



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: April 3, 2011
Contact: Patti Russell (970) 356-4000 ext. 4230
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Re: Weld County 150th Anniversary Celebration: April Update

EDUCATION IN WELD COUNTY

WELD COUNTY, Colo. – From one-room school houses to colleges and universities, education in Weld County has a rich and varied history. This month we enjoy contributions from the Pawnee School District, the Fort Lupton School District and the Windsor School District as well as Aims Community College and the University of Northern Colorado.



Whitehall School, Windsor School District. Photo courtesy of Rachel Kline, Windsor-Severance Historical Society.

Be sure to read the numerous first-person accounts of being a student in Weld County as provided by past issues of the Weld County Past Times.

This month, we are also happy to share several of your stories including: a contribution from Doug Cannon, whose grandfather supervised the installation of the first traffic lights in Greeley in the 1950s; photos from Erie’s past shared by Greg Behlen, acting town administrator of Erie and Fred Diehl, assistant to the town administrator; detailed histories of the founding of both Mead and Highlandlake provided by Pauli Smith, Executive Director of Historic Highlandlake; and an in-depth look into the history of Grover (once called Point of Rocks) as detailed by Deb Duggan, Town Clerk for Grover.

The celebration of Weld County’s 150th Anniversary will continue throughout 2011, as will the sesquicentennial celebrations of 16 other Colorado Counties including Arapahoe, Boulder, Clear Creek, Costilla, Douglas, El Paso, Fremont, Gilpin, Guadaloupe (later Conejos), Huerfano, Jefferson, Lake, Larimer, Park, Pueblo and Summit. These 17 original counties were created after the First Legislative Assembly for Colorado Territory convened in September of 1861, approximately six months after the Territory of Colorado was established. That First Legislative Assembly was called to order by Territorial Secretary Lewis Ledyard Weld, for whom Weld County was named. The official Council Journal of the First Legislative Assembly is featured in this month’s updates as is the official 2011 Senate Joint Resolution recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of the Territory of Colorado.

Don’t forget – we need your help to tell the history of Weld County. Your stories and photographs can be submitted through the anniversary site at <http://www.weldcounty150.org/SendUsYourStory.html>

