

the Lower Chautauqua Neighborhood Newsletter

...film, from opposite page

After the first motion picture studio opened in Hollywood in 1911, producers began making longer feature films. During World War I, the topics were serious. Viewers of "Through Desolated Belgium with a Camera" peered into trenches and witnessed wounded and dying men.

After the war, people demanded light-hearted comedies and love stories. The silent-film era, as we know it today, included cowboys, strong silent men, and femme fatales. In "Modern Musketeer," Denver native Douglas Fairbanks, Sr. leapt off of balconies and sprang over walls while following pretty girls. Soon, his second wife Mary Pickford appeared on the screen, along with Charlie Chapman, Buster Keaton, and Harold Lloyd.

Warner Brothers introduced sound films in 1926, but the era of the "talkies" didn't really get underway until 1929. By the 1930s, first-run movies were shown in downtown Boulder, while Chautauqua guests and Boulder residents showed up for reruns five or six evenings per week. The shows included newsreels, cartoons, a travelogue, sometimes a sing-a-long, and finally the feature movie.

Today, silent movies and silent movie fans have returned to Chautauqua where even those reruns are still a big hit.

Silvia Pettem writes frequently on local history. Her latest book is "Positively Pearl Street: A Chronicle of the Center of Boulder, Colorado, 1859 to Present," available at local bookstores and at www.silviapettem.com

Join the Lower Chautauqua Yahoo!group - www.yahogroups.com/group/lowerchautauqua

*news & notes...

-**Adopt-a-Park/Median!** At the intersection of Mariposa Ave and Bellevue Ave. there is a space available for adoption through the city. There is also an adoptable median at Bellevue and Sierra. Contact info to volunteer to keep these medians clean and pretty is 303-413-7116 or email rosatop@ci.boulder.co.us

-**Want to leave your vehicle at home?** Your neighborhood block could be eligible for Eco Pass bus passes offered by RTD. For more information call our new neighborhood Eco Pass coordinator Jim Hartman @ 303-448-1823

-**Chautauqua** - Become a member and take advantage of membership while supporting our local and National Historic Landmark - www.chautauqua.com

-**So, did you guess** the number of burials (as of Oct. 23, 2007) in Green Mountain Cemetery? Answer: 14,344. The cemetery turned 103 years old this past December

-**CWA!** Participate in the 60th Annual Conference on World Affairs at CU April 7-11, 2008. CWA events are free and open to the public. Our neighbor Jim Palmer, director of the annual event, says "this year's theme will emphasize politics and the 2008 elections." And there will be a concentration on African culture. "Quite possibly we'll have the president of Rwanda here for a plenary address." The final schedule is not yet confirmed. For more info, <http://www.colorado.edu/cwa/index.html>

-**Lower Chautauqua Yahoo!group** - Subscribe today (see website address above) and discover what you're missing. This has become a valuable resource and there's no cost to you. It's fun, safe and secure. We average only about five messages per month so your email inbox shouldn't be overwhelmed. You're free to unsubscribe at any time.

The benefit? Topics range from dentist referrals and wild life sightings to local events and city news affecting our neighborhood

-**Parade!** I am considering organizing a July 4th neighborhood kid's parade (with city permission of course). Any volunteers out there want to put heads together to discuss the possibility and logistics of the event with me? I envision neighborhood kiddos parading with decorated bikes, wagons, strollers, etc. followed by a pot luck style picnic.

-**Share!** A reminder to contact me if there are events you want neighbors to know about. And if you have a special story to tell about the neighborhood or a resident please contact me and I will share it with readers in the next "On the Corner"

-**Real Estate!** See "market watch" on opposite page for 4th Quarter sales compared to the same time in 2006. You'll see there's little change on most fronts. However, this 4th quarter homes were on the market considerably longer and they sold at an average of 91% of listing price compared to 98% the same time in 2006.

When comparing 2006 to 2007 totals, here's the shakedown:

Year	Average Price	Median Price	Avg. Days on Market
2006	\$811,270	\$700,000	133
2007	\$1,095,593 (+35%)	\$715,000 (+2%)	116

A number of larger, higher-end homes sold this year, reflecting an unconscionable gain in the average sales price column. The highest price tag: \$4million. Two homes sold in the \$2+Million range! Yes, that will greatly impact the statistical outcome. The lowest price this year was \$460,000. 20 homes sold at an average of 95% of list price, down one percent from the 24 which sold 2006. Remember four key factors when you consider selling and pricing your home: Location, Competition, Timing, and Condition. Feel free to contact me for more information on marketing your home here and how recent market trends might affect the sale of your property. Here's a quick glimpse at how other local markets fared, with regard Average and Median (the midpoint of the range of prices that are arranged in order of value) sales price of single family homes west of Broadway: Table Mesa: 11%/6.7%, Newlands: 4.2%/-7.4%, Mapleton: 7.8%/-25%, University Place: 2%/4.5%. Overall the City of Boulder saw a slight increase with average up 3.8% and median up 1% from previous year. Not bad, considering many regional and national markets witnessed historical losses. Information derived from IRES Multiple Listing Service deemed reliable but not guaranteed

This newsletter will be distributed regularly. If you wish not to receive it please let me know and I will remove your name from the mailing list.

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Snapshot!



Residents Lance Gentry and his daughter Amélie, 3, sled down Four Pines hill in December. photo by Jon Hatch



The next time you use the Skunk Creek tunnel, under Broadway, at the east end of Mariposa Ave. please feel free to pitch any trash you see into the new trash container provided by the City of Boulder. I empty out the trash bags there regularly and thank you for pitching in, on behalf of the Boulder City Improvement Association 2.