

# Under the Colonnade:

## News From Livingston's Historic Depot



*Dear Friends,*  
*Depots have always been symbols of both past travels and future journeys and a threshold to new adventures. I am excited and honored to join the Depot as the new executive director, as we start our newest adventure together.*

*I want to thank everyone for your warm welcome. Also, I want to thank Diana Seider, the Depot staff, and the board for their support and assistance in helping me transition into this position. Following in Diana's tracks will not be easy, but with your input, participation and support, we can be assured that the Depot Foundation has a bright future.*

*I have been down many track beds myself, ranging from my undergraduate degree in geology from Colorado College to my years as Registrar at the Yellowstone Gateway Museum. Obtaining a Master's Degree from Trinity College and an overwhelming curiosity in my family's 200-year history relocated me to Connecticut for a few years. But I have always been drawn back to the crossroads that is Livingston.*

*As we all know, Livingston is a very special place. The arts, history, and culture have had a major impact on our community. My career in the museum field has allowed me to witness this same impact in classrooms, neighborhoods, small towns, and large cities. As executive director of the Livingston Depot, I will continue to introduce students to the joys of life-long learning, support community interaction through dynamic programming, and persuade travelers to explore more than the gas pump. I look forward to your input as we start our journey together.*

*Thank you for your continued support of the Livingston Depot Foundation and your passion to preserve valuable landmarks such as our iconic Livingston Depot. Let's keep the Depot at the center of Livingston's future. All aboard!*

*Best regards,*  
*Laura McCarthy-Cota*

### Hey, Where'd This Museum Come From?

It's always faster coming down (2-3 days) than setting up (2-3 weeks). The exhibits were up for the 30th anniversary of the museum this summer. Thanks to our setup and takedown helpers and museum volunteers including Jan Curtis, Gary and Bev George, Les Henry, Kurt Ward, Jim Janikula, John Bailey, Doreen Clayton, Denise Carroll, Joanne Meacham, Cathy Hanser, Jeff and Sylvia Wagner, Barb Marsell, Janie Wendland, Mark Hafton, Loraine Eyman, Nancy Adkins, and Linda Kellison. It also never



ceases to be a shock when everything's gone in half a week for our winter events and you suddenly ask, "Hey, where'd the museum go?"

**Volunteers (L - R) Denise Carroll, Gary George, and Jeff Wagner were armed with hammers, nails, hot glue, and various other adhesives as they help with the 2017 museum exhibit.**

### Pure Quill to Showcase Women of the West—Past and Present

The 2018 season will bring with it new programming, including a photography exhibit, entitled *Pure Quill*, by the esteemed local photographer Barbara Van Cleve. Born and raised on a working cattle and horse ranch in Montana's Crazy Mountains, Van Cleve focuses her work on her passion for ranch life in the West and women in ranching. We will be combining these gripping photographs with some of our own dude ranching collection and notable items from local collectors.



**"A Quiet Night Under the Big Dipper," is one of the many captivating photographs by Barbara Van Cleve that will be featured in the 2018 exhibit.**

**Members are at the heart of everything we do, and it's very important to encourage more people to participate in the Depot Foundation. Thank you to everyone who joined, who renewed, who encouraged a friend, and who still might recommend to a friend in the future, it's always an ongoing project!**

# 2017: A Picture-Perfect Year

Locals and tourists enjoyed our programming and events during the 2017 season—a few highlights were:



*Young railroaders find a new hobby at the Depot Railroad Swap Meet*

☉ **Depot Railroad Swap Meet:** It was another fun one for the diehard railfans and those who just enjoyed poking and exploring around all the vendor tables. As ever the Livingston Model Railroaders had their exhibits running, and upstairs it was modeling gear, general railroad memorabilia, historic art, you get the idea. It'll return again next April 28 too, so put your engineer's hat on and toot the whistle now!

☉ **Festival of the Arts:** Held on July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, the 30th annual and highly popular presentation assembles over a hundred fine artists and craftspeople for a wide range of creativity to stroll through and enjoy. In a separate artistic category entirely of their own, as usual, were the pies at the Depot pie booth. We don't usually get to thank everybody who donates, but you know who you are, so thanks to all who slaved away over a hot oven, helped serve up slices at the booth, or made other contributions.

☉ **The Parade Engine:** rolled again in the parade, with special thanks to Les, Jim and John with the Livingston Enterprise for keeping things rolling. The museum celebrated its 30th anniversary year this year. It's amazing too to think how much this little nonprofit has worked to enrich the lives of both residents and visitors from near and far. Flipping through the guest book each year is a fun reminder of the doors each Foundation member opens year round. As ever, the credit for all our activities remains yours – members, volunteers, trustees – so thank you for your ongoing membership and support!



*The Depot model with its own birthday cake was pulled by the famous Depot engine during the Roundup Rodeo Parade*



☉ **A River Runs Through It:** The 25th anniversary showing on our courtyard lawn brought many of the extras and downtown residents who still speak of their experiences fondly, and were excited to attend the nostalgic celebration.

☉ **A Railroad Runs Through It:** Showcasing eighteen local artists—painters, photographers, and sculptors—the 2017 summer exhibit celebrated both the historic Depot and Livingston's enduring and interconnected relationship with the railroad. Guest curators Tandy Miles Riddle and Adrienne Pollard seamlessly tied together images, sculpture, and even textiles.



*Michael Lewis performs a blacksmithing demonstration at the Festival of the Arts.*

☉ **Roundhouse Roundup:** This year's Western-themed event, was held July 20th in the main courtyard area with boots and wheat for décor, a classic chuckwagon-style meal, and the energetic Western swing of Open Range's while the occasional train rolled not that far away. Tip of the hat to all the Sister City people for their help with the event.

☉ **Wine and Beer Tasting:** The 15th annual Wine and Beer Tasting in November brought brewers and wine experts from around the state to showcase their goods as many locals reveled in the Depot's harvest-time splendor. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, donated some incredible silent auction items, and helped make this year's event a huge success. *Cheers!*

## A WWII Uniform, the Curated Closet, and a Great Community



Along with a few other artifact donations this year, the Curated Closet gave the Depot this WWII Red Cross Uniform. The best part of the donation, apart from the presentation of the uniform at the October Network Live! event sponsored by the Chamber of

Commerce, is this photograph of Red Cross volunteers sewing uniforms, bandages, and other supplies upstairs in the Depot. The Depot has been the center of volunteering for the community for a long time!

Thanks to you, we have a great artifact collection here at the Depot that spans from pipe wrenches to posters, and lanterns to literature. We are currently working on an inventory. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to help with this endeavor, please call the museum 222-2300.

## A Fond Farewell



Longtime Depot friend and rail historian Warren McGee passed this year, at the untimely youthful age of nearly 103. It's hard to lose a dynamo like Warren, and we will always treasure memories of him selling photos and swapping lively stories with enthusiasts at the Swap Meet and many events besides. Some years back the State Historical society curated many of his images into a

special exhibit that went on tour to a number of sites around the state and then returned to Livingston. His memorial service was well attended. Happy rails, Warren.