



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 6, 2011
Contact: Patti Russell (970) 356-4000 ext. 4230
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Re: September Update

ANNIVERSARY WEB SITE CELEBRATES THE PEOPLE OF WELD COUNTY

WELD COUNTY, Colo. – Throughout its 150-year-history, Weld County has attracted people from across the globe. Immigrants from Sweden, Germany (through Russia), Japan, Mexico, Somalia and Burma (Mayanmar) are just a few of the groups of people who have come to call Weld County home.

This month on the Weld County 150th Anniversary web site, we look back at the people who traveled here to start a new life in the West: people like Prussian immigrant Fritz Neimeyer, whose actions touched off one of Greeley’s most infamous incidents – the Whiskey Riot of 1870; Albert and Belle Gaines, born as Black slaves in the southern United States, who homesteaded in Weld County in the early 1900s; and Verne Elliott, whose love of rodeo earned him a place at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame. To provide some overall background into immigration in Weld County, the Greeley Tribune granted permission for the site to republish a few of their most recent articles which provide a historical summary regarding immigration and current examples of how immigration is changing Weld County still today.



Meeting at the East African Community Center in Greeley. Photo courtesy of Jaymi Anderson.

In the Your Stories section, **Jaymi Anderson** contributed an article about the East African Community of Colorado, Inc., an organization that helps Weld County’s newest immigrants assimilate into their new communities. **Stella Wright** shared treasured family photos of her grandfather J. G. Nazareus, a man of German ancestry who immigrated to the United States in 1903 from Beideck, Russia, and **Judith Jergensen** submitted information about the Territorial Daughters of Colorado Organization, a group she belongs to that celebrates their history as descendents from pioneers who settled in Colorado prior to 1876.

The September update of the anniversary site also includes information about the Weld County Sheriff’s Office time capsule which will be buried on Friday, September 9. The ceremony starts at 11:00 a.m. at the front entrance to the Sheriff’s Office and is open to the public.

Remember, we are still looking for your stories to add to the anniversary site, so if you have family history or photos you would like to share with the county, please send them in to www.weldcounty150.org!

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