

To: County Commissioner Chair Karl Sporleder, County Commissioner Wardell,  
County Commissioner Chamberlain, County Administrator Young

From: Huerfano County Historical Society - Carolyn Newman, secretary  
PO Box 4, Walsenburg, CO 81089 719-738-2840 [carlynewmn@aol.com](mailto:carlynewmn@aol.com)

March 3, 2025

Subject: Tour of the Huerfano County Courthouse

Dear Sirs:

As you know, next year is 165<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of Huerfano County as part of the territory, and also 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Colorado.

The Historical Society would like to honor the 1904 courthouse this year.

We propose a public tour of this \$35,000 courthouse and honor the two previous courthouses (we have photos of both) as part of our history. So much happened in this building – events in the 1913-14 miner strike, the bootleggers brought to justice here, and a few tales rarely told.

We would tell stories of how a fire could start in a fire-proof vault, why Sheriff Jeff Farr had 50 deputies surround the courthouse, what happens when 1,000 gallons of wine and whiskey and beer are stored inside, etc.

The date for such a tour would be on a weekday when access is available. This could include non-public areas such as the spiral staircase and a jury room.

The exact date is not important, but we would suggest Friday, April 11. To keep the tour size reasonable we suggest allowing only 15 persons in a morning tour and 15 in an afternoon tour. We would use this as a fundraiser - \$10 for Society members and \$15 for non-members. We suggest a maintenance person ( or a person of your choosing) to escort us.

We thank you very much for your past support and ask for your consideration for this tour.

*Carolyn Newman, secretary of Huerfano County Historical Society*