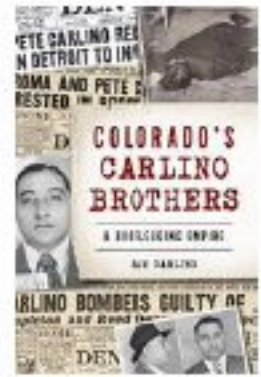


Carlino family kept its mob past hidden

Colorado's Carlino Brothers.
By Sam Carlino. History Press.



During Prohibition, Pete Carlino was known as the Al Capone of Colorado. He and his brothers were not just bootleggers but mobsters who ruled by fear and murder.

Pete's grandson Sam Carlino was unaware of all this when he was growing up. In fact, he was a young man in 1985 when a customer at the family food stand in San Jose remarked he had known Sam's grandfather. He said, he remembered when Pete was murdered.

"Murdered?" Sam asked. He'd been told his grandfather had died of pneumonia.

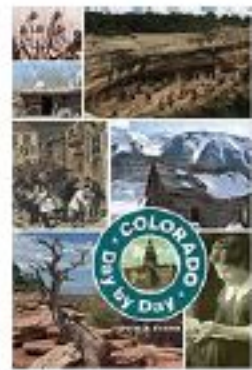
Stunned, Sam hinted to his father about the death, but the father, like his brothers, kept to the story that Pete had died of pneumonia. The six sons of Pete Carlino, the feared underworld leader, kept the secret of the family's underworld ties to their deaths. Those six, incidentally led honorable lives.

All this piqued Sam's interest in the family history, and he plumbed not only newspapers and historical records but his own third generation family for stories

of their grandfather. The cousins, like Sam, were unaware of what their grandfathers' generation had done.

"Colorado's Carlino Brothers" is a well-researched account of the Italian family that was once feared by Colorado's underworld. Sam writes little about bootlegging activities and concentrates on the murderous rampage of those days. The Carlino's undoing was allowing a federal agent to penetrate their ranks. He became a trusted member of the gang and spilled its secrets to the authorities.

Colorado Day by Day. By Derek R. Everett. University Press of Colorado.



Derek Everett takes a different look at Colorado history. "Colorado Day By Day" is a daybook of events, one historical event for each day of the year.

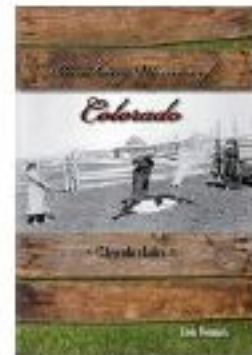
On May 26, 1934, for instance, the Denver Zephyr reached the city. The Burlington train sped through eastern Colorado at speeds up to 112 miles per hour to reach Denver. On August 1, 1876, Colorado joined the Union.

Mark Twain stopped at Jules-

burg on July 30, 1861, on a trip across the West that resulted in his best-selling book "Roughing It." The next day 115 years later was the Big Thompson flood, which killed 143 persons.

You get the idea: One date, one historical event. It's fun to see what happened on your birthday or any other day of importance.

Ranching Women of Colorado. By Linda Wommack. Caxton Press.



Colorado Women are tough, none more so than those who lived on ranches. Colorado author Linda Wommack tells about the lives of 17 of them.

Among the most remarkable is Tweet Kimball, whose Cherokee Ranch south of Denver is now a wildlife preserve.

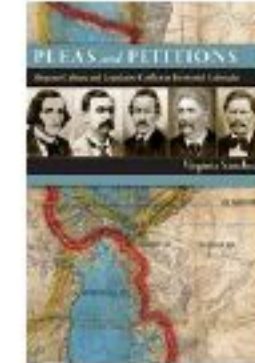
Kimball began her lifelong interest in Santa Gertrudis cattle at age 24, when she attended a horse sale at the King Ranch with her father. She didn't care much about the horses but she was intrigued by the cattle, which were a combination of Braham and Shorthorn. When her husband offered to buy her land as part of a divorce settlement, she acquired what she named Cherokee Ranch.

Her work as a cattlegirl in establishing Santa Gertrudis cattle as an important breed was more successful than her four marriages, all of which ended in divorce.

Wommack's 17 women include several who were forced to run ranches because of divorce or abandonment. One of the ranch women was murdered, another committed to an insane asylum. Most were little known, although one, who ranched near Platteville, killed 140 rattlesnakes in two hours and became a celebrity.

Wommack includes excerpts from Emily French's "Diary of a Hard-worked Woman." The book is a Colorado classic, and for years, historians didn't know what became of the woman. Wommack reveals that Emily married and died in Castle Rock of early onset Alzheimer's.

Pleas and Petitions: Hispano Culture and Legislative Conflict in Territorial Colorado. By Virginia Sanchez. University Press of Colorado.



It's no surprise to say that minorities have been mistreated by American history. Not only their accomplishments but their struggles

have been downplayed. In an exhaustively researched work, historian Virginia Sanchez tells the plight of Hispanos in early Colorado.

The southern portion of the state, she writes, should have been part of New Mexico, especially a "notch" in the Southeast corner. It was added to Colorado for no better reason than legislators wanted a tidy rectangular state. Hispanos voted, and Hispanos were elected to the Colorado legislature, but many spoke only Spanish, and bills and records were printed in English.

Sanchez tells of the plight of many Hispanos who were cheated and robbed and sometimes murdered because of their race. She writes in great detail about the Espinosa brothers, portrayed by history as murderous outlaws who killed untold numbers of Anglos in the Fairplay area. Sanchez's research shows the men could not be guilty of many crimes they were charged with and laments that they were the victims of frontier justice — shot down by vigilantes and denied a trial.



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