

Betty Burt 0:06

School at both Kohl and Emerald

Nancy Lawthers 0:11

Uh huh.

Betty Burt 0:11

That was before they had built Birch. They were just getting ready to build Birch. About this time, the boys were beginning to get older. They were up junior high. All right. So they came home from school? Uh huh. Otherwise, I did not have any idea what was going on. And maybe I didn't need to, but I thought I did. Just as well as my beautiful children talk to. So because my teaching had just, it was a part time position. And we were be getting to get into expanding some of these things. Anyway, God knew I didn't want to go full time. So I just gave up that, that job and stayed home. In the meantime, almost from the beginning. We worked with choir at church because Larry was always playing the organ. And I just super naturally fell into directing the choir. So I directed the choir, it was beautiful. I don't know how many years 15 or 20 years I suppose. We did have some wonderful time in those years.

Nancy Lawthers 1:59

Did you ever have a community orchestra? Or

Betty Burt 2:04

no but we did have some community choruses. And we combined with the Methodists, though there were times when we combined we did both Good Friday service at Nativity Catholic Church and the fellow who was doing the instrumental music at the high school and I, he was doing the Methodist choir and I was doing our choir, and we reformed the Community Choir for three different times around Easter. I know we did a [unclear] Mass one year, we did the [unclear] one year and we would just split the conducting between sections of the work we were producing so we did that as a community thing.

Nancy Lawthers 2:59

So that was wonderful. Where did you have those?

Betty Burt 3:04

We had them in the Nativity Church of one in the Methodist Church. I think they were the only two places large enough to accommodate that many singers as well as

Nancy Lawthers 3:26

You didn't use the high school?

Betty Burt 3:31

I don't remember. I think yeah we may have used High School for some. We did two or three of them maybe more than that, or no I do remember those in particular

Nancy Lawthers 3:41
Yes.

Betty Burt 3:42
But another thing that we did we did have a community call program they had a what they call the swing choir

Nancy Lawthers 3:53
Swing?

Betty Burt 3:53
Swing choir. And the fella who directed it had received his training at the [unclear] school in Pennsylvania.

Nancy Lawthers 4:10
Yes,

Betty Burt 4:10
And a year in was just great. And it was a good swing partner. He kind of organized this thing and invited each of the, of the church choirs to present a number or two at this community program. Which was really a nice thing you know, because you got to train with all these other choir members. And then we would do a mask choir and finale. So that was a community call thing.

Nancy Lawthers 4:15
Right. Well,

Betty Burt 4:17
And there is a community orchestra.

Nancy Lawthers 4:46
Oh, there is?

Betty Burt 4:47
Yeah. Unfortunately. They usually have their concerts on an evening that we're always committed for another activity. Oh, it's usually the second, second Saturday of the month. And we're always busy on that evening. So we don't get to go. They aren't going to play with senior senator. However, for one of these, I think it's next month, for what we call sunset?

Nancy Lawthers 5:19
Oh, yes,

they do Sunset Supper, something like that.

Yes.

Betty Burt 5:23

Anyway, that's in this last Focus. They're going to perform over there and I'm hoping we can go to that. Because I think we've progressed quite a lot. And learned quite a bit

Nancy Lawthers 5:40

Do we, do you play at all, either of your instruments?

Betty Burt 5:46

No, I sat down and had a go at the piano. And I could remember a little bit.

Nancy Lawthers 5:52

You don't really have to see to play the flute.

Betty Burt 5:56

Well, no. And I have played a little bit. I mean, last time I played that I can't remember, was since I could see. I know I did do a good job of that it was something I was doing at church. But you know, I just don't really trust it now. Now, I've never been very good at doing any of my music by ear. And that I blame on the type of training I had as a child

Nancy Lawthers 6:29

Oh really?

Betty Burt 6:30

My teacher just was adamant, watch the notes.

Nancy Lawthers 6:36

My Yes, I understand that. Watch the notes.

Betty Burt 6:40

That's right. You know, if you wanted to wander off, something on your own. It's just better not to do that. So I was discouraged, you see, from proceeding, which might be really nice to have now.

Nancy Lawthers 6:57

Yes, that's right. That's right.

Betty Burt 7:00

But I have threatened and I am going to, when I'm not too busy. To just try to figure out some things like that, you know, at the piano at least.

Nancy Lawthers 7:11

Right? Right. That would be wonderful. Well, yeah, as you were living and bringing your boys up here in Broomfield and the town was obviously growing. Yes, they kept building more and more sections. Did you miss the original feeling of your little town of 2000?

Betty Burt 7:34

Not too much until I would say about the last maybe 10 years? Course you're still, you still have contacts with a lot of the original people? Who were here and many of those people now live over the Gate N Green

Nancy Lawthers 7:56

Oh, I see.

Betty Burt 7:57

A lot of them who occupied their first home in Broomfield when they say they move to Gate N Green. Now we have always, because of Larry's organ, and just, all of his stuff. We couldn't move anywhere.

Nancy Lawthers 8:18

I don't think so. Nothing. How old is Gate N Green?

Betty Burt 8:25

It is oh I'm gonna say 20 years

Nancy Lawthers 8:29

That old?

Betty Burt 8:30

15. Anyway,

Nancy Lawthers 8:32

Yes. It started because the Country Club was there?

Betty Burt 8:40

No, it started as that type of community. And at first there was a developer who was while he wasn't here, he was from California or somewhere. But apparently he had either an auction on all of that land or was interested in developing it. And I think they were going to call it the Ranch or something like Californian. Anyway that fell through somehow. But the idea took hold and it was developed soon after that.

Nancy Lawthers 9:26

So that would have been the late 70s then. Middle 70s?

Betty Burt 9:32

Earlier than that. Must have been 20 years anyway.

Nancy Lawthers 9:39
Well 20 years is 76, 77

Betty Burt 9:44
Late 70s. Because the boys were, Jim at least was in college so you I'm sure Gate N Green was, at least the beginning of it. Hard to remember, you know, been some years

Nancy Lawthers 10:11
Oh I know? Well, it's hard to remember so many other things that happened.

Betty Burt 10:20
Oh, yes.

Nancy Lawthers 10:21
It's very difficult. You might remember how it was in Boulder where the the irrigation ditches were going down the streets. Were they? When you lived there?

Betty Burt 10:35
I don't remember, you know, I think Larry remembers that, I'm not sure.

Nancy Lawthers 10:42
And there were no irrigation ditches out here. Well, I guess [unclear]

Betty Burt 10:52
I don't know if that stream goes down to the park is part of the irrigation ditch, I guess it's not.

Nancy Lawthers 10:58
It looks like it's just run off.

Betty Burt 11:01
I think it is. Yes. But that Church ditch, and that's what it's called this Church ditch. Has nothing to do with our church?

Nancy Lawthers 11:13
It's from Mr. Church

Betty Burt 11:15
Yes. Mr. Church's ditch.

Nancy Lawthers 11:19
That's right. I guess Larry said that he met Zang's granddaughter,

Betty Burt 11:23

Yes.

Nancy Lawthers 11:27

Well, you certainly have a lot of contact because of the music world.

Betty Burt 11:31

Oh, yes.

Nancy Lawthers 11:31

So did you find that Broomfield was at all, the people who moved here, were they like the people in either boulder or, or in Denver, that involved in cultural things?

Betty Burt 11:49

When we first moved out here? Most of the people were so involved with their children. And it was cool, it's the way and there was some interest but not like in Boulder, where he has the University community you know and all of Denver has the Cultural Center anyway, you know, there wasn't that much. But there was interest. Well, as you can see from some of the things that we went ahead and did,

Nancy Lawthers 12:28

Yes, that's right. There was interest

Betty Burt 12:31

There was some interest but you know, most people when they first came out was pretty much struggling. You know, they were buying these very modest homes now, but for them at that time was a pansy upgrades from where they were, you know, and it was a real struggle just to get get settled and get the landscaping in and get their children lined up in school. And many of them, their children were young. Most of the mothers still stayed home and took care of them.

Nancy Lawthers 13:08

Right? Yes, yes. That's true. Yes, in the 50s and 60s people did do that. Yes, that's true. And gradually you got so much traffic you had to have a traffic light

Betty Burt 13:26

Oh yeah, and I don't remember what the first one was.

Nancy Lawthers 13:30

Probably on Midway

Betty Burt 13:31

Huh?

Nancy Lawthers 13:32

Midway

Betty Burt 13:33

It must have been Midway and the highway, I suppose. Pretty sure it was.

Nancy Lawthers 13:39

And all the streets around here were paved.

Betty Burt 13:42

Well no, when we first moved here they weren't. Our front street I think when we first moved here was [gravel] but the alley there was nothing in it and if it snowed or rained, maybe Larry told you this, he would move the cars around to the front immediately because there would be no way to get up and down this muddy alley

Nancy Lawthers 14:09

Yes, haha.

Betty Burt 14:11

It's just been within the last four or five years. Some street maintenance people came home with some of the ground up old asphalt or whatever it was and spread it on our alley. You know it was trice anyways that they were going to dump but it helped the alley, gave us some service. At one point, all of us who live up and down the alley went together and paid for gravel. We just bought it and had it put on and we just each paid our section

Nancy Lawthers 14:49

Yes, Oh my goodness.

Betty Burt 14:52

And this was not too long after we all moved out here and we started having garages on the back. So so well. Are

Nancy Lawthers 15:01

they so realized that you couldn't get out? Right?

Betty Burt 15:06

Because you see the first homes that were built on the street with the two or three down on Kohl.

Nancy Lawthers 15:13

They were?

Betty Burt 15:13

Yeah, and they had front drive garages. So they weren't using their allies. But some of the people on Midway were, just over here. Come to think of it, most of them have built those garages. Not lately, but after afterwards.

Nancy Lawthers 15:40

They didn't like having their garage on the alley

Betty Burt 15:43

Well, they built the garages on the alley. But I can't remember if they had front garages or low rises. Gonna have to go look again.

Nancy Lawthers 15:58

Again at this question here. Yes, that's right. And since there were no trees, you really had a nice view?

Betty Burt 16:05

Oh, yes. And that was very reasonably situated. Hopefully we did. With um, from our window in the kitchen, and I'll show you as we go out. Before the house next door was built, we could sit at the breakfast table, and look out that window and see the trains going up Coal Creek Canyon, you know.

Nancy Lawthers 16:29

Yes.

Betty Burt 16:30

The rabbits would come up on that little hump over there and watch us eat. At first that was pretty nice. But it wasn't very long ago. You know, we were really disappointed when that house was built.

Nancy Lawthers 16:50

I can imagine. Yes.

Betty Burt 16:52

The people who lived next house, were retired foreign people. And they had talked with us a time or two about the possibility of our sharing, and purchasing that lot. To enlarge our own yards. And we just felt we couldn't afford it at the time. But you know, we see that.

Nancy Lawthers 17:16

Oh, I know, hindsight is so good

Betty Burt 17:18

Hindsight is the best things. Yeah. Really, is that it's all I have now. I mean, where have you had enough time to take care of what we have here. We're involved in so many other things, too, you know,

Nancy Lawthers 17:33

that's true. That's true. Do they still have the state music, events?

Betty Burt 17:43

They run on a super different plan now, I think. But yeah they have them

Nancy Lawthers 17:52

That's amazing that in the, must have been the 20s, when they were doing this,

Betty Burt 17:58

Well, actually, it was 30s.

Nancy Lawthers 18:00

So 30s?

Betty Burt 18:01

Yeah. The 30s And yeah, basically the 30s. Late 30s when I was teaching when I was still taking, taking pupils to contests all the time and organizations, orchestras, you know?

Nancy Lawthers 18:31

And did you you didn't have any bands there in Boulder,

Betty Burt 18:34

At Casey Junior High? I did.

Nancy Lawthers 18:36

Oh, you did? I see.

Betty Burt 18:41

And on occasion I had kind of a thrill but when Brandon Spicer were both going to be gone to a conference or seminar we'd get to run the university bands

Nancy Lawthers 18:52

that was a thrill. Yes, yes. Oh, boy,

Betty Burt 18:56

But I knew all of those students, because we played in those groups together all the time. Anyway, they knew me and knew what.

Nancy Lawthers 19:03

Oh, yeah.

Betty Burt 19:03

So it was, it was fun.

Nancy Lawthers 19:05

All right. Well, I think that I'll let you go and thank you very much,

Betty Burt 19:12

Well I hope that there's something you can use out of all this. You may want to edit it quite a bit

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