

The Turret Tribune



Sharing the energy of progress, the power of people, and the promise of what's to come.

Loretta McDonald creates a \$20,000 matching grant for Hartman Castle Preservation

Loretta McDonald and her children are avid history enthusiasts with strong ties to Gunnison Country. Loretta is backing her passion with a generous \$20,000 matching gift to help preserve Hartman Castle, a significant and distinctive local landmark. Her roots in the area go back to the 1950s, when her husband, Jim, was a student at Western State College, and continue to the present day as a favorite vacation spot and as the home of her daughter, Debra Callihan, and, until recently, her son, Larry McDonald, both Western alumni.

“This historic and unique landmark deserves to be preserved and restored to its former vibrant community space. It is a vital part of the Colorado Western Slope’s history, reflected through the lives of one of its first ranchers, Alonzo Hartman, and his cultured, civic-minded wife, Annie,” said Loretta.

We encourage you to honor her heartfelt generosity by contributing to this historic preservation effort. “Mom” will be so proud!



Loretta’s matching grant of \$20,000 pairs with the [Island Acres](#) \$5000 grant. Donate now through December 31!

Upcoming important dates

Giving Tuesday is Tuesday, December 2, 2025

Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Did you know that:

- ◇ the purchase includes two historic houses and enough property to create a new venue for Gunnison County, providing a much-needed economic boost?
- ◇ the purchase also includes a lovely garden area?
- ◇ 60 to 75% of the dollars spent on historic preservation often stay in the local community?
- ◇ when Hartman’s is restored and operational, we will attract heritage tourism guests who tend to stay longer, thereby increasing spending on lodging, dining, shopping, and local attractions?
- ◇ Hartman Castle will provide unique, diverse, and sustainable programming, contributing to the local economy in new and exciting ways?

Ways to Give

Hartman Castle Preservation Corp is raising funds to buy and restore Hartman Castle, a historic home in Gunnison, Colorado, which is currently vacant and in need of urgent repairs.

Payment methods

- Venmo
- [Donate](#) page on website
- [GoFundMe](#) (accepts recurring donations)
- [Colorado Gives](#) (accepts recurring donations)
- Send a check to:

Hartman Castle Preservation Corporation
PO Box 1294
Gunnison, CO 81230

Planned Giving provides donors with the chance to help ensure this landmark remains a vibrant part of the Gunnison Valley for generations to come.

Hartman Castle can accept donations of stock from a taxable account or donations from a donor-advised fund. If you are over the age of 70.5, you can make cash or stock donations directly from your retirement accounts. After checking with your tax advisor or financial planner, let us know how we can help!

Become a Castle Cheer Champion

Friendraising Ideas You Can Do This Week or This Giving Season

At Hartman Castle, every act of support—big or small—helps bring this beautiful landmark closer to its restoration. Not everyone can contribute financially, and that's okay. Friendraising is one of the most meaningful ways to support our mission, simply by inviting more people into the story.

Here are a few easy ways you can help build the Castle community:

- **Click on this [link](#) for email and social media posts that you can share with friends or family**

Other ideas:

- **Share our Colorado Give Day and Giving Tuesday message**

Sharing our posts helps broaden our audience and brings us closer to our \$25,000 match. If we match that entire amount, we'll have raised \$50,000!

- **Involve your business or employer**

Businesses that donate are listed on our website. Their names and logos will soon be on Gunnison's main street. The window display will be featured on social media. In the spring, we will host a special 'Business After Hours.'

Some corporations encourage employees to nominate nonprofits to receive donations. One visitor to the Castle completed the paperwork with her employer. We now receive an annual donation!

- **Create a team or class legacy**

Were you a member of a local team or class from either Western or Gunnison High School? Pool your team or classmates together and raise \$500 or more, and have a permanent listing on our donor wall!

- **Do you not need a Christmas gift this year?**

Let your loved ones know that what you would really like this year is a lasting gift to the preservation of the Hartman Castle. Donations can be made online at our website, through Colorado Gives, Venmo, or by sending a check.

- **Host a movie night**

Invite your friends over to watch Rocky Mountain PBS's documentary "[Saving Hartman Castle.](#)" A great double feature is to also to show the documentary on Chicago's [1893 World's Fair](#). Offer snacks and beverages of your choice. Don't forget to put out a donation jar! Then share your experiences with all of us!

- **Share our story**

Post your favorite photo of the Castle or share why this project matters to you. Your voice has power!

- **Invite three friends to follow us**

A personal invitation is one of the quickest ways to grow awareness.

- **Tell us your "why"**

Record a short video or write a few sentences about why preserving the Castle matters to you. We love featuring supporter stories.

- **Celebrate your birthday with us**

Consider dedicating your birthday or a special occasion to Hartman Castle. It's a heartfelt and impactful way to support preservation.

- **Start a "Castle Challenge"**

Challenge your friends to post their best Castle photo or memory and tag us.

- **Match a friend**

Small matches go a long way! Try: "I'll match the next \$10 donated to Hartman Castle."

Each of these small actions helps spread the word, build momentum, and bring more people into the effort to save this extraordinary piece of Colorado history.

Thank you for being part of the Hartman Castle comeback story. Together, we're strengthening the foundation—not just of the Castle, but of the extended community that loves it.