 81151

## **CATAWBA PRESENTATION**

As part of Heritage Month in July, the Sanford Museum was honored to host a presentation by John Canty on the heritage of Catawba Indians who settled here in the San Luis Valley.

An overflowing crowd enjoyed history, stories, and a live demonstration of a variety of drums made by John Canty himself. He wore a beautiful headdress in the style of the Plains Indians, which he pointed out was not authentic to the Catawba Indians, who hail from the east coast and not the plains. There is a replica of a simpler Catawba headdress on display in the museum.

Mr. Canty can trace his history through one of the five Catawba families who migrated here from their ancestral lands along the Catawba River at Rock Hill, South Carolina in the late 1800s, after joining the

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Visit our website at [www.sanfordhistorymuseum.org](http://www.sanfordhistorymuseum.org).

### **Sanford History Museum Board**

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Members: Lynette DePriest, Brian Crowther, Valerie Crowther, Terry Colton