

FRIENDS OF RAYMER

New Raymer, Colorado

August 1, 2021

The Friends of Raymer is putting together a calendar featuring the Centennial Farms in this area. Is your farm one of them? Could it be? Share your farm photos and history here or message us! Thanks in advance for helping with this project!



Heath Gay

May 24 · 📍

Colorado History: Centennial Farms

Have you heard of Colorado Centennial Farms? In 1986 the Colorado Centennial Farms & Ranches program was created by Governor Richard D. Lamm, the Colorado Historical Society (now History Colorado), and the Colorado Department of Agriculture to recognize the important role agriculture has played in our state's history and economic development. To date, more than 400 Colorado farms and ranches representing 61 counties across the state have received the Centennial Farms award.

In order for a Colorado farm to be considered a Centennial Farm, it must meet the following criteria:

*Farms or ranches must have remained in the same family continuously for 100 years or more.

*Property must be a working farm or ranch.

*Property must have a minimum of 160 acres -- however, properties with fewer than 160 acres can qualify if they gross at least \$1,000 in annual sales.

*Properties that have four or more well-maintained buildings/structures -- which are at least 50 years old -- may be eligible for a Historic Structures Award.



Ashbaugh Farm

In 1912 Harry and Clara Ashbaugh purchased land south of Buckingham, Colorado, as a homestead relinquishment. Harry spent the spring of 1913 moving household goods, stock, and implements from Nebraska to the land in northeast Weld County. Clara and their two sons had joined him in 1913 and lived in the barn for 6 months.

Friends of Raymer
CAR SHOW
September 11, 2021

Friends of Raymer Inc. Membership Form

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Return to: Friends of Raymer Inc.
P.O. Box 82
New Raymer, CO 80742

☐ Check enclosed payable to: Friends of Raymer Inc.

☐ Cash enclosed.



"A Colorado Endangered Place"

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

**Annual Membership
\$20 per Family**

***Membership expires September 30 of each year.

Preference for communications from "Friends of Raymer": (Check any or all)

☐ Written ☐ Email ☐ Phone/Text

How did you hear about Friends of Raymer?

☐ I would be willing to volunteer to help with projects, activities, fundraisers, etc., that "Friends of Raymer" may plan.



Fiscus Farm & Ranch

Ed and Minnie Fiscus took over a relinquished homestead in April of 1917 and purchased adjacent acreage to increase the property to 800 acres. The farm has primarily been involved in cow and calf operations, but a portion is used to raise wheat, dryland corn, and alfalfa. This portion is now enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.



Stanley's Hightower Homestead

When the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909 was passed, it inspired Daniel Voorhees Stanley to move his family from the coal mining strife of Lafayette to a 313-acre homestead next to Hightower Spring in northeastern Weld County.



Kindvall Ranch

In 1909 Alex and Clara Kindvall built a sod home on their newly acquired 320-acre Weld County homestead. They lived in their sod house for fifty years, raising kids Otis and Doris. On the farm they raised a different sort: livestock, including horses, hogs, chicken, and both cattle and dairy cows.



Ernest Knoll Farm

Ernest and Pearl Knoll purchased a 160-acre homestead relinquishment near New Raymer in 1913 and quickly built a homestead shack on the west side of the property.



Allmer Farm & Ranch

Jake and Catherine Allmer purchased Allmer Farm and Ranch on February 14, 1916. After Catherine Allmer died in childbirth, Jake married Clara Knisler on January 14, 1932. The two had nine children, one of whom was Floyd Allmer.



Shapley Ranch

Edmond Shapley bought the original 160 acres in Weld County as a relinquishment in 1910. He homesteaded by farming, raising cattle, milking cows and raising chickens.



Mill Iron D Ranch

Vern Schrack came to Stoneham, Colorado in 1917 to homestead 160 acres.

Friends indeed were Friends in need today. Thanks to Susie Kester and her Bobcat for helping us clean out the building! Also, Jon Sargent for keeping us all on track. He is the "get 'er done" contractor helping us on these projects. We could not do it without him. Now our bank building is covered and protected from the elements! Thanks everyone for your help! ❤️



Trina Kauk

Admin · June 11 · 🌐

Volunteer opportunity!! We need a few people who are able to climb a ladder and lift and stretch and retain a cheery disposition. Saturday the 12th at 8:00 am. We are covering the Bank building and cleaning it out! Let others know!! Thanks in advance!!





By **MIKE PETERS** |

PUBLISHED: November 13, 2002 at 7:29 p.m. | UPDATED: May 13, 2020 at 6:59 a.m.

Seven Cross Hill hasn't changed much in the past few centuries. It's still an open land of sage and yucca and cactuses; it still has the deep arroyos and washouts meandering through the hills; it still has open plains that turn lush green in early summer, then dry and yellow in the winter months.

Just a few miles north of Colo. 14, Seven Cross Hill is on private land, owned first by John Wesley Iliff, known as the "Cattle King of Colorado," then later sold to a series of families. Today, John Novak ranches on Seven Cross with cattle and goat herds.

Two centuries ago, nomadic tribes moved through this area, sometimes taking the same trails from every direction. That's how Seven Cross got its name. On this hill, legends say the trails of seven Indian tribes cross in one spot: the Apache, Comanche, Ute, Arapaho, Pawnee, Crow and Blackfoot.

Whether it's a true story, those tribes were in this area in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Farmers and ranchers in this area have found hundreds of arrowheads, flintstones, beads, spear points and pottery shards that are direct evidence of these early people.

Andy and Marietta West, who live south of Colo. 14, were married in 1951, and have been at home in this area for those 50 years. As Andy plowed the fields, he would turn over the arrowheads. After wind and rain storms, the couple would go to their special places to find the pieces of history that have appeared on the ground.

"It became our hobby," said Marietta West. "We got pretty good at it."

In the basement of their home, the couple has framed collections of the arrowheads on the walls. From tiny birdpoints to large spear heads, from arrowheads carved from stone to those fashioned from metal, the collection is large.

"The metal arrowheads were cut from the metal rims of the wagon wheels when the first white people came through," Andy West said. "The Indians used the metal to cut out stronger, more solid arrowheads."

Collecting arrowheads and other American Indian artifacts is legal if the hunter finds them on private land and has permission of the owner. On the Pawnee National Grassland, the collecting of artifacts is forbidden by state and federal laws. Heavy fines and jail sentences have been imposed.

At the 7-Cross Ranch, arrowheads and tepee rings have been found in the culverts, arroyos and on the hillsides overlooking the valley. One hill on the ranch is the highest point in the area, so the tribes would camp there to watch for enemies or for game that might venture into the area.

Today, the exact location of the seven crossed paths is unknown. Novak said some men marked it, up on the hill east of his ranchhouse, several years ago. Both of those men are gone now, and no one seems to know where the marker is.



Wayne Vangraefschepe

August 07, 1953 - July 08, 2021

SHARE:

Wayne E. Vangraefschepe, 67, life resident of the New Raymer & Fort Morgan communities, passed away Thursday, July 8, 2021, at the Valley View Villa Care Center. He was born August 7, 1953, to Ervin & Doris (Box) Vangraefschepe.

Following graduation from Prairie High School in 1971, Wayne was elected and served as the state president of the Colorado FFA Association in 1972. In his FFA career, Wayne served as a chapter officer and was awarded the State Star Farmer Proficiency Award in Crop Production his senior year. In his last days of eligibility as an FFA member, he was awarded the coveted American Farmer Degree at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City and was recognized as the Pacific Region Star Farmer of America. After his time serving as FFA state president, he attended Northeastern Junior College receiving his degree in Agricultural Mechanics and then attended Colorado State University for a short time. His participation in FFA and the agricultural education program was the key to his desire to continue to maintain a place in the roller-coaster business of family farming. He became involved in farming fulltime with his Dad, forming a family-farm corporation, Vangraefschepe Farms Inc, in 1974 growing dryland wheat, sunflowers, and safflower. They were the first in the area in raising sunflowers. They then added Centennial Grain and Seed Inc. later purchasing and renovating the country elevators in New Raymer to form a bird seed business to expand marketing possibilities for farmers growing grain crops in the area.

He was very active in the community in the New Raymer Lions Club. When the Club disbanded in 1993, Wayne was instrumental in starting the New Raymer/Prairie Lions Club, serving as president as the new club was chartered in 1997. He was involved in getting the New Raymer Community Center remodeled. Wayne was also a member of the Northeast Weld Drylanders which continues to sponsor the Northeast Weld County Fair that his grandparents, Archie & Famie Box, were instrumental in starting in 1950. The fair was always a summer highlight for Wayne participating in numerous 4-H and FFA projects.

On December 26, 1987, he married Teresa Irey. They had three children, Carter, Kaitlin, and Keaton. The absolute light of Wayne's life was his four grandchildren. He loved spending time with them, holding and telling stories to August, Carly, Brooks, and Cooper.

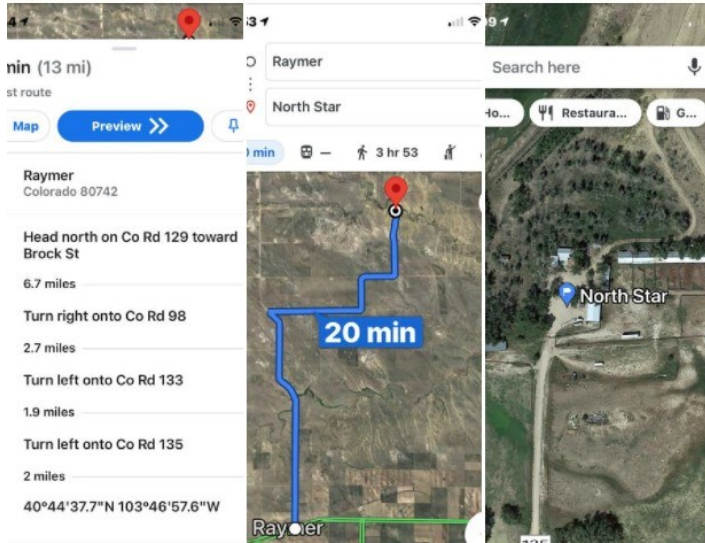
Survivors include his children, Carter (Cheryl) Vangraefschepe and Keaton Vangraefschepe all of Fort Morgan, and Kaitlin (Taylor) Ruder of Wiggins; two sisters, Carol (Cary) Lambert of New Raymer and nieces and nephews, Chris, Chad, Cara, and Cyle; and Diane (Carl) Miller of Gunnison and two nieces Kayedeane and Shanah; four grandchildren who were his shining stars- August & Brooks Ruder and Carly and Cooper Vangraefschepe, and 3 step grandchildren Amber, Nathan and Serenity Storch, and numerous cousins. Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, Ervin and Doris Vangraefschepe and a sister who passed at birth.

Inurnment will be at 12:00 PM in the New Raymer Cemetery at Saturday, July 17. A Celebration of Wayne's life & reception will be follow on Saturday, July 17 at the New Raymer Community Building at 12:30 PM. Please bring stories and memories to share with us.



Kathy Russell-Regan asked a question · June 15 ·

Would anyone know who owns my grandfather Renholt Forsberg's old homestead? I have a cousin traveling through Raymer and she wanted to drop by gpa's old ranch where our parents were all born, so I thought I would see if there is anyone in the group who has info on who the owners are now. It was owned by the Fiscus family when I visited there in 1979. TIA :)



Cheryl Lookhart
Zac Breazeale Wow, Colby owned my Great Uncles ranch too. Rudy & Ella Motis.

Like · Reply · Share · 5w



Write a public reply...



Write an answer...



Zac Breazeale

June 25, 2015 ·

In honor of wheat harvest starting here is a picture for throwback Thursday...way back!! This was west of New Raymer Colorado in the 1930's. My great grandpa Clarence Fiscus was driving the tractor and his brother in law is running the combine.



Kathy Russell-Regan

Zac Breazeale Thank you so much! I appreciate the help :) When we went there in '79, your grandparents were there and let us walk around. It was soooo kind of them! I got to see the sod house my gpa and gma talked about so much. The "Big House" that my gpa built which was a two room house... but to them it was big compared to the sod house. The old out-house was still there down by the "crick" as my gma use to say. The barn, water pump, and the bunk house the helpers use to bunk in. It was really cool to see it and it was really sweet of your grandparents to offer us to walk around. Oh and all that old horse drawn farm equipment out back they use to "hay" with. Thanks again for commenting :)

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Kathy Russell-Regan

My grandparents called their homestead The North Star. That was their cattle brand, an N with an S under it for North Star :) Thanks again for your help!!



Zac Breazeale shared a link.

July 12 at 2:09 PM ·

<https://youtu.be/mfVOU0KNJO0>



YOUTUBE.COM

Day 29 - 2021 Wheat Harvest / July 11 (Near New Raymer, CO)



Kathy Russell-Regan asked a question ? .

June 15 · 🌐

Would anyone know what street this is on? Or if it is still there? When I showed my gma this picture in '79, she said it was the church they went to in the 20's. Thank you in advance!!



Carol Lambert

Yes, this was the church on Shirley Street.

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Kathy Russell-Regan

Carol Lambert Thank you!! I appreciate the information. My cousin is coming through Raymer next week and wanted to see where our family went to church.

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Kathy Russell-Regan

Found it 😊 Shirley and Baird. That is not where I would have told her to look. Thanks again! 🙏

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Robert Baker

It's still standing 🙏 1

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Kathy Russell-Regan

Thank you Robert Baker 🙏

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Reverend Burgess

In front of the church

In the 20's.



Marlene Oaks

This was my church. The Littlefields, Nothrup, Doris Williams, Younglunds, Walkers, Everharts, Mrs. Castor, to name only a few attended. Evangelical Free Church, Pastor Lane, and then Pastor Unruh was there in the 1960s and John and Cindy Sneddon next 1970s. Then the bricks from the old school were used to build the new, smaller church. They changed denominations at some point. Not sure what they are now.

Like · Reply · Share · 7w · Edited



Kathy Russell-Regan

Great info, thank you Marlene Oaks ! My cousin is a minister, so she really wanted to visit their church, so I will pass the info you gave me along to her 🙏

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



👉 View 2 more replies



Kathy Russell-Regan

Marlene Oaks Hi Marlene, my family would have attended the church prior to 1930. My gpa lost his ranch when there was drought so they moved to Keota after that. My gpa was born in Raymer in 1889, so depending on when the church was built, it's possible they attended from the late 1800's to 1930. But please don't go to too much trouble. Just knowing where it is was a big help!

Like · Reply · Share · 7w



Friends of Raymer Car Show Sept. 11, 2021

Pre-register at www.friendsofraymer.com

Cars, trucks, motorcycles; \$25; tractors \$10 and vendors are free. Tell everyone! The more the merrier!!

Pre-register or arrive at 9 a.m. Show starts at 10 a.m.

All makes and models of cars, trucks and motorcycles are welcome.



Zac Breazeale shared a link.

July 14 at 5:24 PM · 🌐

A link to photos and information about one of the locomotives that used to run through Raymer.

rail.c

RGUSRAIL.COM

CBQ K-4 #719 - www.rgusrail.com

Photos of CBQ K-4 #719 and BN Wide-vision Steel Cupola Caboose #13701 in Sudman Field, Alliance, NE.

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👍❤️👤 You and 12 others

3 Comments 2 Shares

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Bob Thompson

It would be nice to bring that back to Raymer!

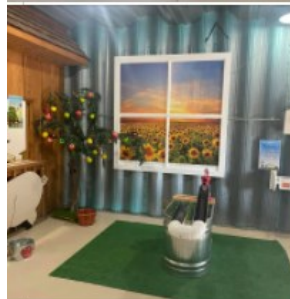
Like · Reply · Share · 3w

👍 4

The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad built twenty four Ten Wheeler type (4-6-0) locomotives for express passenger service at its Havelock, IA, shops between 1900 and 1904 (#700-#723). #40 was outshopped in 1900 and was renumbered #3687 in 1903 and then #719 when the B&MR was merged into the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in 1904. In 1951, it was renumbered #919.

#719 weighs 156,600 lbs, 121,400 lbs on its 72" drivers. With a driver wheelbase of 14' 3 1/4" and engine wheelbase of 25' 9 1/4", it has Stephenson valve gear and 19" x 26" cylinders. The grate is 30 sq ft and the Belpaire firebox is 172.3 sq ft making a total heating surface of 2,394 sq ft. Operating at a boiler pressure of 200 psi, it delivered 22,161 lbs tractive effort. The tender weighs 147,000 lbs light and has a capacity of 5,000 gallons of water and 9 tons of coal.

In its heyday, the K-4 could put up a good performance. One fourteen mile stretch was covered in nine minutes in 1902 at an average speed of 96.8 mph.



It's probably better to have a lawn chair when you come to the Friends of Raymer car show! See you there! September 11th!



Overland Trail Museum

July 30 at 5:18 AM · 🌐

Grand opening and ribbon cutting at 10 am Saturday morning! Propst Agriculture Center for Kids! Start off your Logan County Fair week with a visit to our new exhibit at the Overland Trail Museum! Celebrating our agricultural heritage!

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👍❤️👤 You and 20 others

2 Comments 2 Shares

❤️ Love

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Talia Siens Admin

How fun!