

Asbestos remediation successful at Tabor Opera House

The Tabor Opera House Preservation Foundation has completed its Phases I and II asbestos remediation projects, leaving its furnace room and retail spaces safe for the public and ready for the next stages of the rehabilitation.

“This means we can safely re-open our much-missed VIP lounge for the 2019 season and that we can finally move forward with our temporary heating project and extend community access to the building beyond our summer season,” said President Stephanie Spong.

Treasurer Mary Ann Graham Best oversaw the competitive bid process that attracted seven contractors and wrote the successful Phase II grant application to the Colorado State Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division Asbestos Abatement program. She had high praise for the contractors who worked on the two phases.

“Mile High Environmental Services did a great job making our retail spaces safe for the public in Phase I. For Phase II, Horsley Specialties took on a huge challenge with the furnace room that included an enormous boiler, coal hop-

per and tons of asbestos-contaminated coal, but they got it done well and on time. Now, we have that space safe and available for installation of modern infrastructure as we move forward with the rehabilitation.”

Funding for the two phases was provided by county CTF funds and the HM/WMD Asbestos Abatement grant.

As with any project, unforeseen challenges and drama arose.

“Community volunteer and Mayor Greg Labbe wins an MVP award for working with the plumber to bring water to the site, personally setting up the heater to warm the connection point to the water line,” Spong said. “When that effort failed, due to frozen pipes at the street access point, he improvised and convinced neighbor and Tabor Opera House supporter Lifetime Fitness to provide water to the project.”

The Horsley team found removal of the massive Kewanee Type C coal-fired fire-tube Boiler No. 0775 to be a bigger challenge than expected, but they persevered and got the job done.

“We needed a bigger blow torch,” said project manager



Contributed photo
Horsley team member Eliazar Garza-Gutierrez begins cutting up the boiler with his blow torch.

Victor Carillo. “And extra fuel. Lots of extra fuel.”

The Tabor Opera House Preservation Foundation saved the heavy front doors of the huge boiler for history.

“We are going to display the boiler doors in the opera house somewhere, like the antlers that hunters in our community display. It was a battle, but test results indicate the asbestos monster in the furnace room has been slain,” Spong said.

Leadville Weather

Date	High	Low	Precipitation
Mon 2/18	13	-2	.9 in. of snow
Tues 2/19	17	-6	Trace of snow
Wed 2/20	13	-9	.6 in. of snow
Thur 2/21	19	-9	.3 in. of snow
Fri 2/22	23	7	3 in. of snow
Sat 2/23	16	0	.3 in. of snow
Sun 2/24	27	-9	

Weather data courtesy of Leadville's Charles Kuster



Contributed photo
Horsley team member Veronica Lopez and project manager Victor Carillo bring water to the site.

Lake County Aquatic Center Annual Open House

Wednesday, March 6 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM
FREE admission and snacks!

Bring your suit and take advantage of free demonstrations:

- Group Swim Lessons
- Aqua Stretch (adults only)
- Aqua Aerobics (adults only)
- Kayaking (16 and over)
- Beginning Diving
- SCUBA

Meet our friendly staff and instructors and give us your ideas about new programs or ways we can improve!

