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June 2016

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Vol. 8, No. 6

Welcome to Ute Country

"The finest workers in stone are not copper or steel tools, but the gentle touches of air and water working at their leisure with a liberal allowance of time."

— Henry David Thoreau

PEEK INSIDE...



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Jewett's now offering tastings



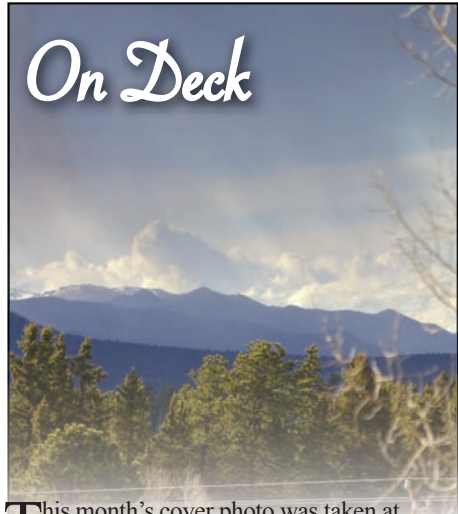
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Renovations to Vet's Hall in WP



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Native Plants of the Ute Country



This month's cover photo was taken at Mueller State Park earlier last month. While the Gold Rush of the 1850s may have brought many to Colorado back then, the real gems are found in nature, like this rock. We feel the quote is fitting as we see how external forces have chiseled this rock into its current shape. As you read this month's "A Mountain Seed: the real reason" you may find the gift in letting go of that which you no longer need is to reveal inner strength just beneath.

Summer is finally here! Get outside and go for a hike, fly fishing, a bike ride, or even for a drive to see colorful Colorado. Our Out & About section is full of events to attend, people to meet, and things to do, as well as how to do them safely. There are many classes from building greenhouses to fitness opportunities, to brushing up on your business skills. What new skill can you develop this summer?

Keep the camera close to capture those breath-taking sites. Should you come across an animal either outside or inside your home, take a picture of them, too. Send them in for Critter Corner. Share these photos with our readers by emailing utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com or send in snail mail to Ute Country News, POB 753, Divide, CO 80814.

We love to hear from you. Do you have comments, questions, or an article for consideration? Please send to us via email: utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com or mail to POB 753 Divide, CO 80814.

Thank you,
— Kathy & Jeff Hansen

A special thanks to all listed here for their professional work and time to make this possible. If you have any questions please contact the publishers.



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POB 753
Divide, CO 80814
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The Thymekeeper Chicken feathers

by Mari Marques Worden
photo by Mari Marques Worden

Being an herbalist, over the years I've administered herbs to animals of all sorts: dogs, cats, horses, cows, and pigs. I have to admit, chickens have been my biggest challenge so far. When I closed my herb store and moved to Florissant people said "you should get chickens, it'll be fun." they said. Yes, I have had fun raising these girls but there were a few things "they" forgot to tell me in regards to raising chickens and the challenges that come along with it. What do you do when your chicken gets sick? I haven't priced a visit to the vet's office lately but if you're anything like me you want your flock comfortable, happy and healthy at any cost; but let's explore some alternatives. Some of my favorite home remedies that I use on other animals can be used on chickens too. It's just a little trickier in some cases to administer them. Sometimes you've got to outsmart the chicken and that can be quite challenging as they are gifted with outrageous telepathic abilities.

That chicken knows what you're thinking and if you don't believe me, try getting close to a less than tame chicken with the intention of picking it up or even simply reaching down to pet it. Good luck; it isn't happening. Although most of mine are tame enough for me to pick up, the same is not true for the chickens I purchased fully grown. For one thing, chickens don't like change and any little out of the ordinary thing will set them into a panicked frenzy. Forget about trying to catch one when that happens. Even the tame ones are going to give you a run for your money once they've figured you out. You'd better put yourself on a beach somewhere in your mind so they don't pick up on your intentions before you get them in your arms.

The best practice I've found is to try to prevent any issues before they happen. Typically the feed store will recommend you start your chicks on medicated feed as a preventative measure. I highly recommend adding Echinacea tea or organic apple cider vinegar to their water and garlic powder to their feed to boost their immune instead. I personally feel using pharmaceutical antibiotics as a preventative measure actually damages the immune system and contributes to the antibiotic resistance dilemma. Apple Cider Vinegar and garlic are both natural antibiotics that do not damage the immune or contribute to resistance.

Dr. Stuart Levy is a pioneer in antibiotic resistance. In a study by Dr. Levy and his colleagues, they found that introducing antibiotics into chicken feed very quickly promoted the spread of antibiotic resistant bacteria in the chickens' intestinal tracts, as well as the intestinal tracts of the people working with the chickens. The chickens' guts changed within a week, the farm workers in 3-6 months. Furthermore, the bacteria sampled



were not only resistant to tetracycline (the antibiotic used), but several other commercial antibiotics, they had learned and adapted.

The good news — after they stopped using the antibiotic laced feed for six months, no detectable levels of tetracycline resistant organisms were found in the farm workers. Read more about this study at "The Spread of Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria from Chickens to Farmers" found at <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/foster-farms-says-no-superbugs>

Proportions for adding garlic and apple cider vinegar to the chicken water are: One tablespoon apple cider vinegar to a gallon of water. Garlic powder can be added to feed at a rate of one teaspoon per cup or one smashed clove per gallon of water.

Like people, animals are more susceptible to illness at season change so it's the perfect time to give them a little immune boost. Now that the dandelions are in bloom, offer the leaves, flowers and buds to your chickens as a nutritious immune boost and in return, they'll give you eggs with the most beautiful orange yolks you've ever seen. This is by far the easiest part of administering herbs to chickens. They'll eat just about anything you put in front of them.

What's up? Chicken butt

My least favorite job as a chicken mom is maintaining the back end. Sometimes their droppings don't drop and trust me this is one of the more challenging issues my girls have given me. Once they get a fair collection going on back there it causes a great deal of discomfort pulling the feathers around the area. For the most part we try to let the chicken take care of it with its daily dirt bath and sometimes they can loosen it just enough that a short chase around the yard will allow it to drop off. That doesn't always happen and the problem is compounded as time goes on. We've tried the "soak it off" method, but you can imagine. Yuk. This method is long and tedious taking just enough time for the chicken to get testy. Not only that, if it's cold outside you don't want a chicken running around with a wet butt. Time for plastic gloves and scissors and try to be ohhh so careful around the area so as not to cut the chicken itself. Problem solved, however, after sporting a clump of poo around for about a week, the area is likely to be somewhat irritated.

Introducing, the "chicken footer"

A little invention I found extremely helpful for more than one situation. I use an old mustard container and rinse it well. You don't want mustard in your footer. Add ½ cup of arrowroot powder and one teaspoon of goldenseal powder. Mix well. Distract the chicken by throwing down some scratch or other tasty treat. When the chickens head is down, inevitably the tail is up in the air. Take careful aim and FOOF! I say aim carefully as you'll typically only get one shot. The relief is immediate, the medicine is applied. Happy chicken, happy mom. Arrowroot is the consistency of corn starch and has soothing and cooling properties and the goldenseal is a natural antibiotic that is also drying. This experience comes from dealing with babies and diaper rash. Although it can be a startling experience for a chicken to get footed, the relief is immediate and the sudden fright short lived. Arrowroot can be purchased at Mountain Naturals Community

Market in Woodland Park and goldenseal can be purchased from Starwest Botanicals online or Mountain Rose Herbs. A little bit of goldenseal goes a long way and it is rather pricey due to over harvesting.

We here in the Rockies have our own version of goldenseal called Oregon grape root. I have found it growing in abundance on Mt Princeton. Oregon grape root has the same chemical constituent berberine that makes goldenseal a powerful antibiotic, and can be dried and powdered using a coffee grinder.

Another issue concerning the back end of the chicken is infected vent. Every once in a while you'll spot a streak of blood on the egg. Time to

be diligent when that happens as chickens are masters at disguising anything wrong. If the vent does become infected, the chicken will soon exhibit malaise and a drooping tail at which point it may be too late to turn it around. Be on guard and do a head to toe chicken checkup every three months or so.

Another situation where the footer comes in handy is if your chicken gets wounded. You can simply foot the arrowroot powder/goldenseal mixture into the holes they take their dirt baths in and let them apply it themselves.

Give and take

Although chickens molt in the fall and egg production grinds to a halt it can leave you wondering why you chose to feed, water and care for a flock of animals that only lay eggs during certain months of the year. I have to remind myself every year of the gifts we gain from this experience.

For one thing, chickens are great at working the compost pile. Just make sure you aren't throwing anything in that can be harmful to their health. Avocados are one such thing. For a more complete listing of foods that shouldn't be fed to chickens see: http://readynutrition.com/resources/10-foods-you-should-not-feed-your-chickens_09022014/

They provide hours of entertainment; it's hilarious watching them try to catch a grasshopper and the ensuing chase that follows the catch. Everybody wants a piece and they'll keep your grasshopper population under control. Helpful if you have a greenhouse or garden.

They provide fertilizer year round and all those feathers that drop in the fall are made of protein. Many of the soil menders you find in the garden center include feather meal which is simply ground feathers. Keeping their coop and living quarters as clean and aesthetic as possible is probably the best way to reward your girls other than providing good food and clean water. I make a nesting blend using herbs that not only spruces up the place, but makes it smell better and keeps the bugs at bay.

Our nesting box blend contains basil, spearmint, lemon balm, rose petals, marigold petals and lavender flowers. Add a little food grade diatomaceous earth which can be found at your local feed store for bug control. Your chickens will love you for this and you can easily purchase these herbs and make this blend yourself for pennies on the dollar compared to what you'll find in the feed store. Other herbs that can be used include chamomile, bay leaf, eucalyptus, oregano, wormwood and catnip to name a few. Some people go as far as making curtains for the laying boxes. I haven't gone that far but I did fail to follow the one piece of advice almost everyone gave me: "Whatever you do, don't give them names." Once you know their different personalities, how can you not give them names?

Curly, Hopper, Melba, Blackie, Broody and Hatchy wish you all happy chicken adventures of your own.

Mari Marques Worden is a Certified Herbalist and owner of The Thymekeeper. For questions or more information contact: Mari at mugysspad@aol.com or 719-439-7303 or 748-3388. Mari is available for private consultation.

Buffalo

by Linda Bjorklund
photo by Jeff Hansen

We have Buffalo Peaks, Buffalo Springs, Buffalo Slough, the Colorado Buffaloes in college football and the buffalo-head nickel. There was Buffalo Bill Cody with his Wild West Show and a town in New York that sports the name, as well as a professional football team. We have given any number of things the title of "Buffalo." But the North American buffalo we picture is technically a bison.

There were actually six distinct species in the genus Bison; all but two of them are now extinct. The two remaining are the North American Bison and the European Bison. The North American Bison is genetically related to the yak, a domesticated animal found in the Asian country of Tibet.

Fossils of the steppe bison, from which both the remaining species of bison are thought to have descended, date back about two million years. Scientists tell us that, like the humans that traveled across the Bering Strait, the ancestor of the American Bison followed the same path to get to this continent. The Strait used to be a narrow stretch of land between what is now Russia and Alaska; the ocean covers it today.

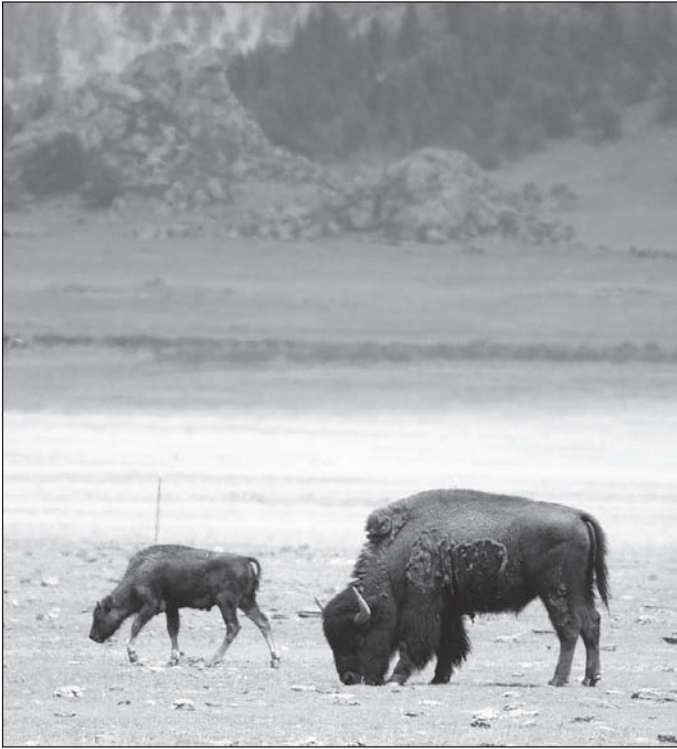
The bison is the largest land mammal living on the continent and has managed to outlive other beasts like mastodons and dinosaurs. Although bison have natural enemies like wolves, coyotes, brown bears and grizzly bears, and, of course, humans, they are not predators. They subsist on grass and other vegetation. They will defend themselves and their young, can swim, head butt and jump fences. For some reason it has suited our fancy to forego the name bison and call the shaggy beasts buffalo.

The American Plains Indians and herds of buffalo happily coexisted for many years. Indians became dependent on the huge mammals for almost every need in their lives. A buffalo hunt involved fast horses and brave warriors who could accurately shoot sharp arrows while they rode bareback amidst a herd of their prey. They dug their heels into the sides of their mounts to stay astride while they chased the buffalo they had singled out to kill.

A successful buffalo hunt provided not just the delicacy of the hump meat, but a sausage made of the intestines filled with blood. Strips of meat were dried into jerky. Dried meat was also mixed with berries and fat to make pemmican. The hides were made into cloaks, leggings, belts, moccasins, mittens, headdresses, bedding, lodge covers, tobacco pouches, food containers, horse bridles and whips. The sinew was used as sewing thread; horns were made into powder flasks; tails made good fly whisks. Even the dung was dried and used in lieu of firewood.

Then the white men started to encroach onto Indian lands. In 1804 and 1805 the Lewis and Clark expedition traveled up the Missouri River and across the mountains to get to the Pacific Ocean. They didn't find a good waterway the whole distance, but they learned a lot about Native American Indians, the land they survived on, and their way of life. They experienced hunting and using buffalo for sustenance. In 1843 John C. Fremont and his party explored the west as he made his way across the country. They, too, hunted buffalo for food and noticed the Indians' dependence on the beast for their way of life.

George Ruxton was an Englishman who discovered that he hated school and joined the military to get his education the hard way. He



Buffalo on the prairie
of Hartsel.

examined me with his glaring eyes, snorting loudly; his ignorance of what the curious object could be which riveted his attention. Once he approached so close that I actually felt his breath on my face, and, smelling me, he retreated a pace or two, and dashed up the sand furiously with his feet, lashing his tail at the same time about his dun sides with the noise of a carter's whip, throwing down his ponderous head, and shaking his horns angrily at me. This old fellow was shedding his hair, and his sleek skin, now bare as one's hand

found himself in the middle of a Mexican War and then decided to take a trip to the north to see what was in this unexplored land of the United States. In 1846 Ruxton engaged a guide and acquired a horse named Panchito, along with four mules. They set out from Mexico and traveled through Santa Fe and Taos as they made their way through the Rocky Mountains. They suffered through some severe winter weather and struggled to survive the cold. Ruxton observed the attitudes of the white settlers, the Mexicans, and the Indians along the way. Then as he found the Arkansas River and the area known as Bayou Salado in the Rocky Mountains, he became familiar with the animals native to the area.

There were beaver, wolves, coyotes, bears, prairie dogs, antelope, deer, and that majestic creature, the buffalo.

After spending several months in the heart of the Rockies, Ruxton headed east, on his way toward England and home. He camped near Bent's Fort as he made his way toward St. Louis, Missouri, where he reluctantly sold his beloved horse and mules to a man who swore he would take good care of them. When Ruxton returned to England he wrote his book, *Wild Life in the Rocky Mountains*, which was published in England in 1847 and in America in 1848.

He wrote, "No animal requires so much killing as a buffalo." What he meant was that buffalo are hard to kill — their hides are tough and their heads are almost impenetrable. A direct shot in the shoulder and to the heart is the most effective, and even then a buffalo will charge or try to run.

Ruxton wrote the story that follows, describing his experience with a buffalo herd that stampeded through a maze of prairie dog holes near Bent's Fort:

"In the evening I left the camp for a load of meat, and approached an immense herd of buffalo under cover of a prairie-dog town, much to the indignation of the villagers, who resented the intrusion with an incessant chattering. The buffalo passed right through the town, and at one time I am sure that I could have touched many with the end of my rifle, and thousands were passing almost over me; but, as I lay perfectly still, they only looked at me from under their shaggy brows, and passed on. One huge bull, and the most ferocious-looking animal I ever encountered, came to a dead stop within a yard of my head, and steadily

in many parts, was here and there dotted with tufts of his long winter-coat. From the shoulder backwards the body was, with these exceptions, perfectly smooth, but his head, neck, and breast were covered with long shaggy hair; his glowing eyes being almost hidden in a matted mass, while his coal-black beard swept his knees. His whole appearance reminded me strongly of a lion, and the motion of the buffalo when running exactly resembles the canter of the king of beasts. At last my friend began to work himself up into such a fury that I began to feel rather uncomfortable at my position, and, as he backed himself and bent his head for a rush, I cocked my rifle, and rose partly from the ground to take a surer aim, when the cowardly old rascal, with a roar of affright, took to his heels, followed by the whole band."

During the 1800s after the Civil War ended, white settlers discovered gold in the west and began to migrate there, taking over the lands that had been home to the American Indians. They gradually displaced the natives, forcing them to move onto reservations. They were told to intentionally wipe out the buffalo to deprive the Indians of their sustenance. After a number of years of wanton slaughter, the buffalo herds had been diminished to less than a thousand.

A handful of ranchers realized that the buffalo was on its way to extinction and began to try to build up remnants of existing herds. There are now successful buffalo ranches here in the Colorado Rockies, but the shaggy beasts no longer roam free over the plains.

Several years ago I was writing a book about the town of Hartsel and obtained permission from the land owner to climb the hill where the old cemetery is located, above the bath house where the hot springs are. I was examining tombstones and taking photographs when I heard a distinct snort behind me. As I turned around I was surprised to see that about a dozen buffalo had wandered up the hill, too, and were grazing as they meandered around the grave stones. I stifled the urge to scream, and moved carefully to the other side of a rotting fence, where I stood as motionless as I could manage. One buffalo began sniffing the stone that I had just picked up and put back down. Soon they all wandered off, finding new grass to graze on.

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Belinda Smegler: Queen of Trailer Trash Ham hocks and beans

by Michele Murray

These stories recount episodes of her cooking show: "Cooking with Ketchup and Beer", recorded by high school students for their media class in the remote mountain town of Cripple Creek, Colorado. NOTE: The recipes are real, though Belinda is not. She is a fictitious character. Please enjoy these stories and recipes with your own discretion regarding the use of leftovers and alcohol.

"It's time for ham hocks-n-beans! Yer gonna need yer crock pot and if you haven't got one—get one!" That's my neighbor, Belinda Smegler. She is Queen of the Trailer Trash Homemakers up here on Shoshonite Mountain. Belinda had her own cooking show on the local television station for eight months during the school year. She demonstrated a variety of useful household hints and cooking lessons directly from her trailer in the woods. The cameramen (high school students) set up in front of her slightly greasy stove and recorded incredible culinary miracles as she drank beer, farted and cooked, sometimes while swatting at flies.

"I soak my beans,"—she is talking about black-eyed peas, but she refers to them as 'beans'—"overnight with this stick of seaweed. Let's see, it's called 'dulce kelp.' It cuts down on the gas. But, you don't have to use seaweed. You can just soak 'em overnight, then pour the water off. I put 'em in salt water." Belinda is wearing a pink Christien Dior bathrobe and Snoopy-headed slippers. Her long, strawberry-blond hair is so thick, it must dull the scissors she takes to it from time to time.

"Just stick the ham hocks right in the bottom of the crock pot. I've got an old ham bone, too, left over from a fishin' trip to New Mexico somewhere here..." (She's rooting around in the back of her freezer, now, like a hog looking for truffles.)

Ingredients
1 lb. smoked ham hocks
5 cups black-eyed peas (previously soaked overnight)
4 cans cheap beer
½ tbl. Salt
1 tsp. Crushed black pepper
4 Cloves crushed garlic
1 tsp. Onion powder
½ tsp. Sage
½ tsp. Dry mustard
One dollop of ketchup (or salsa, according to Bob)

Directions
Soak the beans overnight. Push the ham hocks into the beans. Add 3-4 cans of cheap beer. Add seasoning. Simmer all night long in a crock pot.

Steps to prevent identity theft

Identity theft is a big problem. How big? Consider this: In 2015, about 13 million Americans were victimized, with a total fraud amount of \$15 billion, according to Javelin Strategy & Research. That's a lot of victims, and a lot of money. How can you protect yourself from becoming a statistic?

Here are a few suggestions

- **Secure your Social Security number.** Identity thieves eagerly seek Social Security numbers — so don't give out yours to anyone who asks for it. In fact, as a general rule, be reluctant to give it out at all. Always ask whomever you're dealing with if he or she will accept another form of identification, or at the very least will take just the last four digits of your number. Never carry your Social Security card with you.
- **Shred credit card offers and bank statements.** If you're not going to apply for the credit cards offered to you, shred the offers. Identity thieves have been known to go through garbage, fill out credit card offers and take advantage of them. At the same time, shred your bank and brokerage statements — and any other statement containing personal or financial information.
- **Study your credit card bills and checking account statements.** Question any credit card charge or checking account activity you don't recognize as your own.
- **Don't give out your credit card number unless you're initiating a purchase.** Many of us shop online. As long as you're dealing with a reputable merchant who uses a secure site — one that has "https" in the web address — you should be fairly confident that your credit card information will be protected. Never give out your credit card number to people or businesses

who, unsolicited, try to sell you something over the phone or Internet.

- **Protect your passwords.** Do you use a password to log onto your computer? If so, don't share it with anyone, outside perhaps your most trusted family members. Be sure to use a strong password — one that doesn't contain your real name or even a complete word that could be used to identify you. Also, it doesn't hurt to periodically change your password, whether it's for your computer logon or for entry to any of your financial or consumer accounts.

Even after taking these steps, you could still run into identity theft. That's why you need to watch for certain signs, such as the arrival of unexpected credit cards or account statements, denials of credit for no clear reason, or calls or letters regarding purchases you didn't make. If any of these things happen to you, you may want to place a "fraud alert" on your credit reports and review them carefully. Three national credit-reporting companies — Equifax, Experian and TransUnion — keep records of your credit history. If someone has misused your personal or financial information, contact one of the companies and ask for an initial fraud alert on your credit report. A fraud alert is free, but you must provide proof of your identity and the company you call must tell the other companies about your alert. For more information on placing a fraud alert, visit the website of any of the three companies (Experian, Equifax, and Trans Union).

You can help preserve your good name from those who want to misuse it — so, stay vigilant.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by Tracy E Barber IV, AAMS, your Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

USFS activates fire info phone line

A fire information phone line for recorded messages regarding wildland fire activity for the National Forests and National Grasslands along the Front Range, South Central Colorado and Southwest Kansas has recently been implemented to include Pike and San Isabel National Forests, and Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands. Messages will be recorded regularly through fire season during fire activity. It will be updated as new information becomes available. There is an on-call Public Information Officer from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. If an incident in on-going, hours may be extended. Public fire information for large fires may also be available on the web through the InciWeb site at: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or Twitter:@PSICC_NF. Fire information on private lands will be handled by the jurisdictional County Sheriff's Office.



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WPHS wins state environmental science competition

Woodland Park High School AP Environmental Science team took 1st place at the 2016 Colorado Envirothon Competition held in Castle Rock. There were 19 teams from all over Colorado who competed in the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts' (CACD) annual natural resource science based contest. WPHS sent three teams of five students each to compete at the competition placing first, third, and fourth. "This is remarkable considering that this is the first time WPHS has sent teams to this competition!" said WPHS Science Teacher Daniel Ganoza. "They were facing schools with thousands of students and schools that have had success in this venue before." His second year at WPHS, Ganoza is a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate with 22 years' service. He was one of two coaches to the Woodland Park teams.

The second coach was Rose Banzhaf, a Woodland Park resident, who shares her love of environmental science with various projects throughout Woodland Park School District. It was through her inspiration that WPHS formed three teams. Banzhaf was also responsible for scheduling over a dozen guest speakers from all over Colorado to talk to the WPHS teams about different environmental topics.

Another major community supporter of these the WPHS teams is Mary Menz, District Manager for the Teller-Park Conservation District. TPCD board sponsored WPHS for this event allowing all students to participate free of cost to them. Without her financial backing and moral support, WPHS would not have been able to participate in this event.

The winning team included: juniors Hunter Stone and Hudson Pace and seniors Laura Wagner, Malena Harangozo, and Madison Czelusta. This winning team will represent the state of Colorado in Ontario, Canada, for the International Environmental Science competition this July.

The third place team included: junior Angelica Osuch, and seniors Leanne Dwyer, Kara Fischer, Carly Poe, and Trent Foky.

The fourth place team consisted of juniors Ruth Woolley and Clarissa Hickam, and seniors Zach Hess, Bayli Jones, and Jacob Paul.

Individual recognitions include:

- Laura Wagner placed 1st in the category of Soils
- Zak Hess placed 1st in the category of Invasive Species
- Hudson Pace earned 2nd in Aquatics
- Angelica Osuch received 2nd in Soils
- Hunter Stone placed 2nd in Forestry



WPHS Winning Envirothon Team

- Trent Foky and Madison Czelusta tied for 2nd in Wildlife
- Kara Fischer earned 2nd for Invasive Species



All WPHS Envirothon participants

All 15 WPHS students who participated in this competition earned their spot on the team by spending one Saturday every month during this school year at optional "Saturday Seminars" reviewing current environmental science topics. This does not include the countless hours of self-study each team member conducted individually. Each team member specialized in one of five categories — Soils, Aquatics, Invasive Species, Forestry, and Wildlife. In addition to being tested on each of these categories each team had to create and deliver an oral presentation to the panel of judges.

For more information about the Colorado Envirothon program: coloenvirothon.com.

Florence Pioneer Museum

by Flip Boettcher
photo by Flip Boettcher

Anyone wanting to do some historical research of the Florence area and eastern Fremont County, Colorado, should start at the Florence Pioneer Museum and Research Center located at Pikes Peak and Front Street in Florence, near the old historic train depot and the new brewery.

Preserving the history of Florence was the goal of local resident Charles Price and in 1964 his dream was realized with the purchase of the old Fraternal Eagles Lodge at 100 E. Front Street. The community got together to purchase the building as well as supplies for the new roof, floor and paint. Many volunteer hours went into refurbishing the old building, built in 1894. The Pioneer Museum was dedicated September 12, 1964 and celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014.

The first people came to eastern Fremont County for the wide open spaces, and rich fertile soil for farming and ranching. The first settlement in the area was seven miles south on Adobe Creek, where a French trapper known as "Maurice" started the first trading post. The first American settlement on Adobe Creek was established sometime between 1840 and 1846.

In 1870, Florence proper consisted of just a few buildings when James McCandless developed his 160 acre homestead and struck oil. McCandless plotted his farm into a town and named it Florence after his daughter Minnie Florence. The Florence oil fields are the second oldest in the United States and home of the first oil well west of the Mississippi. This oil well, discovered in 1862, is still pumping today.

With the discovery of coal in the area and the ore processing mills for the gold from Cripple Creek, the area became quite an industrial hub. In the early 1900's, one could find 1300 oil wells, 185 coal mines, 26 oil companies, 12 newspapers, eight churches, six ore mills, five oil refineries, five brick yards, three railroads and two cement plants. Florence prospered until an explosion in 1925 leveled East Main Street. Further decline came with the 1929 Great Depression and the Dust Bowl of 1931 destroyed the area's farming. Today, Florence is a peaceful town full of history, shops, antique stores, restaurants and parks.

The museum has two ground floor rooms with the research center and displays ar-



The Florence Pioneer Museum and Research Center located at the corner of Pikes Peak and Front Street

anged chronologically. There is also an upper floor. All full of displays and antiques from the area. The museum is a non-profit and is open from May to September, Tuesday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., staffed by volunteers, and charges a small donation.

Annual events include Walking Tours the first Saturday of the month; Pioneer Day the third weekend in September; Tour de Coal Towns, a September bike ride through historic local mining communities; and The Eastern Fremont County Historical Club, for local third to fifth graders to learn and explore the history of the area. For more information visit their website: www.florencepioneermuseum.org-home, or call 719-784-1904.

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Study finds local trees are over 2,000 years old

Thanks to support from the South Park National Heritage Area, Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center personnel and volunteers along with faculty from the University of Missouri Tree Ring Laboratory collected and processed dendrochronology samples taken at Beaver Ponds and on Pennsylvania Mountain in 2015. Dendrochronology is the study and analysis of tree rings. Tree rings are a good way to understand how well trees are and were growing. The width between rings is an indicator of wet or drought years, thus an idea of historic climate. Sampling consisted either of collecting increment cores or by taking a cross section from downed trees or stumps.

On Pennsylvania Mountain, most of the trees cored were estimated to be between 500 and 2,000 years old. Of the 23 bristlecone pines sampled over half showed increased growth over the past 100 years. Why there is an increase in growth over this time period is not clearly understood, but it could be due to increased temperatures or increased concentrations of CO₂ due to climate change.

"The dendrochronological information we collected gives us a good estimate of when our forest started growing and their growth rates as well as the historical local climate," explains Beaver Ponds Executive Director Kevin Hosman. "Increment cores from Lodgepole pine trees — located on permanent inventory plots established in Beaver Ponds fire mitigation stands — will be measured in 2016 to evaluate the response of

trees to thinning and reduced competition."

At Beaver Ponds, located on Sacramento Creek outside of Fairplay, most of the trees started growing around 1880. This date corresponds with the establishment of the Duquesne Smelter that was built in 1877 on what is now the Beaver Ponds Center. The smelter would have used wood as its main source of fuel and they probably cut most of the timber in close proximity to the smelter. Cross sections from several stumps showed much older dates when the trees had started growing. Using cross dating, the Missouri Tree Ring Laboratory was able to determine a bristlecone pine had started growing in 1356 and died or was cut down in 1845.

Hosman and Dr. Michael Stambaugh will be presenting a talk about these discoveries on August 2 at Beaver Ponds. Go to www.beaverponds.org for more information.

The mission of Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center is to provide environmental education that gives individuals of all ages the tools and knowledge they need to become better stewards of the earth.



Flag Day

by Larry Ingram
photos by Paul James

American Legion Post 1980 puts up all of the flags at Lions Park on national holidays.

The members consider it an honor and a duty to respectfully display Old Glory on these days.

Flag Day is one of these holidays. The legion, with the help of Boy Scout troop 230, put up the flags at Lions Park, and also burns tattered or distressed American flags with respect and in accordance with American tradition.

On June 14, 1777, the congress established the design for the national ensign: A star for each state and a stripe representing the first 13 colonies. Although it is not certain, this flag may have been made by the Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross, who was an official flag maker for the Pennsylvania Navy. The number of stars increased

as the new states entered the Union, but the number of stripes stopped at 15 and was later returned to 13.

In June 1886 Bernard Cigrand made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "The Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper. Cigrand's effort to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916.



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by Ark-Valley Humane Society

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Rare fossilized wood found in Cripple Creek

by Steven Wade Veatch and Timothy R. Brown

Cripple Creek, Colorado, is the premier gold mining district in the state. The Cripple Creek Mining District has produced more than 21 million ounces of gold since 1891 — almost half of Colorado's gold production of 44 million ounces. Exploration activities recently revealed one of the most exciting discoveries in the geologic record — fossilized wood found more than three thousand feet below the surface of the earth.

Gold in the district is found in veins and surrounding rocks associated with a small, six square mile, 32-million-year-old volcanic complex composed of three main vents. The complex, formed by violent volcanism, made a funnel-shaped pipe that went deep into the earth. The explosive volcanic activity collapsed the land around the pipe. This intense volcanic activity may have persisted three to four million years.

Today the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V) operates the Cresson surface mine, clearly the most valuable deposit in the district, having produced over three million ounces of gold. This operation is now owned by Newmont Mining.

Recently, while drilling with an exploration drill rig that provides a view of the rocks below the surface of the district, a core sample of Cripple Creek rock at the Cresson mine was obtained at just over 3,000 feet beneath the surface. This core contained a fossil wood fragment that was carbonized. The carbonized wood was still solid and not easily broken apart.

In July, 1905, a carbonized tree trunk 18 inches in diameter and five feet long showing impressions of knots, bark, and tree rings was found on the 800-foot level of the Elkton mine.

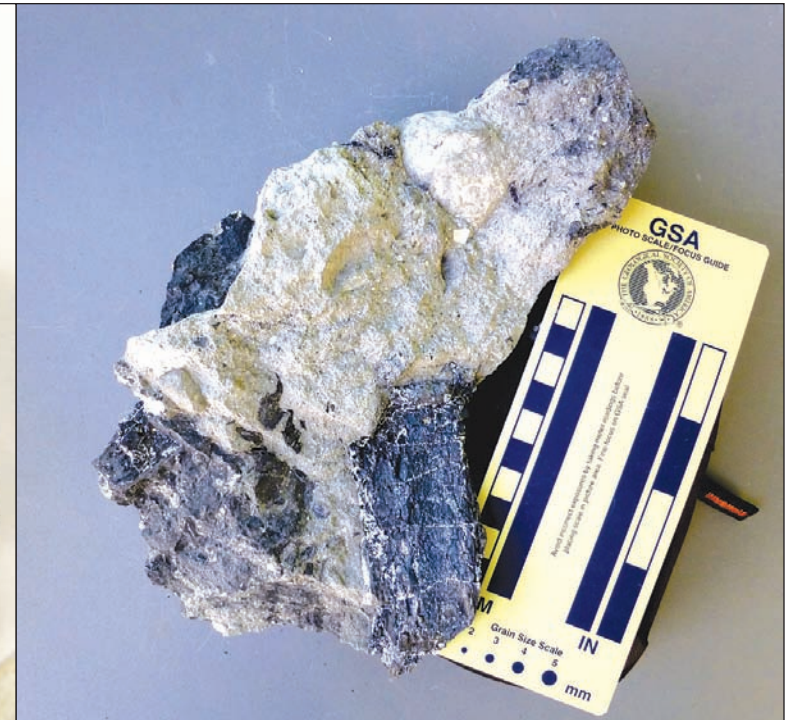
Although this Cresson core sample is remarkable, fossil wood was found in the Cripple Creek mines in the early days — just not as deep. T. A. Rickard, a noted geologist, wrote in 1900 that some tree parts, ranging from small pieces up to the size of a trunk, were found in the mines. Rickard reported: "In the Jack Pot mine, at 400 feet from the surface, in the Logan at 600 feet, and in the Doctor at 700 feet, there have been found fragments of coal, exhibiting traces of wood-structure. In the Independence [mine], at 500 feet, a stump of a tree was discovered in the very midst of rich ore."

In July, 1905, a carbonized tree trunk 18 inches in diameter and five feet long showing impressions of knots, bark, and tree rings was found on the 800-foot level of the Elkton mine. Miners created quite a stir in the gold camp when they discovered bird tracks in sedimentary rocks in one of the mines.

The core sample recently obtained with the ancient wood fragment is significant. It was found at a depth lower than 3,000 feet underground.

How do these trees get into the ground so deep? The mechanism that brings trees and other surface materials to great depths within the volcanic complex is subsidence or collapse of the land that follows violent volcanic explosions. Jets of volcanic ash, billowing clouds of steam (caused by super-heated ground water in contact with magma), and deep volcanic eruptions caused collapse of the surrounding landscape. Surface materials, through this active process of subsidence, were brought deep within the volcanic complex and mixed with shattered rocks of all sizes.

The recently drilled core sample that contains a carbonized wood fragment came from a depth greater than 3,000 feet below the surface. The rock unit this core was drilled from reveals the shattering of rocks and subsidence resulting from the volcanic eruptions and steam — explosions that occurred here 32 million years ago. From Cripple Creek's early days on into modern times, the district continues to yield earth's fantastic treasures — from precious gold to incredible fossil wood — helping the district maintain its title as the "World's Greatest Gold Camp."



A carbonized wood fragment (left), from the Cresson surface mine, is circled in this core sample at the top. This impressive sample was sliced from a piece of NQ-sized drill core (just under 2 inches in diameter). The photo is marked 3527 feet down hole. The additional footage is from the drilling being done at an angle. Image courtesy of the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company. The carbonized wood (right) was revealed by operations from a shallower depth and was recently unearthed by operation at the Cresson pit. The wood is encased in breccia, an igneous rock. photo by Steven Wade Veatch.

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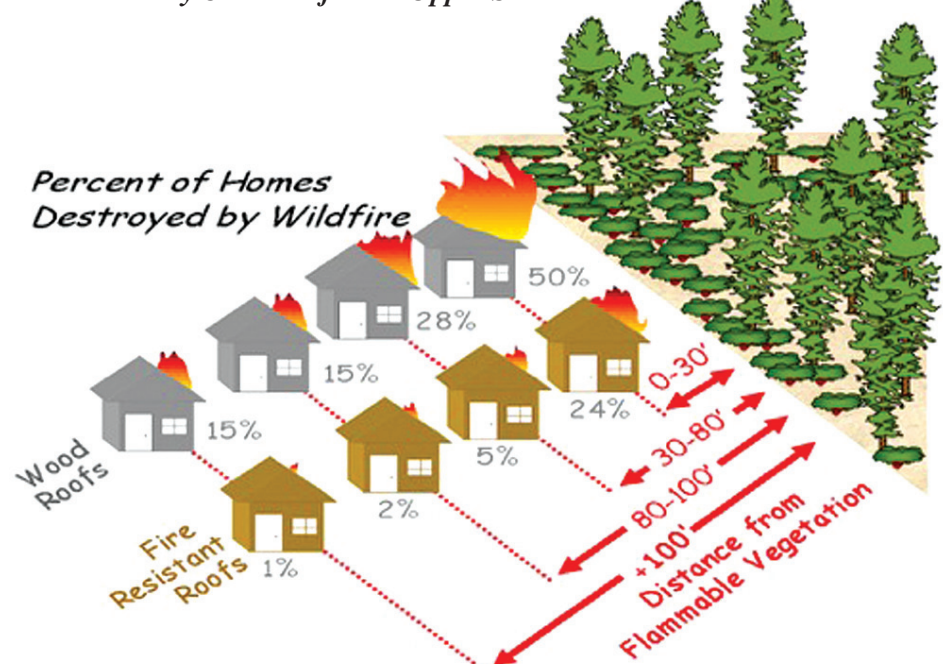
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Home Construction and Vulnerability to Wildfire

by Coalition for the Upper South Platte



At CUSP we talk a lot about defensible space on properties and around structures. In fact, two major factors determine a home's ability to survive a wildfire: defensible space and structural ignitability (the fire resistance of building materials and the design of the structure). Extensive work done around the home is certainly important and encouraged, but it doesn't replace the work that should be done to a home itself — these are complimentary activities. As more of us move into the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and even deeper into remote wooded areas, the risks increase dramatically. In the 1990's, on average, 900 homes a year in the US, were lost to wildfire in the WUI. By the turn of the new century, the average annual loss went up to 3,000 homes a year and this number is increasing at a staggering rate.

Of the many lessons learned from the Waldo Canyon Fire of 2012, one that stands out is the impact of "cascading ignitions". The intensity, spread and destructive power of a WUI fire increases rapidly as more and more structures are ignited. In the Waldo Canyon fire study, researchers discovered that only 48 of the 344 destroyed homes were ignited directly from the wildfire. Structure-to-structure spread from these early ignitions resulted in the cascading ignition of the other 296 destroyed homes.

The construction materials, location, and even the shape of a structure influence its vulnerability to wildfire. Understanding how home construction affects the vulnerability of the structure to a wildfire helps residents plan defensible space projects to compensate for construction differences. When remodeling or home improvement projects are done plans can be made to reduce the ignitability of the buildings.

Decks and roofs are the most vulnerable parts of a structure. If either burns, the home will most likely be lost. Even the most fire resistant roofs require maintenance. They are most likely to catch windblown firebrands, and air currents are more likely to form eddies that trap heat in the irregular surfaces found in roofs and decks. First task on the list is to keep the roof and gutters free of debris. Combustible debris such as leaves and pine needles may ignite from firebrands and start the home on fire even with a class A roof. Combustible litter is most likely to accumulate in areas where one shape meets another such as gables and dormer windows.

Gutters on homes in the WUI should be metal since plastic gutters will burn. Gutters will also accumulate debris. These same areas are most likely to accumulate firebrands because of eddies in wind currents during a wildfire. Combustible debris should be removed anytime it accumulates. Remember — keep areas where fuels accumulate clear. Additionally, you reduce your fire risk through the removal of trees near your home by using the defensible space principles; this also lessens your routine maintenance time.

Many homes in the area have Class A rated composite asphalt shingle or metal roofs. Home autopsies have shown that the small ridges in metal roofs where one panel over lays another can be openings where fire-

brands may collect directly on the plywood sub roof, leading to ignition of the plywood. The holes underneath such ridges should be plugged with caulking or a similar material.

The eaves (the extension of the roof over the outside wall) are also vulnerable areas. Open eaves, with the roof joists exposed, are particularly vulnerable because the irregular surfaces can trap hot gasses and firebrands. Enclosure of exposed eaves or soffits helps prevent this. It is best to construct soffits so that the lower edge of the soffit meets the wall at a 90-degree angle. This reduces the amount of heated air and firebrands that might be trapped.

Vents, in roofs and foundations, are also areas of vulnerability, but are necessary to ventilate attics and crawl spaces to prevent moisture accumulation. During a wildfire, heated gasses and firebrands can enter attics or crawl spaces through vents. All vents should be screened with metal screening

with openings of 1/8 inch or less. Soffit vents should be located as close to the edge of the eave as possible. Vegetation around foundation vents can create unintended vulnerability, particularly on the downhill side. All shrubs and vegetation should be removed from the proximity of vents.

Remove all combustible material from underneath decks. Do not store firewood or other combustible materials underneath decks, porches or overhangs. Consider sealing the deck in using Hardie board or other noncombustible siding — this will reduce the potential for heat and or firebrands to ignite anything under your deck.

Fire resistance of windows and doors should be considered as well. If window glass breaks, firebrands will enter the house. The most fire resistant glass is low emissivity, tempered glass which withstands the heat of a fire for the longest period. Double pane windows last longer than single pane when exposed to the heat of a fire.

Window frames are also important. Metal frames offer the best protection. Vinyl frames usually do not burn but can melt when exposed to heat. Wooden frames will burn. Metal screening on the outside of windows offers additional protection, but most windows are sold with nylon screening that will melt. Solid metal shutters offer the best protection, assuming the homeowner has the opportunity to close them before evacuating.

Wooden doors are obviously able to burn during a fire. The thicker the door the more resistant it will be. Metal doors are far superior, and glass in doors is subject to the same vulnerabilities as window glass. Well maintained weather stripping on outside doors will help prevent firebrands from entering a home.

Yes, we've had a wet spring; hopefully it will bring beautiful carpets of wildflowers. However, we must remember that we have no guarantee against a dry summer and conditions ripe for wildfire. By being diligent and creating both defensible space around your home maintaining the structure itself. You not only protect your property, you may also increase the value of your home. Keep in mind the importance of structural vulnerability when remodeling or building a new home in the Wildland Urban Interface.



Lanceleaf Stonecrop

Sedum lanceolatum
by Ciena Higginbotham
artwork by Ciena Higginbotham

Among Colorado's colorful array of wildflowers, one you may come across is Lanceleaf Stonecrop. With small yellow star-shaped flowers, Stonecrop sprouts up to one foot tall. Each flower has five petals that blossom in July and August. Their stems are strong with many succulent leaves. These plump leaves are up to one inch long, though the leaves are smaller farther up the stem. Sometimes they grow to form a very knobby form and sometimes they grow into a more pointed shape. The leaves are often tinged with yellow and turn to red in full sunlight. Stonecrop tends to form in clusters in exposed rocky areas. Native to western North America, it can be found along the Rocky Mountains at moderate and high elevations. From Alaska to Arizona and as far east as South Dakota and Nebraska, it is very abundant and is well able to withstand drought.

If you're looking for a trail snack, Stonecrop is a great one to look for! Eating these juicy plants is also a good way to stay hydrated when water is not available. The leaves can be gathered and eaten as a snack. With a mild taste similar to that of a cucumber, they can be eaten raw or cooked. Garlic is said to enhance their flavor. The younger plants taste better, specifically before the flowers bloom. The older plants can become quite bitter. The leaves and stems can be added to soups and stews, cooked as a hot vegetable, or the bright little flowers can be sprinkled in salad. The rootstocks can be pickled in vinegar. Stonecrop is loaded with vitamins A and C, so it is a great plant to add to your meal but as with any wild plant, you should always take caution. Although Stonecrop is not poisonous, if large quantities of this plant are eaten it can cause an upset stomach.

In addition to its edible properties, Stonecrop also has many medicinal properties. It is used to treat digestive ailments. With its laxative properties, you can chew the leaves raw or you can make an infusion of stems, leaves and flowers to soothe your

digestive system. Oddly enough, it also is a treatment for diarrhea. This same infusion has been taken to clean out the womb after childbirth. The Okanagan-Colville Indians used Stonecrop for this purpose. Because of their astringent and mucilaginous properties, the leaves can be mashed and applied to wounds, ulcers, minor burns, insect bites and other skin irritations. Stonecrop is beneficial to lung problems.

So now when you see a knobby looking plant with yellow flowers, you will know it is Stonecrop. Give it a taste! You can even try harvesting them to make some Stonecrop Salsa.

This recipe comes from a book written by local author and plant enthusiast Chris Frederick in his book *Recipes from a Wild Plant Gourmet*.

Stonecrop Salsa

Time of year: mid-May to late June

Ingredients

2 ½ cups Stonecrop leaf clusters, rinsed and chopped

6-7 Nodding Wild Onions, peeled, rinsed, and finely chopped
1/3 cup Fireweed leaves, rinsed and finely chopped
1 small can (4oz) roasted, peeled, and diced green chili
1 Tbsp. Green hot sauce
¼ tsp. salt

Directions

Place all the ingredients in a bowl. Stir them with a spoon until the ingredients are completely mixed together. Serve with tortilla chips or crackers.



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HDSA to host 5th Annual Charity Tournament

The Honorary Deputy Sheriff's Association (HDSA), announced April 29, 2016 that the HDSA will host its Fifth Annual Charity Tournament benefiting the Teller County's Sheriff Office.

The golf tournament will be held on Friday, June 17, and in partnership with the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb (PPIHC). The event takes place at Shining Mountain Golf Club located in Woodland Park, CO.

There will be a continental breakfast at the course with registration at 7 a.m. MT, followed by a shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. Participants will be able to enter various competitions held in conjunction with the tournament for prizes, including hole-in-one, lowest team net score, longest drive, and closest to the pin contests. A silent auction will be held. Following the tournament, there will be an awards ceremony and recognition Chuck Wagon lunch.

A PPIHC car, a 2008 Hyundai Tiburon, and its owner Jonathan Newcombe will be on hand, as well as the touring museum trailer for the historic race event.

HDSA has a strong passion for helping those who protect our lives and property. Since 2012, the event has become the HDSA's largest yearly-fundraiser and has generated more than \$25,000 for the sheriff's office.

"I am so pleased that we are approaching our Fifth Annual Charity golf tournament," said John Eden, HDSA president. "It has been a great success the past couple of years. We hope this year's event proves to be our most successful in the history of the HDSA, and in turn, allows us to raise more money to help meet the needs of the TCSO."

The cost is \$100 per person. A limited number of golf sponsorships are still available. Please contact Renee Bunting at BuntingGR@co.teller.co.us for more information.

Open invitation Spiritual networking group

by Robin Griffie Hall

For the past several weeks, many observers have been looking around this beautiful valley and taking note of a "change in the air." People have been feeling tired and illnesses have been affecting their daily lives. Internal battles seem to be taking place more frequently which stress our ability to process information and conduct ourselves in a "normal" way. Even our four-legged and winged friends seem to sense something new awakening. Large groups of deer, big horn sheep, antelope and eagles have been appearing at odd times and places. Of course, it is spring, but is something else going on? At the same time, more and more people have begun to talk about their own spirituality and their relationship with a higher conscience.

A small group of open-minded individuals from different backgrounds recently began to gather to discuss the cause of these occurrences. Discussions have included, among other things, alternative methods of healing that blend ancient knowledge with modern technology. The group is not part of any specific religion, but has in common their belief in the power of intention and meditation.

Content of these meetings has not been structured, but evolves around observations that have been made during the week. Discussion of each member's personal observations and knowledge is always followed by a group meditation with a specific outcome in mind.

People from all walks of life are included, from various types of healers to business owners, and the group is growing. The mission of this group is to network, talk about what is going on with this planet we call home, and to work together to affect a positive outcome each week.

Native American elders have talked about a time for humans to come together, and perhaps that time is now.

According to whitebison.org, "The Elders tell us the time will come when the four colors of Man will unite into one family. According to prophecies, we were told this would happen when the Sun was blocked in the Seventh Moon... Each of the four colors of man has knowledge that the other colors need to heal their families. Let us all be willing to sit in a circle and respect our differences."

Spiritually minded individuals seeking

higher consciousness are invited and encouraged attend a networking meeting. These take place on Sunday evenings at Cottonwood Hot Springs in Buena Vista, Colorado, beginning at 6 p.m. Agendas are not written out, but a theme will develop for each week's group. According to Cathy Manning, owner of Cottonwood Hot Springs, the group is just being launched because there is a need out there. "Some time ago, I put out a call to the universe, because so many of the people coming here just seemed lost. I built this place as a center of healing, and as one that would withstand the tests of time, politics, religion, and personal grievances. There have been many coming through here who wanted to change me, change the business, or make it into something it was never intended to be."

"We particularly want to encourage healers of all modalities to attend these networking meetings. I have studied ancient knowledge for most of my life, and also have a particular interest in blending it with modern technology," Cathy stated. "We humans are beings of energy, and understanding the way energy flows through the body is the key to healing and enlightenment."

The group as a whole will work together towards common goals, but at the same time, individuals may meet others that can help them achieve their personal ideals. We encourage people of all cultures and backgrounds to take part. Whether your gifts and skills include healing, finance, the arts, or anything else, the only requirement is a belief in a higher power. It doesn't matter if you call that power God, Creator, or conscience, you just need to recognize that it exists.

The meetings are free to whoever wants to attend, but the group reserves the right to "vote anyone out" who attends for the wrong reasons. There is no formal name for the group as yet.

"This group is not about Cottonwood Hot Springs," mused Cathy Manning. "But we are happy and proud to provide a facility for a group of good-willed people to meet."

For more information, call Cathy or ask for a networking group member at Cottonwood Hot Springs Inn & Spa, 719-395-6434. See you on Sunday!

HRRMC Foundation receives Women's Wellness Connection Grant

Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center Foundation of Salida, Colorado, has received a \$191,733 Women's Wellness Targeted Outreach Grant. This is the second year of funding from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the outreach project.

HRRMC will continue to provide outreach and recruitment services for breast and cervical cancer screenings, education and awareness to qualified women ages 40-64. Women are eligible for the grant if they are uninsured or underinsured; legally present in the United States; live within Chaffee, Park, Lake, Saguache and Fremont counties; and have a household income between 139-250 percent of the federal poverty level. Community

Health Worker Brenda Gentile and Outreach Nurse Julia Fritz will oversee the project.

"We are very grateful for the support from the Women's Wellness Connection and their partnership with us," said Kimla Robinson, HRRMC Foundation director. "The grant will allow us to continue enrolling eligible women for free cancer screenings. Preventive screenings are very important. Your best way to find cancer early is to get screened."

The HRRMC Foundation provides the hospital with financial support to facilitate innovative programs and provide state-of-the-art health care services to the Salida Hospital District. For more information about the Foundation's initiatives, call Kimla Robinson at 719-530-2218.



Nature Speaks June Bugs: The good, the bad and the ugly

by Dee DeJong

When I was a young girl my grandparents had a celebration for every month. In June there would be Ladybug candles, towels, figurines and cupcakes. As I grew up and became a naturalist, I realized that Ladybugs and June bugs were different insects and wanted to learn more about them.

Both Ladybugs and June bugs are beetle species belonging to the order Coleoptera but that is where the similarity ends.

Ladybugs are from the family Coccinellidae, with about 5,000 different species found in the world and 80 species here in Colorado.

They can be found in many bright colors saying to predators "don't eat me, I taste bad" and they really do. When under attack, as a protection mechanism, they excrete a foul tasting fluid to deter the would-be predator from eating them. The insect we are most familiar with, and the one that represented June in my family, has red to orange wing covers, called elytra, with black dots and an oval-shaped body.



Ladybug

Hooray! The Good

The Ladybug is considered a useful insect. It eats other insects such as aphids or scale on plants which in turn control the damage that these "pests" may cause. These beetles could be considered the meat eaters. They are such a success at controlling the unwanted insects that you can even order them on-line and have them shipped to you.

Now, The Bad

As the weather becomes warm, usually



June bug

in late May or June, the soil loosens and the June bugs emerge in large numbers, thus giving them their name.

June bugs are from the family Scarabaeidae, scarab beetles, with over 30,000 species found worldwide. These beetles are commonly brown with an elongated body.

This plant-eating beetle, both in the larva and adult stage can be a pest and cause quite a lot of damage to plants and grasses. These beetles could be considered the vegetarians. Approximately 100 eggs are laid by each female and they remain underground for three years eating the roots of plants and grasses, killing them. The adults emerge and then feed on the plant foliage above ground and continue this cycle for the next year or so before they die.

June bugs are nocturnal, coming out to feed only at night. Check out the lights around your property and see if you can find them. During the day they stay hidden.

Finally, The Ugly

Here in Colorado we have a couple of "pest" beetles that cause damage to our agricultural crops and forests.

The Colorado Potato beetle causes damage to one of our agricultural crops, can you guess which one? You're right, potato crops. It is also known as a Ten-Lined June beetle.

These insects will eat the foliage off of the potato plants as well as other crops such as tomatoes, eggplants and peppers which



10-lined June bug

can be found in your home garden. Signs to look for: 1.) drooping leaves and holes in the leaves, 2.) look for the egg mass that is laid on the underside of the leaves, usually colored light orange, 3.) listen for a loud hissing noise that is produced by the adult when feeling threatened, giving it the nickname "hissing beetle".

One harmless biological control for this beetle is our Ladybug beetle above which eats the eggs before they can grow into a problem insect. How cool is that?

Honorable Mention

Even though it is not in the June bug family, the Mountain Pine beetle has a large impact in our area. This beetle is found commonly in Ponderosa, Limber and Lodgepole pine forests.

There are warning signs to look for if you suspect an infestation: 1.) look for holes in the bark where the beetle entered the tree, usually oozing sap, called pitch tubes, 2.) look for sawdust in the bark or on the ground. This is a good indication of activity from both the boring insect and the woodpeckers that drill holes to feed on them. 3.) The color of the needles on the infested trees will turn yellow to red and eventually gray. When the gray stage occurs, the tree is dead and the beetle will move on. If you see large gray patches on a mountainside, it is a good bet that it was past activity by the Mountain Pine beetle. If you would like more information about the problem beetles in your area, check with your local Forest Service or Extension office.

After learning more about The Good, The Bad and The Ugly beetles of June I know why my grandparents celebrated the Ladybug. Now, I too, celebrate this "Good" insect.



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Florissant's historic gem

by Jeanne Gripp
photo by Wayne Johnston

The Florissant area is known for the gems which can be found there. Some gems are quite tangible in the form of rocks and minerals, while others take the shape of experiences and memories. The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum is one such gem. It is filled with memories of long ago and not so far away, just waiting for people to discover and explore the treasures found there and take home memories for themselves. The PPHS Museum is owned and operated by the local historical organization, the Pikes Peak Historical Society, a cultural and historic steward for America's mountain, Pikes Peak.

Upon entering the museum, visitors are greeted by a volunteer (docent) who will cheerfully assist with answers to questions, directions or even a little local chitchat. The museum has no paid employees but is run by an all-volunteer staff. The museum has a variety of displays, something of interest for everyone. A large and diverse selection of rocks, minerals and fossils of the area can be seen, quite an amazing collection for a 'little museum'. Two exceptional Smoky Quartz crystals, the largest in North America, have found homes in one corner of the room where the rocks and minerals are housed. The larger of the two crystals is four feet long and weighs over 400 pounds! To make it more unique it is doubly-terminated, meaning it comes to a point on both ends. These crystals were found by Richard Fret-

terd, a local prospector and TV celebrity.

The main room of the museum has an assortment of items used by early settlers and pioneers to the Florissant area. An original wedding dress dating back to the 1880s can be seen, looking as pretty as it did so many years ago. The Mountain Man who stands watch near the door is quite the magnet for children who marvel at his display of 'necessities' for life on the frontier. A large area has been devoted to the Native Peoples of the region, the Tabeguache Utes. Ute apparel, pottery, baskets are on display along with information about their culture. Educational material on Ute culturally modified trees, which can still be seen across Colorado, is also given.

The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum is located at 18033 Teller Road 1, only a short distance off of Hwy 24 and on the way to the Florissant Fossil Beds. If you know you're going to be in the area on one of the days when the museum isn't open, call ahead and schedule an opening a day or more in advance. The PPHS organization is very amicable and they will gladly arrange for a docent to be there and show you around. Large groups are also welcome.

The museum is open Friday, Saturday, Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. After Labor Day, the museum is open only on the weekends. Museum phone is 719-748-8259.

Jewett's now offering tastings

by Kathy Hansen
photos by Jeff Hansen

Julie and Rick Wright found their first year in business was turning out to be successful so to keep the momentum going they decided on a remodel which included a mural painted by local artist, Dixie Clare. The new mural is the perfect backdrop for their tastings; opportunities to try before you buy from various vendors.

Their first tasting was the weekend of Blossom Festival, May 6 and 7, featuring four wines from Spring Creek Vineyards and three distilled beverages from Woods Distillery of Salida. Folks had a chance to chat with the vendors, try up to four featured beverages, crunch some popcorn, and admire the beautiful mural.

There will be two tastings in June; one on the 10th and another on the 24th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The tasting on June 24 features Penasco Distillery from Mexico. Their special tequila is the Diva Tequila, which is pink in color, but is considered a silver tequila. The tasting is from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call 719-276-0643.



Mural unveiling and Wine Tasting from May 7th at Jewett's Liquor (top). Mural artist Dixie Clare with store owners Julie and Rick Wright (inset).

Alpine Music Festival

The Little Chapel Food Pantry is pleased to announce the first all day family music festival in Divide, Colorado. They are seeking vendors to help round out the entertainment. Vendors must be mutually exclusive (the Little Chapel will have a booth for burgers and hot dogs, so no other burger/hot dog vendors will be allowed). The new Ute Pass Saddle Club grounds will be the location. The event will be held August 27 from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. All proceeds benefit Little Chapel. For more information email: littlechapelfoodpantry@outlook.com or call 719-322-7610. See future issues of Ute Country News for updates.



Growing Ideas

Mulch, mulch, mulch, and mulch; did I mention mulch?

by Karen Anderson The Plant Lady

Friends are the Flowers in the Garden of Life

Anonymous

June greetings to my Mountain Gardening Friends. In the month of June, the garden becomes a treasure trove full with exciting new discoveries in the mountain garden. Gifts of new life emerging from the Earth Mother are everywhere and spring greenery gives us fresh energies and motivation.

Finally, we have some nice weather to soothe our gardening souls and warm up the Earth as well as our bodies. We are off to a great start with the abundance of moisture we have received via Mother Nature throughout the winter and spring months. Plant life depends on it and we are truly blessed so far this season. The land is saturated at this time and I would like to share my thoughts and suggestions on how to take advantage of holding on to that moisture for as long as we can. This month, I want to focus on the importance of mulching your gardens.

The definition of mulch directly from *The Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening* by the editors of the *Organic Gardening Magazine* (every gardener should have this book for quick reference) is: "A mulch is a layer of organic material placed on the soil surface to conserve moisture, hold down weeds and ultimately improve soil structure and fertility". I can't express to you enough about the importance of this basic practice in our normally dry mountain climate. The idea is a brilliant one and has been used by farmers and gardeners since humans began to grow food as a source of sustainability.

Mulching offers many advantages in most gardening scenarios. Here at Paradise Gardens, there is no time during any season that some type of mulch isn't applied to all garden beds. It protects plants during the frigid winter months by reducing freezing and heaving of the root systems. Think of this gardening practice as providing your perennial plantings with a nice warm comforter or blanket during the cold months, otherwise if the ground is allowed to freeze and thaw, heaving is likely to occur and that's not a good thing!

Moving on to springtime, since our local lands have been deeply watered recently, we want to keep it that way especially in our gardening areas as long as possible. I would suggest applying mulch (if you haven't already done so) to established plantings, including trees and shrubs in your surrounding home landscape, as well as perennial and veggie gardens. This is vital to water conservation. My basic rule is to water deeply, madly and passionately — then apply mulch — and water again. Polymers can be helpful too. That's another story. Mulches help to loosen the soil by retaining moisture and adding humus when cultivated into the gar-



There are many types of appropriate mulching materials available to use for organic gardeners.

den during the fall season. In the vegetable garden, a mulch of good old fashioned straw keeps your veggies clean and dry.

On a cautionary note, I would like to mention that mulch can work both ways. It can aid in keeping moisture in, but can also keep moisture out. It is important to check under the mulch once in a while to make sure it's not the latter situation.

There are many types of appropriate mulching materials available to use for organic gardeners. Practically any organic matter can be utilized, however there may be some processing to do before applied. Straw (not hay) is my friend and my number one choice for just about any garden area. It 'breaks down' quickly which makes it easier to cultivate into the soil. There will be some 'weed' seed germinating, such as grass, clover and dandelions, but as the soil becomes healthier, it is easy to dig them out. I recommend that you 'break it down' before you mulch by mixing some well-aged manure or other nitrogen source to a loosened pile of straw, wetting it down and turning it over every few days for a couple of weeks. This process allows many of the weed seeds to leach out as well as making the mulch easier to apply.

Other mulches include pine needles, aspen leaves and pine or cedar wood shavings, depending on your particular circumstances and what type of plants you are growing. I like to blend a lot of these different materials together and create my own recipes for various garden beds. Wood chips, small and large will work for big trees and shrubs; however, my experience with these chunks has led me to avoid them. They break down very slowly and I have discovered that ants and other pests like to hang out underneath the debris to nest and lay eggs, which in turn creates more problems for you to deal with! Think more light and fluffy for better results

when mulching. The main idea is to retain moisture, protect the plants from harsh winds and sun, reducing the weed population, and improving the health of your soil. You will be truly amazed at how a little bit of mulch will improve your gardening endeavors.

I would like to clarify what I mentioned last month about the Golden Rule of not digging. Aspens after they have leafed out. You cannot successfully dig them up at that time, but that certainly does not mean that you can't plant trees that have been dug, balled and bur-lapped at the appropriate time. If I can help to hook you up with these types of plantings, feel free to give me a call at 719-748-3521.

I am also available to guide you along in your High Altitude Gardening endeavors by providing the service of a personal landscape consultation as well as offering high altitude seed collected from Paradise Gardens, established in 1977. There are tomato, pepper, and herb starts still up for 'adoption', but call me soon as they are quite popular due to their organic, non-gmo and heirloom qualities.

I would like to take this opportunity to give a big shout out THANK YOU to my good friend Nancy Desilets for diligently working on the new and greatly improved seed package labels for me. Her skills and creative talents have given new life to a package of seeds and I am forever grateful to her for helping me out with that project as well as many, many other marketing tasks. I love ya, girlfriend!

Enjoy your journey as you tend to the spring chores of the Mountain Gardener. Sip on a frosty glass of fresh lemonade with a sprig of fresh mint, treat yourself to the most fetching straw hat you can find, and relish in the warmth of sunshine and friendship. Happy Gardening!

E-mail plantladyspeaks@gmail.com or phone me 719-748-3521.



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Just The Facts Colorado quakes

by James Hagadorn



A 10' long crack formed in the wall on the 2nd floor of the Cokedale, CO post office and city hall after the 2011 Trinidad earthquake. photo by Matt Morgan



These large book cases in Segundo, CO toppled over during the shaking associated with the 2011 Trinidad, CO earthquake. photo by Matt Morgan



Collapsed front of a brick building (note crushed mailbox) in Segundo, CO, after the 2011 Trinidad, CO earthquake. photo by Matt Morgan



Old adobe building in Segundo, CO with cracked windows and displaced plaster, after the 2011 Trinidad, CO earthquake. photo by Matt Morgan



Garage in Valdez, CO, with huge crack at its upper right corner, after the 2011 Trinidad, CO earthquake. photo by Matt Morgan

When the earthquake hit, I was in the shower. A quick debate ensued — ought I dress or just dive for cover below the nearest desk? Was Godzilla stomping by my California motel? Nope — but a mere decade later, I was surprised to learn that earthquakes like this are increasingly becoming part of Coloradans' experience.

That's because we're causing earthquakes to happen, and we're not very prepared for them.

An earthquake is a rapid shaking of the ground that occurs when a fault, or underground crack, moves suddenly. Like tossing a pebble in a pond, underground waves ripple through the ground when the earth lurches, translating energy from the epicenter to distant regions.

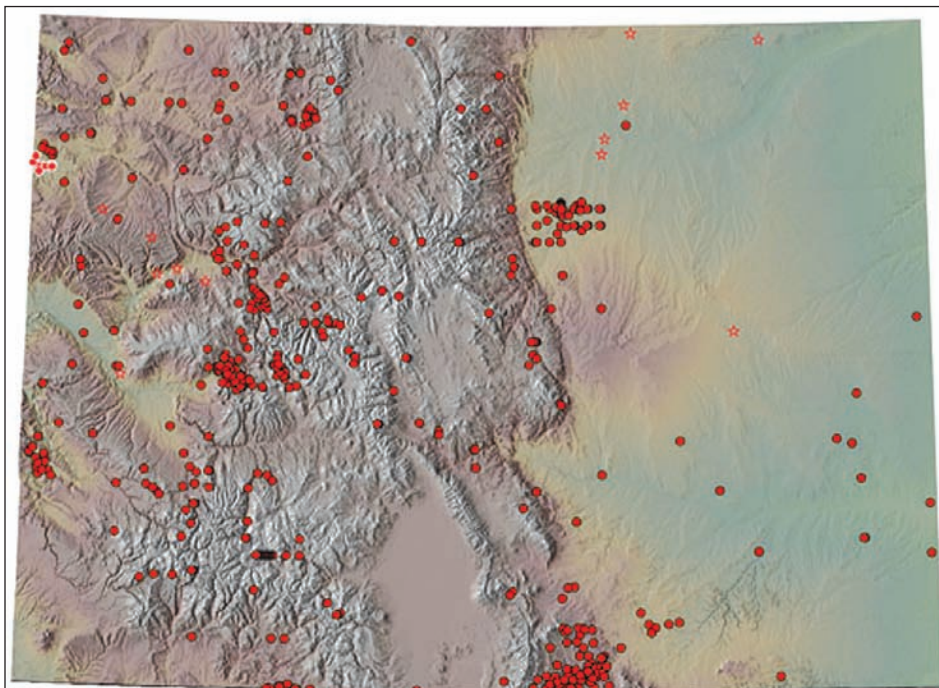
These cracks and faults move periodically. Usually they're triggered by continents pushing against one another or by volcanos rumbling. In Colorado these movements aren't common, and typically result in small earthquakes. The biggest local hot-zones for such activities are in our mountains. There are a few exceptions — like tremors that occasionally stem from gnarly but little-known faults near Commerce City and La Junta. Or the really big quake that hit Estes Park in 1882 — it was about the same size as the Northridge quake that devastated Los Angeles in 1994.

But we've been steadily raising the stakes in our local earthquake hazard scene. Whether by blowing up underground nukes or stuffing undrinkable water underfoot, we've triggered plenty of quakes.

Is fracking to blame? Hardly. Fracking does cause micro-quakes, but most of these are tiny and can't be felt.

Is extraction of oil, gas, or ground-water to blame? Not directly. Although sometimes the removal of fluids from the pore space in underground strata causes ground slippage, such movements are generally small and don't produce many quakes that we can feel. Triggered quakes mostly result from our injection of fluids into the ground where subsurface faults were unknown to exist. These fluids include: i) wastewater that's removed from oil-bearing rocks in the process of extracting oil; ii) salty surface waters that we're trying to keep from contaminating waterways; iii) stinking water removed as a by-product of extracting natural gas from coal beds; and iv) fracking fluids.

Ironically, we've known about this phenomenon for a half century because the world's scientific community discovered it right here in Colorado. Back in the 1960s, when earthquakes were suddenly wreaking havoc in Denver, a geologist named David Evans figured



Earthquakes in Colorado, 1867 to present. Credit: CGS

out that they were caused by the Army's injection of chemical weapons waste into the bedrock. The US Geological Survey confirmed this work with some nifty experiments out in a Rangely Oil Field — directly proving that pumped fluids can cause earthquakes.

The logic is as follows. When we inject waste fluids into the ground, it increases the overall pressure of water that's already trapped between subsurface layers. This in turn causes a pressure wave, which can travel fairly long distances underground. When the wave encounters a fault, it can destabilize it. Ka-thwam! The fault moves and an earthquake occurs.

But there's a challenge. This fluid pressure chain-reaction can trigger faults located tens of miles away from



Geologists Matt Morgan and Robert Kirkham of the CGS examine evidence for movement along a fault, after trenching through soils deformed by the fault and mapping their internal structure. photo by Dave Noe

where the waste is injected, often with a time-lag that makes it hard to link cause with effect. Some state agencies and academic institutions, in cooperation with our region's oil and gas companies, have been working to better characterize these systems so we can dispose of these fluids sans earthquakes.

Fortunately, most such "induced" earthquakes are small. But in the last decade the moderate-sized ones have become more common. Witness Oklahoma, which now has more quakes than California. A tiny fraction of these tremors are big enough to disrupt our lives — sometimes toppling furniture, breaking windows, and splitting foundations. See the known faults and quakes in your neighborhood at <http://dnrwebcomap.state.co.us/CGSONline/>

Although Colorado's risk for big earthquakes is low, its vulnerability is increasing. In part this is because we're rapidly expanding our built environment. Yet our building codes and infrastructure aren't designed to resist quakes as systematically as occurs in quake-prone places like California or Alaska. Although we might not need to be prepared for "the big one", there's greater risk in not being prepared at all for the "most likely one".

So what can we do? First, think about what might fall onto your head during a middle-of-the-night tremor. Second, consider strapping your gas water heater to the wall. This \$10 solution will keep your house from burning down should your heater tip over during a quake. When the quake hits? Drop, cover, and hold on. Maybe skip the selfie.

James Hagadorn, Ph.D., is a scientist at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Suggestions and comments welcome at jwhagadorn@dmns.org

One Nation Walking Together Powwows

by Al Walter and Kelsey Comfort

photo by Paul Gowler on powwows.com

It's an overwhelmingly beautiful experience — the dazzling colors, the powerful beating of the drum, the haunting melodies sung. This is only part of what you experience at one of the major Native American celebrations, the powwow. Powwows are social gatherings of Native Americans who continue the dances that were begun centuries ago by their ancestors and that have continually evolved.



The powwow is the Native American's way of meeting together to join in dancing, singing, visiting, renewing old friendships and making new ones. This is a time to renew thoughts of the old ways and to preserve a rich heritage. For this reason, powwows spread across the plains quickly and today serve as one of the main cultural activities of Native Americans.

The modern-day powwow evolved from the Grass Dance Societies that occurred in the early 19th century. The Grass Dance Societies provided an opportunity for warriors to re-enact great deeds for the members of the tribe. When Native Americans were forcibly removed from their lands and confined to reservations, regrettably, many ceremonies and customs were banned during this period, but because the Grass Dances were considered more social, they were allowed to continue. Many different



WPMS Girls' STEM Club

Patrice Schnierle, 7th grader at Woodland Park Middle School, was surprised by Kathleen Fitzpatrick, executive director of the Southern Colorado Girl's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Initiative, who presented Patrice a scholarship to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, AL, in July. Patrice is the only student from the Pikes Peak Region who will be attending the camp, along with her science teacher Mindy Wiley, who runs the WPMS Girls STEM Club. Patrice was surprised at school with members of her family present.

Pictured from left: Jacques Schnierle (dad), Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Patrice, Mary Schnierle (mom) and Dominique Schnierle (sister.) Congratulations Patrice!

Adopt Me

by Teller County Regional Animal Shelter

Zoie

Hi there. My name is Zoie. I am a very cute girl looking for a forever home. I love people. I get along with other cats, but it may take me a little time. I would love for you to come meet me...I'm waiting right here at TCRAS located at 308 Weaverville Road in Divide for you. You can call 719-686-7707 if you have any questions as the staff is always willing to help!



tribes were pushed together when American Indians were restricted to reservations, and it soon became necessary to share the tradition of the Grass Dance between tribes. This is how modern powwows became intertribal; songs, dances, clothing, food and art were shared (powwows.com).

Today, Native American powwows have evolved from a formal ceremony into a modern blend of dance, family reunion and festival. Powwows are famous for their pageantry of colors and dance. The powwow has adapted and changed into a bright, fast and exciting event geared toward Native Americans and visitors alike.

Modern powwows are held all year across North America and can take place anywhere from open fields to convention centers. These events typically last only one week-end, but usually draw Native Americans and visitors from many miles away.

According to Richard West, former Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, "powwows are a powerful contemporary device for getting together as Indians; and, in that respect, they are a potent cultural and social connector among contemporary Indian communities."

Dances have always been an important part of Native American life. While dance styles

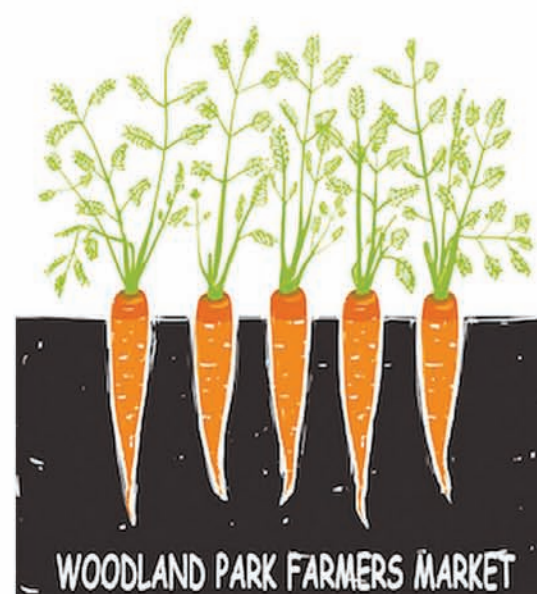


and content have changed over the years, their meaning and importance have remained. Some of the different dances you may witness at a powwow include: Women's Traditional Dance, Men's Northern Traditional Dance, Men's Southern Traditional Dance, Oklahoma Feather Dance, Women's Fancy Shawl, Jingle Dress, Grass Dance, and Tiny Tots. Powwow singers are also very important in the Native American culture. Without them, there would be no dancing. The songs can be religious, war

or social. For non-Natives with limited exposure to American Indian culture, public events like the powwow not only serve to dispel stereotypes, they provide the larger community with a chance to experience a Native American gathering firsthand and to gain an understanding of Native culture and traditions.

Mark your calendars! One Nation Walking Together will be hosting an annual intertribal powwow on Saturday, July 16, at the Mortgage Solutions Financial EXPO Center located at 3650 N. Nevada Ave. in Colorado Springs. Join us from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for Native vendors and food, singing, dancing, and more. Last year, between 2,000 to 3,000 people attended. This family-friendly gathering allows people of all ages to enjoy the sights and sounds of a cultural event that has its roots in Native traditions dating back hundreds of years.

For more information about the Annual One Nation Powwow, visit www.ColoradoSpringsPowwow.org.



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Have a cute critter? Send us your favorite critter photos and we'll feature them here in the Critter Corner! Indoor or outdoor pets or wild critters are what we're looking for. We will not accept any photos depicting cruelty or harming animals in any way. Email your critters to utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com. Be sure to include the critter's name as well as your name.

Magic

by Danielle Dellinger

Where am I? What happened? Spell opened her eyes, looking around. She was in a strange place, a strange time period. She didn't recognize the shiny, bulky contraptions that sped by on the road outside of the alley. The speed at which they flew by made her head spin. She pushed herself up to her feet, using the brick wall for support. As she walked out onto the sidewalk, people passing her looked her over and would occasionally smirk or chuckle to themselves or their companion. After the sixth person snorted as they passed her, she looked down at herself. Why were people laughing at her? The clothes she was wearing were regular Victorian women's attire. What was wrong with that? Spell raised her head, trying to see what everyone else was wearing compared to her. Now she knew why those people had been laughing at her. She didn't look anything like them. Not even close.

All she wanted to do right then was find out where she was and why she was there. As she made her way down the street, she looked for anything that would tell her the date and the name of the city. Her dress billowed about her, slapping against people's legs as she passed them. Most of them made noises of disdain. She could feel her cheeks rapidly flushing. She eventually ducked into a restaurant, and timidly approached the hostess.

"Excuse me, miss, but might I use your chamber pot?" The hostess frowned, clearly annoyed. "I don't know what that is."

Spell racked her brain for a way to communicate what she wanted. "I need to wash my hands," she said, raising them up to show the woman.

The hostess rolled her eyes. "The bathroom is down there to the right."

Spell curtsied, then briskly walked away. When she walked into the chilled, tiled room, she shivered. It seemed unnaturally cold in there. Curious about the stalls, she went to one and peered in. It perplexed her as to why there were two more, and one being of a much larger size than the others. She went back to the first stall and stepped inside, latching the door. She then pulled out a small knife from inside the cuff of her sleeve and started to hack away at her dress. Folds of clothing fell to the floor. Soon all that was left was a raggedy skirt that went to mid-thigh. Her stockings came to her knees, and her heeled boots mid-calf. She stepped out of the stall and gazed at herself in the mirror.

"I might as well be naked," she muttered. "Though, I've never had a problem with that."

Trying to keep some dignity, she walked out of the restaurant with her head held high. She didn't make eye contact with the hostess. Once she was a block away from the restaurant, she noticed that the looks she was getting were now of a creepy nature. Her skin crawled as her eyes met with a man, and he slowly licked his lips. Being afraid of men was nothing new to her. She'd been taught to keep men happy, otherwise bad things would happen. She hurried by the man, her head down.

"What's the matter, sexy? Where you goin' in a hurry?" His creepiness made her gag and roll her eyes, but she didn't let him see that. Instead, she kept walking. "Hey! Don't be rude, sexy, I'm talking to you!"

She heard him fall in step behind her. Her heart raced while her palms turned clammy.

The next thing she knew his hand was on her butt and squeezing.

She spun effortlessly around and grabbed his wrist, staring hard into his eyes.

"Rathrika," she said, low and forcefully. "He stared back at her, then burst into laughter. "You're a weirdo, huh?"

Why had nothing happened, she asked herself. He should've jerked away from her in agonizing pain with black sludge dripping from his wrist. Why hadn't he? There hadn't even been a hint of magic.

The guy grabbed her arm with his other hand and yanked her into him. Spell kept her face neutral, to not let him know that he was scaring her. She had been taught to fight, but hadn't had any lessons for several years. Her mind raced as she struggled to find a move that would make him let go. Finally, with a glare on her face, she went for the classic knee to the groin. "Don't touch a lady without permission," she growled after he dropped like a fly to the ground, howling in pain.

She left him there on the sidewalk, keeping her hands clenched so she didn't show how much she was shaking. She forced herself not to look back at him, because she didn't want to give that scum any more thought. Her thoughts clouded her mind, and she almost walked right by a library, which she knew would answer her questions about where she was and the date. As she entered the building, she was hit with the familiar and calming scent of books. She stopped for a moment and inhaled deeply, letting the incident with the man fade away.

"I know the feeling," said a voice. Spell jumped and looked in the direction of who had spoken. It was a woman behind the information desk. She gave Spell a warm smile.

"Welcome to the Penrose Public Library. Can I help you?"

Spell shyly approached the desk, holding her hands together in front of her waist. "Yes, please. Where am I and what's the date?" She could see a hint of concern cross the woman's face.

"You're in the city of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the date is May 1st, 1816."

Spell must have appeared extremely confused and lost because the woman came around the desk. She put a gentle hand on Spell's shoulder. "Do you need help? Are you in trouble?" she asked quietly. "There's no shame in asking for a helping hand."

Spell blinked, shaking her head. "Uh, no. It's fine-I'm fine." She mustered a smile. "Thank you," she said, bowing her head then turning to leave.

"You're welcome, miss," replied the woman.

"Oh," Spell said, stopping at the door. "Where might I find books pertaining to the 1800s?"

"Right down there," the woman answered, pointing. Spell bowed her head. "Thank you, kindly," she said, going in the direction she'd pointed.

When she found it, she scanned the shelves, looking for a year at least close to the one she'd come from. It took a little bit of time, but she found a book titled *The War of 1812*. She was from the year 1814. She knelt on the ground, flipping through the pages and deeply frowning with the more pages she turned. Why wasn't there any mention of the soldiers of the Enchanted Army? They'd been participating in the war just as much as everyone else. But here, in this book, they'd never even existed. True, they'd been acting more as mediators to keep the peace so everyone could get the supplies they desperately needed, but they still deserved to be mentioned. They were on Great Britain's side, willing to help the cause. The U.S. had started the war due to restrictions on trade with other countries, the impressment of thousands of American sailors into service with the British navy, and the continued military support for the Native Americans to fight the expansion of the U.S. territory.

Spell closed the book and leaned her head back against a shelf. She had to get back to help her fellow army members. They all had powers they'd been born with, and were named after their abilities. Be-

cause Spell's power included reciting spells, that was her name. It'd taken a lot of training to get where she was today, but she'd never thought she'd ever be able to lose her powers. She hadn't been able to come up with a reason for why they were gone.

Sighing heavily, she lifted her head and reopened the book, realizing that it must tell of how the war was going to end. She figured she could return to her time with that knowledge and help her army and country succeed somehow if the war was not to end in their favor. She turned to the appropriate page, reading over the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, which was signed December 24, 1814, and only awarded the U.S. the ability to expand into the Great Lakes region. Even though this was the only issue resolved in the treaty, the U.S. still saw it as a great victory.

At the moment, she wasn't sure how she could use that information to help out in the war. She flipped back through the pages again, stopping on a black and white illustration of the White House, the capitol building, and other structures on fire. The caption talked of how the burning of the buildings pictured occurred in August 1814 as retaliation for U.S. forces burning government buildings in Canada. Spell lifted the book closer to take in the detail of the picture.

She felt drawn to it. As if she might be pulled into it at any moment. She set the book back in her lap. Was there a way she could transport herself there? But if there was a way, how could she do it without magic? Her mouth twisted as she thought, trying to remember if they'd ever been taught what to do in a situation like this.

Then, something came to mind. Her teacher had mentioned that every library, no matter the time period or dimension, had a secret room. In that room was a book that would act as a portal in emergencies. However, the room's location would vary from library to library.

Spell got up and put the book back on the shelf, and started to wander, keeping her eyes peeled for any sort of hint. She searched high and low, but to no avail. Her frustration mounted, and she stopped at a window to look out at Pike's Peak. The clouds were rolling over it. Since she was on the backside of the library, she happened to look down at where the dumpsters were. Something shimmered, catching her attention. She ran for the stairs and thudded down them as fast as she could, bursting out the back door and into the empty back lot. She spotted the dumpsters a few yards away and ran to them. Right before them was a gray, metal door. It looked like it was a utility room.

She stopped and looked at the door, perplexed by the vibe coming from it. Cautiously, she stretched out her hand, barely letting it touch the knob. An involuntary, violent tremor shot through her arm, up into her neck, then up into her head, causing her head to be tossed back. Bright red flashed in her mind's eye, causing her skin to prickle and break out into goosebumps. She gave a strangled gasp, coming back to reality, and yanked open the door.

It was indeed a utility closet, but with very few things inside. She grabbed the first thing she could, and began tossing it all out behind her onto the pavement. Once everything was out in the parking lot behind her, she came to a terrifying conclusion.

The book wasn't there. Why wasn't it there, she wondered. She stepped inside, feeling over the walls for any possibly hidden switches or compartments.

Nothing. She stepped out of the closet, her heart racing as fast as a flying hummingbird's wings.

What now? Go to another library and try to find another book? Yes, that was what she must do.

Spell went back inside, heading straight for the information desk. The same woman as before greeted her.

"Hello again. Did you find what you were looking for?" she asked, smiling.

"Not quite. Perchance do you have a map of all the other libraries in the city?" Spell inquired. She nodded. "I do." She dug around behind the desk for a moment, then pulled out a thick map folded in half. "Here you go. Anything else I can help you with?"

Spell took the map and opened it up, finding where she currently was, then looked for all the libraries that were closest to her. "Uh, no. I mean, no thanks, ma'am. Thank you kindly for your help," she said, finally peering around the map to look at the woman.

The woman smiled, and Spell noted the name on the nametag. Magi. She puzzled over the name as she left that library and started for the nearest one.

By the third library, nothing had turned up. All of the books were gone. It didn't make any sense. There had to be at least one still around. But, it was closing time for the library she was currently in, so she started for the exit. When she stepped out into the cool, crisp air of evening, a raven squawked loudly above her.

Spell looked up out of surprise. The raven circled above her, then banked right and across the bustling street. Spell sensed she was supposed to follow, so she did.

The raven led her to a park, where it landed on top of a large fountain. The large elm, maple, and oak trees towered over everyone, creating what felt like a haven from the outside world. The raven squawked again, then sailed down to the water, standing in it. Spell walked toward it, and when she was just close enough to speak to it, it took off into the air.

"Wait!" she called, hurrying after it.

She was led into the trees, and watched as the raven began to claw at the bark of nearly every tree it passed. Spell's brows furrowed together. What strange behavior for a raven. She stopped to look at the marks on the trunk of one tree. Oddly enough, they seemed to have the shape of pages, not the chaotic crisscrossing of scratches she'd been expecting. She ran her fingers over the grooves, and one acted like it wanted to turn as if it were a page in a book.

A lightbulb went off in her mind. She pinched the bark between the grooves and turned it like a page. Amazingly, the trunk of the tree was also a book. She looked at the symbols and diagrams on the pages. None of it made sense to her.

"Hello, Spell Traveler," a voice spoke from behind her.

Spell jumped and partially turned to see who it was, keeping her finger on the page so she wouldn't lose her spot. Her eyes widened when she realized who it was.

"Drainger? Why're you here?"

The young man in flowy silver robes looked down. "To keep you here. You cannot return. You cannot interfere any more than you already have."

To be continued . . .

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Cost-share helps landowners manage noxious weeds

by Dan Carlisle

The 2016 weed season is upon us and it's time once again to get out the Teller Park Conservation District (TPCD) spray truck, calibrate the spray equipment, fire up the GPS mapping device, and start hitting the county roads looking for those pesky noxious weeds. It's also time to start meeting with landowners who have already noticed noxious weeds popping up on their property.

We can help with identification of weed species, management strategies, herbicide product selection, as well as non-herbicide alternatives. We also offer herbicides and grass seed mixtures for sale in our Woodland Park office.

This year, the TPCD board of supervisors again voted to provide a \$5,000 cost-share program. The cost-share program offered by Teller Park Conservation District is available to landowners in Teller and Park Counties who have at least 5 acres of taxable land. The cost-share program provides a rebate of 50 percent up to a maximum of \$250 of the cost to spray noxious weeds. The rebate is also available to landowners who purchase herbicide and do it themselves. Landowners must also be treating at least one of the weeds listed on the Cost-Share Application, which can be downloaded from www.TellerParkCD.org.

If you are interested in the cost-share program, please give us a call at 719-686-9405 x104 to see if you qualify for the program.

The mean, the green, and the locoweed

Three noxious weed species that are of particular concern not only in Ute Country, but throughout all of Colorado. The first species, Black Henbane, has been found in Teller and Park Counties but so far only in small, isolated patches. The other two species, Leafy Spurge and Locoweed, are found in all of Ute Country. Each of these three species can pose problems for both animals and humans if left untreated.



Black Henbane leaves a stark skeleton of sturdy stalk after flowering.

Black Henbane

Black Henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) is an ornamental plant originally from Eurasia that has spread throughout the United States. It is certainly a "mean" plant in terms of the potential harm it can cause to both animals and humans. It contains hyoscyamine and other alkaloids which have been known to cause livestock poisoning. The plant has a

foul odor and all its parts are potentially poisonous to humans. Fortunately, because the plant does emit a foul odor, livestock avoid it unless they have no other forage.

The plant is a member of the nightshade family and blooms June through September and may be an annual or biennial. Plants grow from one to four feet tall. The leaves are coarsely-toothed to shallowly lobed and pubescent. Flowers, blooming along the long racemes, are brownish-yellow with a purple center and purple veins.

Black henbane is usually found on disturbed and overgrazed soils. Therefore, guarding against disturbance and overuse can be a good preventative measure against black henbane. Mechanical control and herbicides are the most commonly recommended methods of managing it. There are currently no biological controls available for managing Black Henbane.



Leafy Spurge has green leaves and greenish-yellow flowers.

Leafy Spurge

Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) is also a non-native, deep-rooted perennial that spreads by seed and extensive, creeping roots. The roots can extend as deep as 30 feet into the soil and are extremely wide-spreading. These roots contain substantial nutrient reserves that allow the weed to recover from stress, including control efforts. Many vegetative buds along roots grow into new shoots. This contributes to its persistence and spread.

Leafy spurge is very competitive. It's one of the first plants to emerge each spring and uses moisture and nutrients that otherwise would be available for more desirable vegetation, such as native plants. The leaves are bluish-green and the flowers are very small and yellowish-green. They are enclosed by a very visible yellowish-green, heart-shaped bract and contain a white, milky latex in all plant parts. Latex distinguishes leafy spurge from other weeds. A combination of control methods may need to be used to achieve the best results.

Besides being difficult to control, the "Green" Leafy Spurge presents other problems of concern, especially to ranchers. The weed can reduce rangeland cattle carrying capacity by 50 to 75 percent. About half of this loss is from decreased grass production. Cattle won't graze in dense leafy spurge stands and these areas are a 100 percent loss to producers.

Leafy Spurge can be treated with herbicide, by encouraging grass growth to crowd it out, and by allowing sheep or goats to graze it before it goes to seed. Research from Montana State University indicates sheep may consume up to 50 percent of their diet as leafy spurge. Introduce sheep to leafy spurge in early spring when the weed is succulent. Goats will consume leafy spurge at almost any time during the growing season.



Locoweed can quickly overtake native plant populations.

Locoweed

Locoweed (*Oxytropis lambertii*) is a common name in North America for any plant that produces swainsonine, a phytoxin harmful to livestock. Locoweed is relatively palatable to livestock, and some individual animals will seek it out. Livestock poisoned by chronic ingestion of large amounts of swainsonine develop a medical condition known as locoism. Locoism is reported most often in cattle, sheep, and horses, but has been reported also in elk and deer. It is the most widespread poisonous plant problem in the western United States.

Locoweed is a perennial herb producing a patch of basal leaves around the root crown, and several showy erect flowers ranging from white, to blue and pink, to purple and all shades in between. The leaf is compound with several silvery-green leaflets. This plant became quite prolific throughout Ute Country last year, due to the increased precipitation. It could be seen all along the roadsides and often growing in huge patches throughout pastures and meadows. Already, this year seems to be a repeat of last year. Herbicide is an effective remedy to reducing locoweed stands.

As you can see there are some species of noxious weeds that have the potential to become much more problematic than just being an eyesore.

Dan Carlisle is a weed management specialist with Teller-Park Conservation District. You can reach him at DanCarlisleTPCD@gmail.com.

Teller-Park Conservation District is just one of the founding members of the Upper Arkansas Weed Management Association. Chaffee County weed managers can be reached at (719) 539-3455 and Fremont County weed managers can be reached at 719-276-7317. All of these organizations work together to eradicate and manage weeds in the Upper Arkansas River Watershed.



The Psychic Corner

Avoid this roadblock that prevents answers from being received

by Claudia Brownlie

So, you've calmed yourself and are in a relaxed state. Your energy/vibrational level is good. You're preparing to open yourself up to your higher, intuitive Self as there is a question that you really want an answer to, such as: Will I ever get married? When will I get a promotion? Will I pass the exam? Will my child stop doing drugs? Will I ever get well again? But try as you may, nothing comes through. You wonder why your higher Self, or your Spirit Guide, or the Universe, isn't providing even a hint of information for you. What's going on? What's the roadblock to your desired insight?

Well, simply put, it's all in the way you pose the question. Two factors affecting answers coming forth for us even for a professional psychic intuitive, hinges on 1) The future is always changing and shifting; and 2) what is going to happen in the months or years to come depends on the actions that you and the other people involved choose to take between now and then. Yes — it can be difficult to receive accurate insight on the many variables regarding a situation, especially when none of them have happened yet!

Instead of asking, "When will I get the promotion I want?" it's better to ask, "How can I improve my chances of getting a promotion?"

Now of course there are times that you or your psychic consultant may be able to nail it on the head with information on something that will transpire in the future for you. Let's face it — that's why people go to psychics, palm readers, tarot readers and

the like. We all want "the answer" that will provide clarity and insight on how to proceed with solving or ending the problem or concern. But we need to understand we will fare better if we can re-word our questions to allow better information to more easily come through.

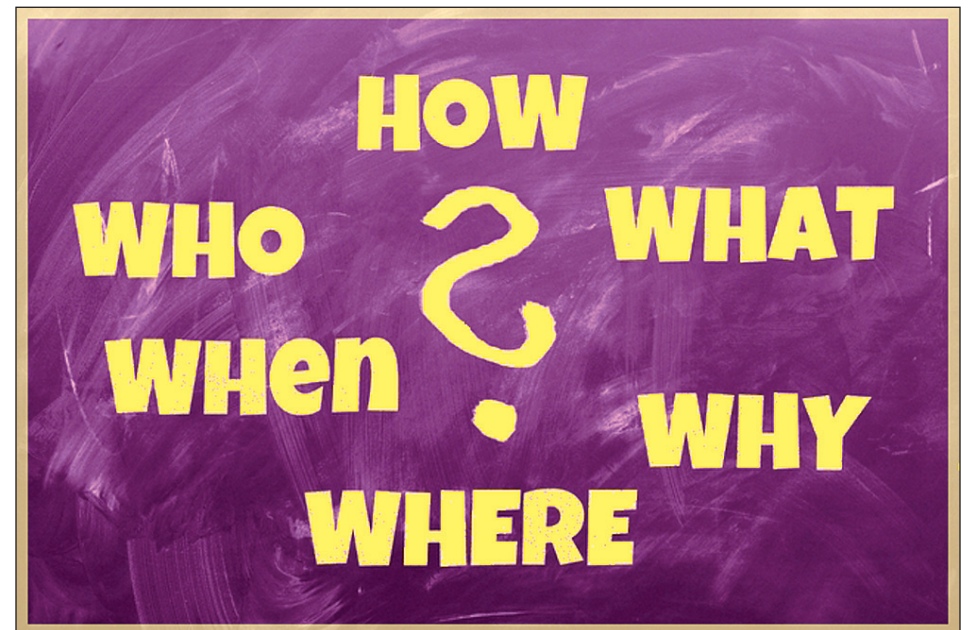
Trying to get answers from the powers above also hinges upon other very important factors that are out of your control but pretty much boil down to one important point: there usually are others who affect or have an influence on what may happen for you, and these folks may even determine the outcome of your situation. How they are involved, how they are reacting to your situation, what they decide to do, what whim may suddenly sway them in one direction or another at any given time and maybe a multiple of times, what life-events and influences they're dealing with in their own life, along with all the other variables that can change things in the blink of an eye must be considered.

You know you really can't control anyone to do, or say, or think a certain way. So, it is very important to understand that to improve the likelihood of as accurate a prediction as possible on what will happen in the future is all in how you ask the question.

The best way to pose a question regarding the future

I recommend to you, as I do to my clients, that it's much more effective to ask HOW you can bring about the future outcome you want.

Instead of asking, "When will I get the promotion I want?" it's better to ask, "How can I improve my chances of getting a promotion?" Instead of, "When will I get married?" it's more effective to ask, "What can I do to position myself to meet a future mate who will love and respect me in a healthy and compatible manner?"



Hopefully, insight will start coming through soon after your question is presented. Most times you will receive information that is of a practical nature such as, "A promotion is likely; however it seems you are falling short in a certain area of your job performance that your boss is aware of. By addressing this and correcting the issue you are causing, then it does seem you'll be up for a promotion." Or, "You cannot attract a loving life partner until you deal with some of the self-loathing you have been carrying around for years. You need to work on getting yourself into a healthier, happier and more loving space. It appears once you do that, then the doors to meet that special someone will open up."

I also want to add another important piece to bringing about any desired outcome: Even if good insight does come through to you from the Universe and your higher Self, you can't just sit back and wait for it all to hap-

pen. It's a proven fact that we have to step up to the plate and put forth positive effort and energy into working toward the changes we desire. The Universe does respond to those who put forth the effort to improve a situation, attitude, habit, etc. Remember — in most all instances the ability to influence your future lies in your own hands.

See you next month, with love, light, and blessings.

Claudia Brownlie is a Woodland Park, Colorado-based Professional Psychic Intuitive Consultant and certified Life Coach, serving clients locally and world-wide. Telephone and Skype video chat appointments are available. Claudia also provides classes and lectures, and offers psychic reading services tailored for corporate events and private parties. For more information please call her: 719-602-5440. Or visit her website: ClaudiaBrownlie.com.

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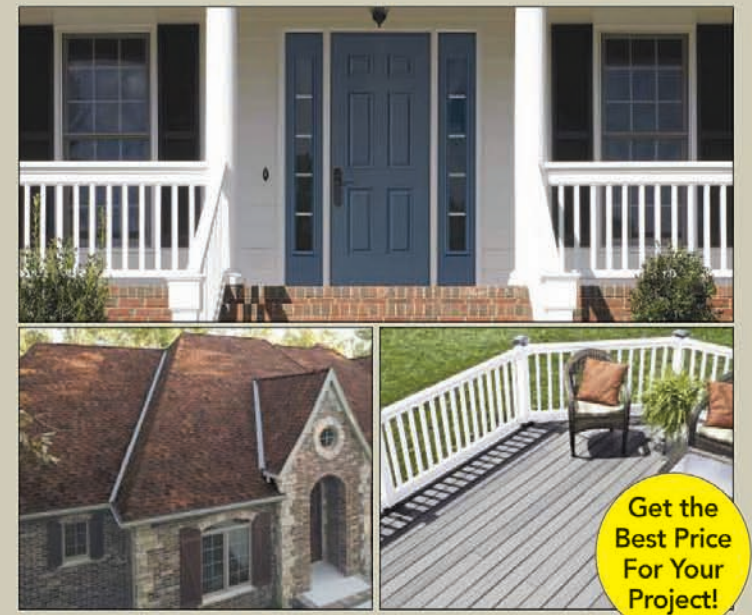
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Outspokin' Bicycle Rentals

by Flip Boettcher
photo by Flip Boettcher

Eric Hatfield, Dillon Bellino, and Charlette Henger, are the new owners of Outspokin' Bicycle Rentals in Florence. Dillon is also the shop manager and bike tech, he said. The owners sent Dillon to Barnett Bicycle Institute in Colorado Springs to become a certified bike tech.

Outspokin' handles bicycle rentals, repairs, and sales. They are located at 124 S. Pikes Peak Avenue, a block south of Main Street, across from the new Florence Brewing Company and the Pioneer Museum. Outspokin' is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can also find them on Facebook/outspoken.com. Outspokin' had its Grand Opening festival May 14 and celebrated with music, bikes and beer, said Dillon.

According to Dillon, the owners are all very passionate about cycling and their community. There were no bicycle shops in the area, prompting them to open one.

Outspokin' wants to get the community involved in cycling and will be hosting monthly community bike rides, according to Dillon.

Florence is a great place to ride a bike. It is fairly flat and many streets are tree-lined.



Dillon Bellino in the Outspokin' Bicycle Rental shop.

So, remember what Dillon says, "Life is like a bicycle; to keep your balance you must keep moving."

Outspokin' Bicycle Rentals is sponsoring a community bike ride the last Friday of the month. Call 719-422-9667 for more info.

Renovations to Veteran's Hall in Woodland Park

photos by Larry Ingram



What today is known as Veteran's Hall in Woodland Park, Colorado was originally built in 1935 by the Manitou Park Grange. Located just north of the Shining Mountain golf course the building has been used by various community groups for meetings and various activities. In 2001, the building was purchased by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 6051 of Woodland Park with the stipulation that the memorabilia left by the Grange remain so that if they wished to use the facility again they could. The facility is now used by both the VFW and American Legion Post 1980 of Woodland Park.

In 2015 a grant was received from the Home Depot Foundation for the renovation of the facility. This grant not only funded the lumber, paint, sheetrock, wiring and fixtures necessary modernize the facility, but also organized volunteers that are employees of Home Depot and their vendors to do the work. The renovation was coordinated by D.M.I Builders contracting company. Over 170 volunteers worked on the renovation which began 11th of April and was completed 11th of May when a dedication ceremony was held by the VFW and American Legion Post 1980.



Woodland Aquatic Center breaks ground

photo by Jeff Hansen



The City of Woodland Park officially broke ground on the Woodland Aquatic Center located at 111 N. Baldwin Street. The 2014 November vote yielded a decision to proceed with the project after two years of planning. Mayor Neil Levy, Gerry Simon, Woodland Aquatic Project President, and Cindy Keating, Parks and Recreation Director were among the shovelers.

Cripple Creek Elks celebrates Flag Day June 12

The annual Elks Flag Day Ceremony will be celebrated at the CC Elks Lodge at 1 p.m. jointly with the Victor Lodge. This ceremony is open to the public and we especially would like to invite anyone who has never seen this very moving tribute to the American flag.

On June 14, 1777 the Continental Congress adopted a resolution proclaiming that the flag of the United States be 13 alternating red and white stripes and that the union of the 13 states be represented by 13 white stars on a field of blue.

Patriotism has characterized the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America since the early days of the organization. Allegiance to the flag of our country is a requirement of every member.

In 1907, the Grand Lodge of the BPO Elks

designated June 14 as Flag Day. In 1911, the Grand Lodge of the Order adopted mandatory observance of the occasion by every Lodge, and that requirement continues.

The Elks prompted President Woodrow Wilson to recognize the Order's observance of Flag Day for its patriotic expression in 1916. But it wasn't until 1949 when President Harry Truman, himself a member of the Elks, made the proclamation that thereafter June 14 would be a day of national observance for the symbol of our country. It was through his Elks Lodge in Independence, MO, that President Truman got the idea for a national observance of Flag Day.

Keep the tradition alive and see how it's done in Cripple Creek. Come to 371 E. Bennett Ave. (use side entrance on 4th St) 719-689-2625.

A peak into Paradox

by Kathy Hansen
photos by Jeff Hansen

Paradox brewery held a vendor appreciation on May 22, 2016 to show their gratitude and to kickoff the summer season. Their doors opened to serve the public on Memorial weekend.

Jeff Aragon, Brian Horton, and Dave Hudson are pleased to have a full year of production under their belt at the new facility in Divide. They have successfully produced three to four releases of their various beers about every two months, based on the season.

Plans to expand are already in the works. Why brew in only 10 barrel vats when you can brew in 30 barrel vats over the same amount of time? The expansion will help them keep up with demand, as the majority of their beer is sold before it is brewed.

What makes Paradox beer special is their yeasts, which are blends of wilds and sours. They seek the hybrids and have found incredibly successful blends to please the palette.

The crew is proud of their operation as well they should be. They have taken every consideration from the type of yeasts used in each recipe and how their process affects the environment. The building runs on wind power. The spent grains are fed to local cattle and compost piles. Their barrels can be reused, and they recycled the bar and back-bar from the Tabor Opera House in Leadville. They also partnered with McGinty's to provide a variety of sliders and pizza to serve their guests.

Stop by this summer for a refreshing beverage and a tasty treat from the grill!



The bar and backbar was originally in the Tabor Opera House in Leadville.



Chris Wanke is honored to be chosen as the McGinty Chef who serves the hungry patrons of Paradox.

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July 23, 2016





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Strider Adventure Zone
9:30 am -12:30 pm

Strider Race for Ages 2-5: 1:00 pm

Strider Toddler Racing is held in conjunction with Rocky Mountain State Games MTB Races for ages 6-18

www.RockyMountainStateGames.org



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Seeds to Sprouts

Family Summer – Water Works – Part I

by Maren J. Fuller, MSM, CPM, RM

Real information on everything from conception to age two

As modern parents, we are buried in information from countless sources on every parenting topic from how to eat and exercise during pregnancy to how to encourage a child's love of learning and everything in between. My hope is that the information contained in this column will help bring attention to important topics and provide valuable resources for parents to make educated decisions and/or learn more if they wish. Nothing in this article should be considered a substitute for medical advice, common sense, or your own research and is written for informational purposes only. Please enjoy!

hydrated, you can still keep up your fluids by drinking lemon water, herbal teas, or milk. Other beverages like coffee, carbonated water, sodas, and fruit juices can actually have the opposite effect and should be consumed in small amounts, if at all. Of course, there is no safe amount of alcohol in pregnancy or breastfeeding and alcohol should be avoided during these important developmental times for your baby.

No matter if you are a pregnant mom, dad, grandma, or sibling, try starting your day with two glasses of water, end your day with one glass, and keeping a glass of water next to your bed. Drinking water first thing in the morning starts your digestive system on the right foot and will help you to eat healthier and in the right amounts throughout the day. Drinking water right before bed can keep you hydrated, as well as help prevent heart attack. If you're pregnant, you might hesitate to drink right before bed or during the night, afraid that you'll be up all night in the bathroom. But your water intake is so important that this is a time to concentrate on as much water as possible, even if it means a few trips to the bathroom.

So let's start summer off on the right track and support your family's good health with a tall glass of clean mountain water. Feel free to add ice or lemon juice and enjoy!

Watch for the next Summer segment in July — "Sun Safety".

Resources and suggestions for further reading & support:

Dr. Sears on fevers: <http://www.askdrsears.com/topics/feeding-eating/family-nutrition/water-wise/10-ways-improve-your-hydration-habits>

The Mayo Clinic: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/in-depth/water/art-20044256?pg=2>

What Counts as Water? <http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/features/healthy-beverages>

Interested in meeting other local, like-minded parents? Join the Colorado Mountain Birth & Parenting Network on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ColoradomountainBPN/>

Visit Maren's website: www.Community-MidwiferyCO.com

See Out & About under Divide for additional classes offered by Maren.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions for future columns? Please send them to: ute-countrynewspaper@gmail.com

Maren Fuller is a mother, a midwife, an educator, and an activist dedicated to finding support, providing education, and building community for Colorado families during pregnancy, birth, and early parenting. She and her family live on a small homestead in Florissant, CO.

Adopt Me

Humane Society of Fremont County

Molly

Molly is a 3 year old Airedale Mix. (Possibly Hound) Molly has had a lot of changes in her life this year and has tried living in several homes. Due to health issues of the humans in her first home, she had to be returned. Molly needs a very special home where there is a predictable schedule and a calm environment. She does not do well with surprise visits from strangers and would prefer to be the only dog in the home. Molly is a sweet girl who just needs the right human to be successful. When visitors come, she needs to be introduced correctly. When small children visit, or the Fed Ex man, she needs to be put in a room where she can relax in peace. She loves going for walks on the Riverwalk in Canon City, and is friendly and polite to every person and dog she meets while on walks. She is a volunteer and staff favorite and is a very happy girl when she is getting human attention and affection. She has not been tested with cats or children. Visit Molly at the Humane Society of Fremont County located at 10 Rhodes Ave in Canon City, Colorado or call us at 719-275-0663.

13th Annual For Kids Sake Wine Tasting & Silent Auction

Get ready for one of the most impressive fundraising events in Colorado, Family & Youth Initiatives (FYI) For Kids Sake Wine Tasting and Silent Auction. The 13th Annual fundraiser will take place the second weekend in June at Chaffee County Fairgrounds. Whether a seasoned sommelier or a curious novice, wine lovers will not want to miss the chance to taste local Salida wines from Vino Salida during the Wine Tasting and Silent Auction on Saturday, June 11, 2016.

Guests at the FYI For Kids Sake Wine Tasting and Silent Auction will spend Saturday evening enjoying fine hors d'oeuvres from Rustingram Catering, learning more about wine with helpful tasting guides and sampling exceptional Vino Salida varieties. Always a festive affair, guests can take a break from tasting and bid on items in the silent auction such as spa and restaurant packages or bottles of wine. Live music will be provided by Handsome Dan.

The Saturday FYI For Kids Sake Wine

Tasting and Silent Auction will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday June 11th at Chaffee County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Salida Chamber of Commerce, Buena Vista Chamber of Commerce, Vino Salida, The Book Haven or your favorite Family & Youth Initiatives staff member. Early ticket purchase is strongly recommended.

For questions please call Monica Haskell at 719-530-2511 or visit our web site www.ChaffeeCountyFYI.org

Family & Youth Initiatives is a prevention division within Chaffee County Health and Human Services and is comprised of Nurturing Parenting, Chaffee County Mentors, Youth at Crossroads, and the Community Partnership for Families. FYI's mission is to ensure Chaffee County families are the "Safest, most healthy, and self-sufficient in Colorado."

Please visit us at <http://ChaffeeCounty-FYI.org> or call us at 719-530-2582.

Call for artists and craftsmen for 2016 Art in the Park

We are now accepting applications for the 42nd Annual Art in the Park held Sunday, July 24 at the Legion Park located on Hwy 50 in the heart of Gunnison, CO. Sponsored by the Gunnison Branch of the American Association of University Women, the event brings together diverse artists and craftsmen displaying their original works and thousands of buyers. There is no fee for application and screening. An \$80 registration fee is due upon acceptance. Call 970-641-4230 or email aauwartinthepark@yahoo.com to request an application or more information.

TCSAR's trekking tips

by Andy McGowan

It was another quiet month for Teller County Search and Rescue (TCSAR), with the unit only logging one call. As has been widely reported in the local news outlets, the team was called to assist a group of young women on Pikes Peak, one of whom was having some hypothermic symptoms which was affecting her ability to finish the return leg of their hike. When it became apparent that one member of the party was questionable on their ability to return to the Craggs, a cell phone call was made to the parents of one of the young ladies. The parents then called emergency services. The senior member of the party, luckily carrying gear in preparation for an Appalachian Trail hike later in the year, deployed some of this equipment to assist her friend who could not continue. After setting up the tent and starting a fire at about the tree-line level, this young lady descended the mountain to get help for her friends.

Once Teller County Emergency Services was notified, multiple agencies were activated when the location of the emergency camp was approximated. TCSAR, Cripple Creek EMS, and Divide Fire were all called to enter and assist through the Craggs campground entrance to the mountain, while El Paso County SAR was activated in a mutual assist call and was tasked with descending the mountain from Devil's Playground looking for the girl's camp. Lastly Flight for Life was asked to see if they could identify the location of the girl's camp. Through cell phone triangulation, information given by Flight for Life and most importantly the young lady who trekked down to gain assistance for her incapacitated friends, the camp was located.

TCSAR initially deployed a small hasty team of two members, including new member, Dean Abel, to make initial contact with the subjects so that the best method of extraction could be determined. While the hasty team ventured out, the balance of the TCSAR team began to arrive and was organized into two foot search teams and a snowmobile team. While these teams were setting out and the snowmobiles prepped, the hasty team made contact with the two remaining young ladies on the mountain. After helping to warm the slightly hypothermic young lady, it was

decided to break the makeshift camp and descend the mountain to the point where the snowmobiles could convey the subjects to waiting EMS and Teller Sheriff personnel.

While this situation on the Craggs trail had a happy ending, many hypothermia cases do not end so well. Here in the high country hypothermia is a constant threat, with TCSAR actually logging more cases of it in the summer months than in the winter. Being prepared for your surroundings and possible pitfalls of the day is the key to avoiding hypothermia. Having proper clothing for the temperature and elements you may encounter are key to protecting your body heat. Layered clothing, gloves and headwear are basic elements in conserving the heat your body generates. If something goes awry however, this limited level of preparation may be insufficient.

When I joined Search and Rescue I was acquainted with a phrase that has been often repeated, "Cotton Kills." The reason for this dire rating on an otherwise beloved fabric is that while it is soft and warm when dry, when it gets wet it stays wet and water is the main culprit in body heat loss and by extension, hypothermia. Water is a much more efficient medium of heat transfer than air, and if wet clothing is held against your body, you will lose heat at a much faster rate. Cotton, by retaining that moisture exacerbates the heat loss problem. Polyester blend clothing that has been designed to "wick away" moisture brings that moisture to the surface of the clothing so it can evaporate quickly, thus becoming dryer faster.

Plan on staying dry from multiple sources. In the case of the young lady at the Craggs trail, wet boots became a constant source of heat loss and eventually hypothermia. This could have happened just as easily from a rain storm or perspiration from too many layers. A change of socks and water resistant windbreaker in your day pack can make a world of difference.

If you have any questions or concerns about the unit, please contact Janet Bennett at 719-306-0826. Members are available to come to schools, senior centers, civic organizations, etc. to give SAR presentations.

CASA opportunity for change

CASA offers a volunteer opportunity like no other. As appointed representatives of the court, CASA Volunteers are empowered to make a lifelong difference in the lives of abused and neglected children. Find out how you can become a CASA and lift up a child's life. Join us Wednesday, June 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 pm, for our 4-1-1 hour at the CASA office, 701 S. Cascade Ave., CSC 80903. Please RSVP to Kelly, 719-447-9898, ext. 1033 or visit our website, www.casapp.org.

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Reading is cool: Something for EVERYONE!

by Polly Roberts and Michele Duckett

Why is reading so important? Really, there seems to be so many other things to do with one's time. But reading is fundamental to functioning in today's society.

There is an old saying, "The pen is mightier than the sword." Ideas written down have changed the destiny of men and nations for better or worse. The flow of ideas cannot be stopped. We need to read and research to build on good ideas and to expose bad ideas. Reading is important because words — spoken and written — are the building blocks of life. You are the result of words that you have heard or read AND believed about yourself. What you become in the future will depend on the words you believe about yourself now. People, families, relationships, and even nations are built from words.

Reading is how we discover new things. Books, magazines and even the Internet are great learning tools which require the ability to read and understand what is read. People who know how to read can educate themselves in any area of life they are interested in. We live in an age where we overflow with information, but reading is the main way to take advantage of it.

The mind is a muscle. It needs exercise. Understanding the written word is one way the mind grows. Teaching young children to read helps them develop their language skills. It also helps them learn to listen. Everybody wants to talk, but few can really listen. Reading helps children (and adults) focus on what someone else is communicating.

Reading develops the imagination. TV and computer games have their place, but they are non-thinking activities. With reading, you can go anywhere in the world or become anyone you want. You can be a king, or an adventurer, or a princess, or... the possibilities are endless.

Along that line, reading develops the creative side of people. When reading to children, stop every once in a while and ask them what they think is going to happen next. Get them thinking about the story. When it is finished, ask if they could think of a better ending or anything that would have improved it. If they really liked the story, encourage them to illustrate it with their own drawings or to make up a different story with the same characters. Get the creative juices flowing!

The 2016 Summer Reading Program theme is "Wellness, Fitness, and Sports", and kids, teens, and adults can sign up for Summer Reading starting June 1st, either at the Florissant Library or online at rampartlibrarydistrict.org. Besides borrowing any of the many, many books available at the library, the Friends of the Florissant Library will hold their annual Book, Bake, and Plant Sale on Friday, June 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturday, June 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Book prices start at 25 cents, so you can take home an armload of wonderful stories for just pocket change!

Act! Design! Create! In recognition of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, this summer's Video Club project (for kids ages 7 to 17) will be the production of an Olympic "mockumentary", telling the story of the origins of the Olympic Games and depictions of various sports. New this year is the addition of a "green screen" for creating special effects! The Video Club will meet on most Thursday and Friday afternoons from

3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. through June and July, culminating in a lunch and viewing of the final video on Friday, July 29.

In keeping with the Olympic theme, the movie "Cool Runnings" will be shown at the Florissant Library on Monday, June 13 at 1 p.m. It is the heartfelt and funny story of four Jamaican bobsledders who dream of competing in the Winter Olympics, despite never having seen snow. With the help of a disgraced former champion desperate to redeem himself, the Jamaicans set out to become worthy of Olympic selection, and go all out for glory. On Monday, June 27 at 1 p.m., "Miracle" will be shown. College coach Herb Brooks (Kurt Russell) is hired to lead the 1980 U.S. men's Olympic hockey team. After assembling a team of hot-headed college all-stars, Brooks unites his squad against a common foe, the heavily-favored Soviet team. As the U.S. squad tries to overcome insurmountable odds and win the gold medal, the team becomes a microcosm for American patriotism during the Cold War.

Join us for free activities and lunch on Thursdays in June and July with "School's Out — Lunch is @ the Library!" Enjoy games, stories, crafts, and lunch at the library — or get lunch "to go" and picnic at the park next door.

There will be two kids cooking classes in June and July offered at the Florissant Library in collaboration with Community Partnership Family Resource Center. "Eat, Play, Grow" will cover early childhood nutrition, activities, and sleep education for caregivers and kids 3 to 6 years of age. "Cooking Matters for Kids" will help kids learn to make healthy food choices and to cook for their family. Registration for these free classes is required — call Denise at Community Partnership at 719-686-0705 or email her at denise@cpteller.com for more information and to register.

Did you know that there are at least a dozen geo-cache locations near Florissant? One is near the library? Join Kathy and Rudy Perry from the Pikes Peak Historical Society on Sunday, June 19 at 2 p.m. at the Florissant Library for "Geocaching — A Modern Day Treasure Hunt". (See more on page 30.)

Storytimes & Children's Programs

We love storytime at the library! The District offers three regular storytimes a week, at Woodland Park on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. and at Florissant on Fridays at 10 a.m. On Friday, June 10 at 6 p.m., come to the Florissant Public Library for a special Family Storytime and Ice Cream Social. Our Summer Reading program, titled "On Your Mark, Get Set... READ", will kick off with Denise Gard & Sienna at Woodland Park at 10:15 a.m. on June 1st in the large meeting room. The Salda Circus will be here on the 15th at 10:15 a.m. On Friday, June 10, the Woodland Park Public Library will offer a Homeschool Materials Swap from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lego Club is every Friday in the craft room.

Teen Programs

If you are a preteen or teen, be sure to visit the Teen Room at Woodland Park Public Library. We have a welcoming and relaxed environment and all of the best new books for Teens. Enjoy using our computers, playing board games, doing crafts, or just

hanging out with your friends. This summer, enjoy a Genre Book Club on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Wii on Wednesdays, Books-Into-Movies Day on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., and Minecraft on Fridays. For ages 10-13, there is a Book Club taking place on the first Tuesday of June, July and August at 10 a.m. This will be upstairs in the craft room. On June 7, our first book is "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate.

Adults

Have you ever tried to jog or do Yoga and read at the same time? Jog on down to the library on June 1st to sign up for Summer Reading. The theme of the Adult Summer Reading Program is Exercise Your Mind... READ. The AARP Smart Driver Course at Woodland Park Public Library is June 16th from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Florissant Library will be offering the annual AARP Smart Driver Class on June 22, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Tuesday, June 7 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss *Leaving Before the Rains Come* by Alexandra Fuller. The Bookworms Book Club will meet at Florissant Public Library on June 15 at 10:30 a.m. to talk about *Cleopatra: a Life*, by Stacy Schiff. The Adult Coloring Group is having a great time at Florissant. They meet on the second Wednesday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The next one will be on Wednesday, June 8 and is a wonderful opportunity to relax, relieve stress, express your creativity, and meet some new people. Bring a snack to share!

Technology

Upcoming computer classes include Google Apps June 10, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Excel I June 8, 10 a.m. to noon, and Excel II June 22, 10 a.m. to noon at Woodland Park. Florissant will offer Microsoft Publisher 2013 June 2, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Preregistration for all computer classes is required by calling Florissant at 719-748-3939 or Woodland Park at 719-687-9281 ext. 102. An expanded schedule of classes will begin again in the fall.

Come and take a look

As you visit the Woodland Park Library you will notice a few changes. The book sale has moved from the entranceway near the front desk to just around the corner to the left. We have some wonderful books to purchase at the library and all of the funds go back to support our wonderful facility. We truly appreciate your purchases and support.

You may also notice that we have a wonderful quilt display every month, featuring beautiful creations contributed by members of the quilting guild "Quilters Above the Clouds", here in Woodland Park. This display is now located in the fireplace area on the second floor. We encourage you to come in and look at the fine details of these beautiful works of art. This month's piece truly celebrates spring in the Rocky Mountains.

New services

We are pleased to announce, that for your convenience, the Woodland library now offers color printing as well as wireless printing from your phone or tablet.

See you at the library!

Royal Gorge White Water Festival offers thrills and spills

by Charlotte Burrows

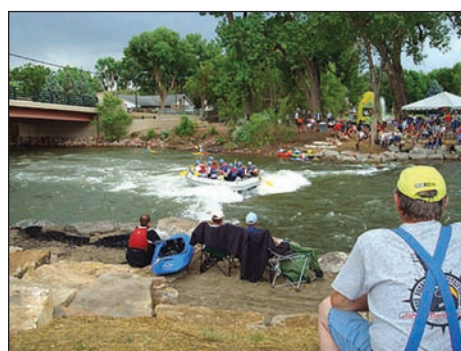
Promoting the outdoor lifestyle, the Eighth Annual Royal Gorge Whitewater Festival's "Boats, Bands and Beer!" will take place June 24-25 in Centennial Park at Fourth Street and Griffin Avenue in Cañon City. Kayaks, rafts, stand up paddle board and river board competitions will be featured along with numerous other activities such as the beer garden with a plethora of adult beverages offered.

"There will be 20 events to participate in," said Cañon City Recreation District program manager Kyle Horne. "We'll have a lot of food vendors, a fun zone for the kids, plenty of merchandise vendors and of course, absolute great events to watch and participate in." On Friday, the event kicks off at 3 p.m. with Ka'imī Hanano'eau performing on the River Stage, followed by Eric Tessmer at 5:45 p.m. and Judd Hoos at 8:30 p.m.

In the meantime, demonstrations and exhibitions will include river board freestyle activities, inner tube races, kayak downtown race and rafting challenges.

New this year, the KRLN/Star Country WAR race has been moved up to 11 a.m. Saturday, followed by the Youth WAR activities at noon. Other activities include the Echo Canyon River Expeditions R-2 Raft Head to Head race, the Black Hills River Duckie Dash, Holcim Pixie Bike races and the raft rodeo.

On Saturday, Irie Still will take center stage at noon on the Main Stage while Ka'imī Hanano'eau performs on the River Stage, followed by a plethora of other entertainers, including Kinsey Sadler, and local musician Adam Ashley. The headline band Wrestle with Jimmy will entertain the crowd on the Main Stage at 8:15 p.m. to round out the



activities of the day. Two of the seven bands have been at the event before, but none of them performed at the event last year so it's like a brand new line up, Horne said.

On the other hand, water levels are still a concern for the festival, having experienced extremely high river levels and extremely low river levels in past festivals.

"We're hoping we can have average river levels," Horne said. "That would be great and help us promote the river industry with people getting out in the river and having a good time."

All the proceeds will go for community projects, such as the expansion of the Whitewater Kayak project, river restoration and Whitewater Park, Horne said. It also goes to Fremont Community Foundation, to the Cañon City Recreation District for its projects and Fremont Adventure Recreation to help with trails.

Sponsors are New Belgium Brewing, Cañon City Daily Record and City Auto Plaza. "We encourage everyone to come on down and have a great time," Horne said. "Hopefully the weather will cooperate. We just want to see a lot of people enjoying the river, enjoying the music and having a lot of fun."

Admission is \$5 per person to the Whitewater Festival. But he noted coolers and dogs are not allowed inside the park during the festival.

Summer fishing near and far

by Jeff Tacey

photo by Robin Sparks

With the onset of summer in June, it's time to go shore fishing before the water warms up and the fish go to deeper water. It wasn't much of a spring and the water is still cold, so the fish will be near shore looking for and easy meal.

The reservoirs at the Pikes Peak North slope area have been fishing well. Use a night crawler/marshmallow combo on bottom hook at Crystal Creek Reservoir and South Catamount Reservoir to catch rainbow and cutbow trout.

At North Catamount Reservoir pink, white or green tube jigs have been catching rainbow and lake trout.

Elevenmile Reservoir has been hit or miss this spring. It's all timing, right place right time. Pay attention to weather fronts and the moon phase. Bait will work best for now.

Up in north-central Colorado by Walden are the north, south and east Delanny Butte Reservoirs. No bait here, artificial flies and lures only. I've done best on black, green or brown Woolly Buggers and Pistol Petes behind an air bubble.

Fly rodders will do well with a Rio



Me with a stringer of 7 rainbow and 1 lake trout.

Grande King or Green Hornberg.

Just west in Gunnison is Blue Mesa Reservoir, fish the river and creek inlets here. The trout will be where the flowing water is, looking for an easy meal. Try Power Bait or night crawlers on a bottom rig. Sucker meat will catch lake trout in the deeper water. Floating Rapalas will also catch rainbow and brown trout.

Check the 2016 Colorado Fishing booklet for all rules and regulations.



Spotlight on the Divide Chamber

Each month we feature our new and renewing members of the Divide Chamber of Commerce. Please consider joining Divide Chamber and you can see your name listed here in the future - www.dividechamber.org.

- **DayBreak—An Adult Day Program:** 719-687-3000 or www.daybreakadp.com. Caregivers deserve a break while their loved ones have a day of meaningful social interaction and activity in a "home away from home" setting.
- **John Wesley Ranch Retreat Center:** 719-687-2148 or www.fumc-cs.org/the-ranch.com. A sanctuary of beauty with facilities and activities for all kinds of programs on 120 acres of mountain meadows and forest.
- **Ancestral Arts:** 719-687-2278. A gift shop of authentic Native American themed and handmade crafts. Located at the traffic light in Divide.
- **Edward Jones Investments:** 719-687-9541 or www.edwardjones.com. Providing the investments, services and information individuals need to achieve their financial goals.
- **Little Chapel of the Hills:** 719-686-1234 or www.littlechapelofthehills.com. Worship services every Sunday at 10 a.m. Also offering children's, youth, women's & men's ministries.

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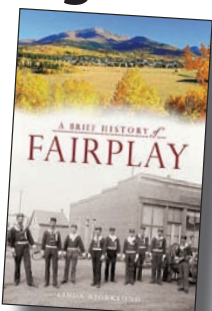
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Native Plants of the Ute Country

by Mary Menz
photos by Mary Menz

Also known as Blue Flag, Water Flag, Snake Lily, and Rocky Mountain Iris, the Wild Iris can put on a show in moist areas from the foothills (6500 feet) to tree line (11,500 feet). If 2016 is anything like 2015, there should be an abundance of them in Ute Country very soon.

Like many cultivated species on the market, the Wild Iris has simple sword-like leaf stalks that emerge directly from the ground. These are referred to as basal leaves. During a wet year, the plants can reach 20 inches or more. The showy flowers range from white (though rare) to light blue to dark purple and shades in between. It is a flag of sorts. Three yellowish sepals fall downward around three erect purple petals, as if in salute to the nature around it. Especially attractive are the purple lined flower petals that signal to pollinators where to find early season pollen.

Not for consumption

Western native people reportedly made an arrow poison from the ground rootstocks that had been soaked in animal bile. They also used a paste made from the ground ripe seeds as an external dressing on wounds.

While many native plants have medicinal or edible uses, the Wild Iris is not one of them. According to *Edible and Medicinal Plants of the Rockies*, by Linda Kershaw, the root stalks, roots, and young shoots are toxic and should never be taken internally, though it's reportedly in use by practitioners around the world. Irises contain a resinous substance called irisin, which causes more than just stomach upset and diarrhea. It can irritate and damage the digestive tract, kidneys, and pancreas.

Historical References

Native to the lower 48 states and much of Canada, the Wild Iris was named by naturalist Thomas Nuttall in 1834, from a specimen collected by fellow naturalist Nathaniel Wyeth in the watershed of the Missouri River and Missouri Territory.

The iris and its more than 300 cultivars worldwide have provided an essence for perfume, inspiration for artists (Vincent Van Gogh, for example), and ornamental design in gardens worldwide since the time of ancient Egyptians. The same can be said for the Wild Iris. Find time to view it this spring in Ute Country.



Mary Menz is a naturalist and Colorado Native Plant Master who lives in Ute Country. She loves to search for—and find—native plants. You can reach her at snowberryblossom@gmail.com.

Geocaching 101

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices.

Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location. Geocaches can be found all over the world. It is common for Geocachers to hide caches in locations that are important to them, reflecting a special interest or skill to the cache owner. Currently there are 2.7 million caches listed in over 200 countries, including 26,000 in Colorado.

Rudy and Kathy Perry, Florissant residents and active members of the Pikes Peak

Historical Society, will speak about what geocaching is and how to get started in this fun, family oriented activity. They found their first geocache in 2003 in Texas. Since then, they have found over 250 in 12 different states and one at the highest point at a national park in Thailand. Finding caches when traveling can take you to places the locals know about and want to share. The Perrys started the PPHS geocache committee to share the unique history of Florissant in a different way by hiding geocaches at historical sites in the area. Their plan is to have seven caches in this series, all sponsored by

the Pikes Peak Historic Society.

The Pikes Peak Historical Society invites you to learn more about Geocaching on Sunday, June 19th, at their monthly Chautauqua (free program), at 2 p.m. at the Florissant Library. The Library is located adjacent to the Florissant Community Park on 334 Circle Drive in Florissant. This program is presented as a public service of the Pikes Peak Historical Society. Admission is free and refreshments are served. No reservation is required, but arrive early, seating is limited. For more information call 719-748-8259 or 719-748-3861.

The 7th Annual Midland Days Symposium



The 2016 Midland Days Symposium was held on Saturday, May 14th at the historic John Wesley Ranch with more than 40 attendees. The agenda for the day included presentations (including numerous historical photographs) by local author and railroad historian, Mel McFarland, and local historians, Tom VanWormer, Art Crawford, and Dwight Haverkorn.

All of the symposiums have been fund-raisers. Registration fees are collected to support the ongoing Midland Depot at Divide Preservation Project, spearheaded by the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition and supported by the Divide Chamber of Commerce (both co-sponsors of the symposium) and other non-profit organizations.



David Martinek welcomes the gathering (top). David Martinek, THE Coalition Board of Directors Chairman, shares a toast with Mr. Pete C. Kuyper, who donated the Midland Depot at Divide and property to Midland Days at Divide, Inc.

Bakery at Strictly Guffey

by Flip Boettcher

After a long wait Strictly Guffey, The Bakery at Strictly Guffey, and Artistic Mountain Experiences will be having their Grand Opening in June, according to owner/operator Dana Peters.

Strictly Guffey started in the fall of 2014, in the building adjacent to the Freshwater Saloon. When the Freshwater sold, Peters had to look elsewhere for another location for her shop. Peters purchased the big barn on Main Street, just south of the Guffey School and started remodeling. It became a much bigger project than anticipated, but the results were worth the wait.

Strictly Guffey, as the name implies, features artisans from the Guffey area and their works which are on consignment in the shop. Items in the shop include jewelry,

woodworking, pottery, glass, photography, paintings, cards, furniture, candles, rocks and gems, soaps and lotions and more.

Artistic Mountain Experiences will be offering classes starting in July. Peters would like to eventually have two to three day workshops with accommodations.

The Bakery will feature a limited breakfast and pastries. Lunch will feature specialty grilled cheese sandwiches, different each day. One picks their homemade bread, cheese and extras. Peters will also have homemade soup. Everything from the bakery is to go, but there is seating for about 20 people in the bakery.

Summer hours will be Friday through Tuesday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information contact Peters at: 719-276-8589 or strictlyguffey@gmail.com.

Florence Brewing Company

by Flip Boettcher

photo by Flip Boettcher

The Florence Brewing Company is recently opened its doors in Florence this spring. The brewery is located at the corner of Pikes Peak and Front Street, across the street from the Pioneer Museum and the bicycle shop Outspokin' (see page 24). The brewery is just up the street from another new business Creative Colors, a collision, custom paint and body repair center.

The brewery is housed in the old hotel which serviced the railroad. It was built in 1898, and originally served as hotel in the nearby ghost town of Cyanide, Colorado. The building served as a place for weary miners and businessmen to relax.

In 1914, the building was moved brick by brick to its current location at Pikes Peak and Front Street by James Orrechio. The building was the first sight for many a traveler coming to Florence in those oil and gold days. The old murals advertising real Steam Heat and Oil Well Supplies are still visible to this day in faded letters on the back of the building, which faces the old train depot. The last occupant of this historic building was the town's newspaper, The Florence Citizen.

The Florence Brewing Company's goal is simple: brew locally produced high quality craft beer. The idea of the brewery started in 2015, with Florence as the location, according to Hans Prah, owner. It took a while to find the perfect building, but the old hotel with its 14 foot tin ceilings and spectacular



Hans Prah in front of some of his brewing equipment.

century old tile floor was just right. From the beginning Prah wanted to enhance the original feel of the building, leaving as many of its original features intact as possible.

After many years of brewing under his belt and sampling beers from around the world, Prah knew he could craft older traditional styles of beer, more reminiscent of what original brewers intended. Florence Brewing wants to create unique small batch beers found nowhere else, stated Prah, using unexpected, innovative and local ingredients. This combined with a neighborhood setting and the spirit of community and family, Prah wants to make Florence Brewing Company a place with exceptional beer and hometown atmosphere. We are proud to be a part of the next chapter of this Florence landmark.



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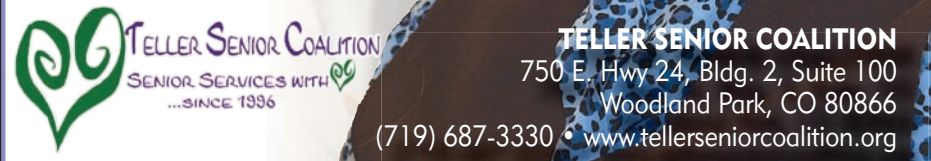


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Junior Achievement reaches 1400+ students

photos by Sheri Albertson

Junior Achievement (JA) of Southern Colorado, Teller County, recently completed its 4th successful school year in the county reaching more than 1400 students overall! Schools served included Columbine, Gateway, and Summit elementary schools, as well as Lake George Charter School, Cresson Elementary, and Cripple Creek-Victor Junior/Senior High. Nearly 75 volunteers overall took part in this year's program delivering specialized curriculum developed for K-12th grades and focused on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Some volunteers were gracious enough to donate multiple hours of their time and JA's positive impact was in part to their dedicated support! "JA makes learning about our community, business, and money, fun and engaging for our students. They love having a guest teacher for the day!" said Jermaine Matthews, 3rd grade teacher at Columbine Elementary.

Volunteers represented Woodland Park, Cripple Creek, and Lake George-area businesses; the Teller County Sheriff's department, the Lake George Fire department and the Woodland Park Police Department; Woodland Park's City Council and the Teller County Board of Commissioners. Local service and community clubs also participated including the Pikes Peak Lions Club, Pikes Peak Rotary Club, Ute Pass Kiwanis Club, the Ute Pass Social Club and the Mountain Top Cycling Club. Junior Achievement events, known as JA in a Day, were also made possible through the support of many other community participants, retired teachers and school parents and family members.

JA empowers young people to own their economic success. JA uses experiential learning to inspire kids to dream big and reach their potential. Through engaging activities, students also learn about STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills and social studies resources. "Junior Achievement is a powerful tool in equipping our young Americans to understand our free market economy and to succeed in it. I look for ways to support the program in any way I can," said Norm Steen, Teller County Commissioner and JA volunteer.

JA programs in Teller County are also made possible by monetary support from area businesses, the Newmont Mining Company, the El Pomar Pikes Peak Regional Council, the City of Woodland Park's Community Investment Fund, IREA and Charis Bible College.

Volunteer with or donate to Junior Achievement and be a positive influence on the future of young people in Teller County! Contact Sherri L. Albertson, Teller County Area Coordinator at 719-650-4089 or via email to sherri.albertson@ja.org for more information.



Gateway Elementary 2nd grade students discuss how money moves through a community with JA volunteer Kathy Daugherty from Peoples Bank.



JA Teller County Coordinator, Sherri Albertson, leads Columbine Elementary 4th grade students in an activity highlighting good business decisions and problem solving skills.



JA volunteers Shamon Hellman from Vectra Bank and Carl Andersen of Andersen Enterprises, assist Gateway Elementary 1st graders with their neighborhood business worksheets.



Summit Elementary 4th grade students play the JA Hot Dog Stand game which teaches the fundamental tasks performed by a business owner and how money flows in and out of a business.



JA community volunteer, Ellen Carrick, leads a money saving lesson with kindergarten students from Gateway Elementary.



Mayor Neil Levy, City of Woodland Park, leads a discussion with Summit Elementary 5th graders on STEM skills needed to support high-demand jobs and the different types of business resources.

Strong people stay healthy

CSU Extension Chaffee County is pleased to announce that the ever popular exercise class for mid-life and older adults "Strong People Stay Healthy" is beginning a new day-time class in Salida. Strong People Stay Healthy is a community based strength training program aimed at mid-life and older men and women. The benefits of the kind of regular strength training offered by this class include increased strength and bone density, reduced risk for diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, obesity and depression, and improved self-confidence and sleep. The program includes progressive resistance training, balance training and flexibility exercises.

This session of the Strong People will begin on Tuesday June 7 at the First Presbyterian Church, 7 Poncha Blvd. in

Salida. Classes will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Class instructor will be Sherry Holman, an experienced leader of Strong People classes.

Participants for this class may register at the first meeting and will be asked to fill out a consent form and a brief medical form. There is no charge for this class which is supported by Chaffee County Extension, but donations are collected for the church. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothes and bring an exercise mat. Weights are provided. Men and women are both encouraged to attend.

For more information about the class, contact Sherry Holman at 719-239-1895 or Christy Fitzpatrick at the Chaffee County Extension Office at 719-539-6447.

Mueller State Park

Explore natural wonders at Mueller State Park through our many guided hikes and naturalist programs! Hike to beautiful overlooks and lush forests. See colorful wildflowers burst out everywhere! Learn about the abundant wildlife and the rich history of Mueller. Families are invited to come play, explore and make memories!

- **1, 4, 20 School Pond Hike** (June 1 Meet at 9 a.m., June 4 Meet at 8:30 p.m., and June 20 Meet at 9:15 a.m.) at School Pond Trailhead. Take a gentle hike with Interpretive Naturalist Penny and enjoy the beauty on a 1.5 mile hike.
- **2 Osborn Homestead Tree Hike**. Meet at 9 a.m. at Black Bear Trailhead. Visit Osborn Homestead and study the trees on the way. Hear what it was like to live in the mountains before modern conveniences with Interpretive Naturalist Penny. Moderate 3 miles.
- **3, 5 Homestead hike** (June 3 Meet at 9:15 a.m., June 5 Meet at 2 p.m.) at the Homestead Trailhead. Take a pleasant 2 mile hike through forest, meadows, and rock formations with Volunteer Naturalist Nancy.
- **3 Stoner Mill**. Meet at 1:30 p.m. at School Pond Trailhead. Examine tracks and signs of the animals that live in Mueller State Park as you hike with Interpretive Naturalist Russ.
- **3 Amphitheater—Lynx, Lion and Bob** at 8:30 p.m. Lynx, mountain lions and bobcats are the only wild cats in Colorado. See why these elusive felines are at the top of the food chain with Interpretive Naturalist Penny. Dress warmly.
- **4 Touch Table: Cougar and Bears** from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Meet at the Visitor's Center. What makes cougars and bears the top predators in the park? Come examine the hides and skulls of these animals with Interpretive Naturalist Russ.
- **5 Amphitheater—Those Sly Foxes** at 8:30 p.m. Foxes run free in our imagination, folktales and legends. They are known to be clever, sly and witty. Get to know the real fox with Interpretive Naturalist Penny.
- **6 Elk Meadow Hike**. Meet at 9:15 a.m. at the Elk Meadow Trailhead. Examine tracks and signs of the animals that live in Mueller State Park as you hike Elk Meadow with Volunteer Naturalist Nancy. This unique trail is a moderate 2 miles.
- **7, 25 Pond Safari**. Meet (June 7 at 10 a.m. and June 25 at 2 p.m.) at Dragonfly Pond. Grab the kids or bring out your inner child with Volunteer Naturalist Rose for a program teeming with critters who call our ponds home.
- **8 Logger Mountain Hike**. Meet at 9 a.m. at Black Bear Trailhead. Savor the trees, wildflowers and wildlife as you hike the Black Bear and Logger Mountain trail loop with Interpretive Naturalist Penny.
- **9 Outlook Ridge Hike**. Meet at 9 a.m. at Outlook Ridge Trailhead. Explore with Interpretive Naturalist Penny the flora and fauna on the trail. There are three overlooks to view the scenery.
- **9 Amphitheater—Digital Outdoors**. Meet at 8:30 p.m. A nature photographer for over 30 years, Interpretive Naturalist Russ creates images for both personal enjoyment and profit. Learn some tricks of the trade as you view some of his amazing photos in this presentation. Dress warmly.
- **9, 17 Lost and Geer Pond Hike** (June 9 Meet at 1:30 p.m. and June 17 Meets at 10 a.m.) at Lost Pond Trailhead. Watch for water loving wildlife such as beaver, muskrats and redwing blackbirds with Interpretive Naturalist Russ. 2.5 miles.
- **11 Digital Outdoors Hike**. Meet at 10 a.m. at Elk Meadow Trailhead. A nature photographer for over 30 years, Interpretive Naturalist Russ can help you capture nature in eye-popping compositions on this 2.0 mile trail.
- **11 Children—Bear Facts**. Meet at 2 p.m. at the Visitor's Center. Join Interpretive Naturalist Penny as we explore the amazing facts about bears through stories, hands on activities, and games.
- **11 Amphitheater—Nocturnal Animals** at 8:30 p.m. Although the night seems peaceful as though everyone is sleeping, there is actually A LOT going on. Join Interpretive Naturalist Penny as you learn more about the animals that go "bump" in the night. Dress warmly.
- **12 Touch Table—Birds** from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Visitor's Center. Come see the birds of the Pikes Peak region up close. The feathers, skulls, and nests of Red-tailed Hawks, Golden Eagles, and Broad-tailed Hummingbirds are just a few of the birds that will be on display. Come by anytime.
- **12 Amphitheater—Horns All Around**. Big-horned Sheep and Mountain Goats at 8:30 p.m. Is a mountain goat really a goat? Is the mountain goat native to Colorado? Does it hurt when two big horned Sheep butt heads? These and many other questions will be answered by Interpretive Naturalist Penny. Dress warmly.
- **13 Monday Mash-ups Hike**. Meet June 13 at 9:15 a.m. at Black Bear Trailhead. Join Nancy on an adventure that includes trails 13/17/25/26/13 for a total of about 5 miles. Due to the mileage this is for intermediate hikers.
- **15 Preacher's Hollow Hike**. Meet at 9 a.m. at Preacher's Hollow Trailhead. Celebrate summer with "nature's fireworks" by joining Interpretive Naturalist Penny as you view the local wildflowers. This is a gentle 2-mile loop trail.
- **16 Rock Canyon Hike** at 9 a.m. Meet at Rock Pond Trailhead. Join Interpretive Naturalist Penny on this trip through many montane micro-environments. This is a moderate 5 mile hike.
- **17 Archery for Beginners** at 2 p.m. Meet at the Livery. Learn how to shoot with a bow and arrow. Lots of fun! Adults and kids 8 years and up will be able to give it a try.
- **17 Amphitheater—Echoes of the Past: Historical Sites in Mueller** at 8:30 p.m. Learn about the history of Mueller State Park from Volunteer Naturalists Sylvia and Jeremy. See photos and hear stories of many historical sites. Dress warmly.
- **18 Stoner Mill/School Pond Hike** at 9:15 a.m. Meet at School Pond Trailhead. Join Volunteer Naturalist Nancy as you enjoy watching the landscape, look for wildlife



Some of the remains of the Osborn Homestead.

and view wildflowers. 3.5 mile trail.

- **18 Dress for Success Outdoors** at 1:30 p.m. at Visitor's Center Auditorium. Make sure you have the clothing and gear for having a great outdoor experience in our ever changing Colorado mountain weather. Join Volunteer Naturalist Jim to make sure you are in the know!
- **18 Amphitheater—Mueller Critters** at 8:30 p.m. The montane environment of Mueller State Park attracts a large variety of wildlife. Learn about these fascinating animals with Interpretive Naturalist Russ. Dress warmly.
- **19 Patio Talk: Trees of Mueller** at 2 p.m. Meet at the Visitor's Center Patio. Six types of trees call Mueller home. Learn to identify them with ease and find out some fun facts about each.
- **19 Full Moon Hike** at 7:30 p.m. Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead. Join Interpretive Naturalist Russ and enjoy the awesome view of the full moon rising over Pikes Peak. Learn some random facts and fun myths about our only natural satellite. We will be returning in the dark. Moderate 2 miles.
- **22 Fly Fishing Basics** at 10 a.m. Meet at Dragonfly Pond. Learn the difference between fly fishing and bait fishing. Give it a try!
- **23 Bird Walk** at 8:30 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead. Join in a leisurely hike to see the bird life at Mueller. They should be actively singing and nesting now!
- **24 Turkey Cabin Overlook Hike** at 1:30 p.m. Meet at Homestead Trailhead. Travel a trail not often visited but well worth the view with Interpretive Naturalist Russ. This will be about a 3.5-mile hike.
- **24 Amphitheater—B.L.T.** at 8:30 p.m. Beetles, Ladders (fuels) and Thinning is

view wildflowers. 3.5 mile trail.

- **26 Amphitheater—Coyote Tales** at 8:30 p.m. Native Americans considered them, the trickster, and told many stories about old man coyote. Learn from Interpretive Naturalist Penny about this adaptable creature both in the wild and in myth. Dress warmly.
- **27 Monday Mash-up Hike** at 8 a.m. Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead. Join Volunteer Naturalist Nancy for an early morning extended hike starting on trail 18/17/12/13/1/11 to Elk Meadow Trailhead. Due to the mileage this hike is for intermediate hikers.
- **29 Cheesman Trail Hike** at 9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead. Learn some history as you see the sights, breath in the mountain air and look for wildlife. Feel free to ask Interpretive Naturalist Penny any questions you might have as you travel this long but moderate trail.
- **30 Buffalo Rock Hike** at 9 a.m. Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead. Join Interpretive Naturalist Penny for this beautiful 4 mile hike through aspen and pine forest, meadows, and see Cheesman Ranch.

Volunteering at Mueller State park can be a rewarding experience! Volunteers are an important part of the park and are involved in most aspects of caring for the park. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer should contact Linda Groat at 719-687-2366 to get more information.

Mueller events are free; however, a seven dollar daily pass or \$70 annual park pass is required to enter the park. For more information, call the park at 719-687-2366.

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~OUT AND ABOUT~

Check out these activities going on right here in this area. If you know of an activity we should include, please call us at 719-686-7393 or email us at utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com.

BAILEY

3 & 4 Beautiful hanging baskets, flower bowls, bedding plants, annuals, herbs, and high altitude tomato plants. Art, jewelry, and collectibles. Clean and gently used household items, clothing, tools, books, children's items. Friday June 3 and Saturday June 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Location is Shepherd of the Rockies Church, 106 Rosalie Rd. Across Highway 285 from the Loaf and Jug. Watch for signs along 285. Four miles south of Pine Junction.

BUENA VISTA

5, 12, 19, 26 Spiritual Networking Group see page 14.
5, 12, 19, 26 Farmer's Market on Main and Railroad from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
9, 16, 23, 30 Free concert every Thursday at McPhemey Park from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

9 or 15 Management Workshop. Colorado Mountain College and the Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation will host Transitioning to Supervision and Management at the CMC Chaffee County Center, Buena Vista. The workshop will be offered four times: June 9 or June 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This three hour course is designed for individuals who are new to supervision and management positions. Topics will include the difference between "rank and file" workers and supervisors and managers, a basic overview of how to supervise and manage, earning respect from Millennial coworkers, and how to focus on quality, provide feedback, and be transparent. Register over the phone at 719-395-8419, or in person at the CMC Chaffee County Center, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The cost for the workshop is \$49. Discounts are available for Salida and Buena Vista Chamber members and employers who send three or more employees.

11 & 12 Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo at rodeo grounds on Gregg Drive and Rodeo Rd. Begins Saturday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Call 719-395-2411 for more information.

14 BV Celtic and Old Time Music Festival from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Creekside Gathering Place. 719-395-6704.

17 Historic Cemetery Tour at noon Mt. Olivet Cemetery \$8 for adults \$5 for children 719-395-8458.

CANON CITY

10 Fremont County The Emergency Food Assistance Program distribution at First United Methodist Church, 801 Main Street, 1:30 p.m. until gone. Call Erlin Trickett 719-275-4191. X111 for more information.
10 & 24 Jewett Liquor Tastings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. See page 16.
17 Fremont County Community Supplemental Food Program distribution on the 3rd Fridays each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Loaves & Fishes, 241 Justice Center Rd. Call Traci Nelson for more information 719-275-0593.
24-25 Royal Gorge White Water Festival see page 29.

CANON CITY LIBRARY

1 through July 23 On your mark, get set...READ!
• Storytime and face painting Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
• Pal pups at your library Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
• Music and movement Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
• Summer reading program Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Canon City Library is located at 516 Macon Avenue. Call 719-269-9020 for more information.

NAMI

7,14,21,28 NAMI Connection Support Group for adults with a serious mental illness. Share experiences and resources in a safe environment. Meetings are free and confidential. Group meets every Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Thomas More Hospital in the Community Education Room. Contact Sherry at 719-315-4975 or AMIsoutheastco@gmail.com.
15 NAMI Family Support Group for family and caregivers of an individual with a serious mental illness. Share experiences and resources in a safe environment. Meetings are free and confidential. Group meets third Wednesday of every month at St. Thomas More Hospital in the Community Education Room. Contact NAMI at 719-315-4975 or NAMIsoutheastco@gmail.com.

COLORADO SPRINGS

5 Friends of Colorado Springs Jazz Presents: An Afternoon with Harry Allen (tenor saxophone), Wayne Wilkinson (guitar) and Sheryl Renee (vocalist) from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 5, at the Colorado Springs Country Club, 3333 Templeton Gap Road. Set in a smaller venue, the concert provides an occasion to see and hear nationally acclaimed jazz musicians up



CRYSTOLA

11 Annual Pig Roast. Post 1980's big event of the year is the Pig Roast. An entire pig is slowly cooked for nearly 18 hours and served with home-made side dishes. In addition, a silent auction is held. Everyone is welcome to join in on the feast only \$12, 6-12 years \$6, 5 years and under: Free. All proceeds go to Veterans Activities. Contact: Keith Wilson: keithlewislon47@aol.com

close. Doors open at 2 p.m., and the musicians will start playing at 2:20 p.m. After two sets, there will be a 20-minute intermission. During the concert, cocktails and soft drinks will be available at the cash bar, along with a light lunch menu. As part of the 2016 Mini Concert Series, this event offers a more personal setting with headline performers, who will also appear at The Jazz Party in October. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the organization works to promote, inform and grow the presence of classic jazz in Colorado. For more information, call 719-471-3124, e-mail info@csjazzparty.com, or visit CSJazzParty.com.

13 History of the Colorado Springs Police Department by Dwight Haverkorn at 6 p.m. at Colorado Springs Masonic Hall, 1130 Panorama Drive. As with the birth of any town, law enforcement is a vital part of its existence with citizens often dependent on it for survival. In Colorado Springs, the City's first constable came on board in 1872, followed by the Marshal's office. Eventually, in 1901 a police department was born. Dwight Haverkorn, formerly with the CSPD, has spent nearly two decades researching homicides of the Pikes Peak Region and is also compiling a history of the department from 1872 to present. His talk will include a discussion of the gangs coming to Colorado Springs and other historical notes. Dwight has been conducting research for the ID Channel program, "Homicide Hunter, Lieutenant Joe Kenda." He also assisted Charlie Hess, a retired state CIA/FBI agent with research for his book, "Hello Charlie, Letters From a Serial Killer" which is about the 1991 murder of Heather Dawn Church in the Black Forest. For more information call 719-473-0330 or email posse@dewittenterprises.com. Program format is in a casual, catered dinner setting at a cost of \$17. Reservations are suggested by Friday prior, 12 Noon. Guests are welcome! Membership in the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners is open to all individuals with an interest in Western history.

CRIPPLE CREEK

15, 22, 29 Join ONWT at the COS Rodeo at the Norris Penrose Event Center 1045 Lower Gold Camp Rd featuring Native entertainment. See 222.cosrodeo.com
17 C&W MINE TOURS Continue through September 5 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. except no tours will be held on Thursdays. Reservations may be made online at VictorColorado.com (online gets priority) or by leaving a message at 719-689-4211 or 719-689-5509.

CRIPPLE CREEK

25 through July 4 The 21st Annual Once Upon a Time in the West Art Show will be here soon. The show runs from June 25-July 4th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heritage Center in Cripple Creek. There will be an Artist Reception from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on June 24. Get a sneak peek at the art and enjoy food, a Native American blessing and smudge ceremony. This is a unique Art Show because nature is brought inside and the art is displayed among waterfalls, boughs from spruce and pine trees and rock formations. This year there will be scheduled demonstrations of pottery making, flint knapping, "old time leather work", uses for raw hide and an arrowhead display. The Native American People used the entire buffalo. To learn more about this there will be a Tatanika display and presentation. Several new artists will be joining the Show this year. Many of the artists will be there daily painting or making art while you watch. Works of local High School artists will also be displayed. Have you ever seen an authentic tipi? There will be tipis outside and different animal furs and antlers that the children can touch. Come bring family and friends and enjoy this one of a kind Art Show.

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• Walk/Run with "5K at 10K Running Club" on Thurs
• Youth T-Ball Baseball, practice/games throughout week, call for details. Call 719-689-3514 for more information and pricing.

DIVIDE

10 & 11 John Wesley Ranch Retreat Center in Divide is putting on a free melodrama for the community. All are welcome to come enjoy the talented cast of the First United Methodist Church of Colorado Springs' First Community presentation of "Fast Train to the Poor House." Three show times: Fri from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Sat noon to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Free. Call 719-687-2148.

GED Classes through Community Partnership for more information or to register call Katy Conlin at 719-686-0705.

COMMUNITY MIDWIFERY CLASSES

18 & 25 Learn to Massage your Baby: (2-part series) 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All babies and parents can benefit from learning the relaxing techniques of infant massage to help with sleep, digestion, bonding, and growth.

BEAVER PONDS

Save the date: Hosman and Dr. Michael Stambaugh will be presenting a talk about the recent tree ring discoveries on August 2 at Beaver Ponds. Go to www.beaverponds.org for more information.

FLORENCE

JOHN C. FREMONT LIBRARY
City's Featured Artist is Jennifer Gering of Cotopaxi. She will display her original shadow boxes and glassless frames allowing the origami to be projected in 3D.

FLORENCE

16 Map and Compass Course presented by Bryce Hofmann at 6 p.m. Bryce is recreation technician with the BLM. He will show us how to use a compass, how to use the library and then drive over to Pathfinder



CRIPPLE CREEK

25 through July 4 The 21st Annual Once Upon a Time in the West Art Show will be here soon. The show runs from June 25-July 4th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Heritage Center in Cripple Creek. There will be an Artist Reception from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on June 24. Get a sneak peek at the art and enjoy food, a Native American blessing and smudge ceremony. This is a unique Art Show because nature is brought inside and the art is displayed among waterfalls, boughs from spruce and pine trees and rock formations. This year there will be scheduled demonstrations of pottery making, flint knapping, "old time leather work", uses for raw hide and an arrowhead display. The Native American People used the entire buffalo. To learn more about this there will be a Tatanika display and presentation. Several new artists will be joining the Show this year. Many of the artists will be there daily painting or making art while you watch. Works of local High School artists will also be displayed. Have you ever seen an authentic tipi? There will be tipis outside and different animal furs and antlers that the children can touch. Come bring family and friends and enjoy this one of a kind Art Show.

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center. Dr. Meyer will lead guided hikes on the trail at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The hike is one mile round trip and will last two hours. The Monument will also be unveiling a new, Geologic Guide map which is recommended for the hike and will be available for first-day purchase in the Rocky Mountain Conservancy bookstore in the visitor center.

FRESHWATER BAR & GRILL

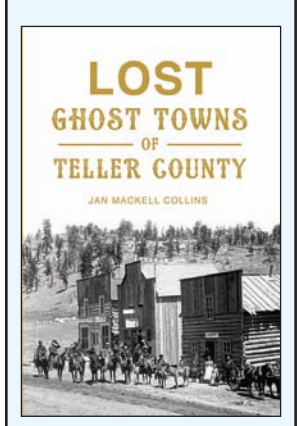
4 Car Show 10 p.m. to 6 p.m. Cari Dell Trio 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
11 The Geezers 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
18 Bullet Breed 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
25 River City Blues 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
26 Avril's Odyssey Event from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fund Raiser for Stage 4 Breast Cancer. Donations, Silent Auction, Pot Luck Dinner \$10 a plate, all proceeds go to Avril's Odyssey! For more information, please call us at 719-689-0518.

HARTSEL

4,5,18,19 Grammy's Mountain Farm Market on Hwy 24 see ad on this page.
18 Park County Historical Society will be giving a presentation at the Community Center. The topic is Sam Hartsel. There is a dinner served at 5 p.m. \$8 at the door. Presentation starts at 5:30 p.m.

SEEKING ARTISANS

Hartsel Days is fast approaching and seeking artisans and crafters to help make this year the best ever. Mark your calendars for the first weekend in August. Contact hartseldays@gmail.com for more info.



LOST GHOST TOWNS OF TELLER COUNTY

12 Book signing for Jan MacKell Collins newest book, "The Ghost Towns of Teller County" from noon to 2 p.m. at Victor Lowell Thomas Museum, 3rd & Victor Ave. Throughout Teller County history lovers can find abandoned towns and forgotten main streets that once bustled with life and commerce. Even before Teller was carved from surrounding counties, the scenic mountains and lucrative mines of the gold rush era brought thousands of settlers and attracted resort owners and tycoons eager to exploit the rich setting. Seemingly overnight, towns in the Cripple Creek & Victor Mining District and other places popped up, flush with gold and people looking for opportunity. As the ore disappeared, the miners moved on in search of the next big lode. One by one, the towns were all but forgotten. MacKell Collins, a Victor resident, is a historian whose work focuses on the more interesting aspects of the West. Author of several books and over two thousand articles, her writing has appeared in such magazines as Colorado Central, Kiva, Frontier Gazette, True West and others. In 2010 and 2011 she was a nominee for the WEA award by Women Writing the West for her 2009 book Red Light Women of the Rocky Mountains, and as a contributor for the 2010 anthology Extraordinary Women of the Rocky Mountain West.

FLOIRISSANT PUBLIC LIBRARY

(see more on page 28)
3 & 4 Book, Bake, and Plant Sale on June 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the 4th in the entrance level. There will be lots of books sorted by categories. Paperbacks and children's books are 25 cents and hardbacks \$1. Delicious homemade baked goodies including the famous cream puffs are available. A garden artist will have lots of plants on display; something for everyone.
3 A free legal clinic for parties who have no attorney will be featured from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the FIRST FRIDAY of each month at your Florissant Public Library in Florissant. By computer link, volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for all areas of civil litigation, including family law, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, small claims, veterans issues, and civil protection orders. Please preregister by calling 719-748-3939.

PIKES PEAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

The museum is open Friday, Saturday, Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Museum phone is 719-748-8259. The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum is located in Florissant at 18033 Teller County Road #1, across from the Florissant Post Office. See page 16 for more information.

THUNDERBIRD INN

2,9,16,23,30 Thursday Night is Open Mic jam at 7 p.m.
11 River City Blues Band at 4 p.m.
19 Father Day Classic rock & roll with Skiba at 2 p.m.
BULL MOOSE RESTAURANT & BAR
3,10,17,24 Karaoke with JoAnn Every Friday at 6 p.m.
4 Foggist Notion's New CD Release Party 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
12 Greg Brazil 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
18 Super Chuck & Stompin' George 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
19 T&L Productions Stampunk Victorian Era Dance Party 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

GUFFEY

2,9,16,23,30 Thursday Night is Open Mic jam at 7 p.m.
11 River City Blues Band at 4 p.m.
19 Father Day Classic rock & roll with Skiba at 2 p.m.
BULL MOOSE RESTAURANT & BAR
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18 Super Chuck & Stompin' George 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
19 T&L Productions Stampunk Victorian Era Dance Party 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

OLD COLORADO CITY

24 The Kansas City Monarch at 6 p.m. The Kansas City Monarchs baseball team was a charter member of the Negro National League. They won the first Negro League World Series in 1924. Many more championships followed. Author Phil Dixon will present the story of this team organized long before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball. Many famous players came out of this negro team including Satchel Paige. Phil Dixon is the co-founder of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City and has written nine books on this history. His presentation will include a question and answer period and book signing at Old Colorado City History Center, 1 South 34th street, 80904. Members attend free and non-members pay \$5. A short musical demonstration of the recently donated 1800s pump organ will precede the presentation.

PARKER

4 ONWT's Annual A Gathering of the People. Come join One Nation Walking Together for our annual "A Gathering of the People" event at Takoda Tavern on Saturday June 4 Stop by 12311 Pine Bluffs Way #A in Parker, Colorado, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Experience a day full of Native culture and fun, including amazing live entertainment on the deck from Maria Gil and Sam "Tamehorse" Gallegos, flute player Eric Herrera, singer and dancer Robert Manylightnings Williams and a performance from The Matoska Dancers. Come explore our educational tip to learn about Native culture. Help us fill the tipi with a donation of canned food or hygiene products to help our Native brothers and sisters in need, and get a free ticket to win one of our fabulous door prizes. Grab a delicious meal, \$10 for a hamburger or chicken breast meal with fries and one soft drink or one draft beer. Stunning Native jewelry will be on sale as well. Come join us for a beautiful day full of family fun!

SALIDA

2 Chaffee County The Emergency Food Assistance Program & Community Supplemental Food Program distributions First Thursday of each month at Salida Community Center, 305 F Street, from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call Elaine Alleman for more information 719-539-3351.
2 Free Legal Clinic at Salida Regional Library from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. For parties who have no attorney, will be featured from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at your Salida Regional Library. By computer link, volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for all areas of civil litigation, including family law, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, small claims, veterans issues, and civil protection orders. Walk-ins welcome! Next clinic July 7.
6 Wellness U options to stay active see page 13.
7 Strong People Stay Healthy see page 22.
11 FYI-For Kids Safe fundraiser wine tasting and silent auction see page 27.
12 Walden Chamber Music Society at Steamplant.
24-26 24th Annual Salida Art Walk.
24-26 Heart of the Rockies Quilt Show at Salida High School.

WOODLAND PARK

1,8,15,22,29 Free Family History Classes held every Wednesday evening from 6:30-8 p.m. @ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 758 Apache Trail, Woodland Park. Both beginner and advanced researchers welcome. Questions can be directed to Jim Olsten 719-686-6453. Classes are

FREE and open to the public!

3 A free legal clinic for parties who have no attorney, will be featured from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the FIRST FRIDAY of each month at your Woodland Park Library. By computer link, volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for all areas of civil litigation, including family law, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, small claims, veterans issues, and civil protection orders. Please preregister by calling 719-687-9281 ext. 103 for Woodland Park. Next clinic is July 1.
4 Edible & Medicinal Plants. Learn about various wild, edible and medicinal plants of the area during this presentation and short walk with Mar Marques Worden, the Thymekeeper. Mari is a certified herbalist and has been practicing herbalism, wildcrafting and making herbal remedies for 20 years. She has a small shop and a large greenhouse in Florissant where she specializes in teaching the public how to make home remedies. Mari is available to lead plant walks during the months of June, July and August. This FREE monthly series is sponsored by Aspen Valley Ranch, the Woodland Park Harvest Center, and Teller-Park Conservation District (TPCD). All classes take place at Aspen Valley Ranch. You can find a calendar of these classes at teller-park.org. For more information or to RSVP (not required), call TPCD at 719-686-9405 x 104.

Mountain Top Cycling Club

Join us at Carmen's Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. for our guest speaker will be Barbara Caudle. Presenter Barb Caudle, Regional Director for the Alzheimer's Association in Colorado Springs, will discuss the connection between heart health and brain health in this research-based program. Research seems to be pointing in the direction that some individuals might be able to delay or prevent dementia symptoms through lifestyle changes. Mountain Top Cycling Club meetings are open to the public. Visit our website <http://www.mountaincyclingclub.com> or call 719-489-3435 for more information.

New Moms' Group

Join us for this fun and educational gathering of new parents on the first Tuesday of every month. We will discuss topics such as infant sleep, infant feeding, postpartum adjustment or physical development and have lots of time for socializing and meeting other parents. This group is provided free of charge and is open to all parents of babies under age 1. Held at The Yoga Room, 321 W Henrietta Ave, Suite 1A, Woodland Park. For more info, call 719-761-7541 or communitymidwife@yahoo.com or visit www.CommunityMidwifeCO.com

Diabetes Support Group

meets the third Monday of every month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Pikes Peak Regional Hospital. Open to all persons with diabetes and their family members. Call 719-686-5802 for more information.

GED Classes through Community Partnership

for more information or to register call Katy Conlin at 719-686-0705.
14 Holistic Healing Day from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., United Methodist Church, 1101 Rampart Range Road, Woodland Park, CO. Healings are by donation - proceeds go to Woodland Park Community Cupboard. FML: Shari Billiger 719-999-8478 or shari155@aol.com
20 Diabetes Support Group meets the third Monday of every month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Pikes Peak Regional Hospital. Open to all persons with diabetes and their family members. Call 719-686-5802 for more information.

DINOSAUR RESOURCE CENTER

11 Outdoor Family Fun Day 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be Food Vendors, Gold Panning, Balloon art, Chalk Painting, Hedgehogs & Wolves, Cool Science, Science Matters, Rock Panning, Shale Splitting, Fire Truck and Military Vehicle, Children's Activities and crafts.
19 Father's Day 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Father's get in free with one paid adult or child admission
25 Synergists 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come play catch with robots as they

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Grammy's Mountain Market is now open in Hartsel

Fresh Fruits Vegetables & more

Grammy's Mountain Market will be open every other weekend June 4th-5th thru Oct 22nd-23rd (Sat 9-5 & Sun 9-3) just off of Hwy 24 in the heart of Hartsel. Please visit our website www.grammysmtnmarket.co we look forward to seeing you...

Your Message Goes Farther With Ute Country News

Direct Mail & Distribution Points

The Ute Country News is delivered to every box holder in Divide, Florissant, Lake George, Guffey, Hartsel and Jefferson. That's OVER 6,000 Teller and Park County residents every month!

You can find us at over 160 distribution points and newspaper boxes from Manitou Springs to Breckenridge including Cripple Creek and Victor. You can also find us in Fremont and Chaffee Counties from Florence to Salida, including Buena Vista and Johnson Village!

Look for the boxes as blue as the Colorado sky! That's a total distribution of 15,000 papers a month. Call 719-686-7393, or email us at utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com for more info or to reserve your advertising space.

~OUT AND ABOUT~

continued from page 35

launch balls and drive around obstacles. Dinosaur Resource Center, 201 S. Fairview St., Woodland Park, CO. Visit www.mndrc.com or call 719-686-1820.

FARMER'S MARKET

3, 10, 17, 24 Summer Market is held every Friday. Over 80 vendors will be providing Colorado grown vegetables, fruits, plants, and a variety of other products. In addition, you can purchase a wide assortment of baked goods, cheese, pastas, olive oils and personal care products. Vendors accept cash, Market Bucks & SNAP dollars (use your Debit or SNAP card for these at the Market Managers Booth), and some accept credit/debit cards from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Judy Crummett: info@wpfarmers-market.com or 719-689-3133 or web <http://WPFarmersMarket.com>

HISTORIC UTE INN

1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Night Open Jam hosted by Dan Carlisle. Music always starts at 7pm

11 One Eleven Band are

TEEN CENTER

3 Meet at the Teen Center at 12:30 to get a bus to the Catamount Center and

Explore Summer activities we have available at the Teen Center. \$2.

6 Plant a Teen Center vegetable garden at the Woodland Park Community Church. Meet at the TC at 12:30 to walk over.

7 Take a hike to the Craggs: Guided hike with Guides-to-Go 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. \$2.

8 Bike Ride at Meadow Wood Sports Complex 10 a.m. to Noon, free.

8 Book Club: Fun summer activities added on come find out what they are from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

10 Find out about the fun hobby of Geocaching with a hunt in Woodland Park. Professional Guide will help you track your treasures from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. \$2.

10 Movie Above the Clouds: Activities and food available 1.5 hours before movie starts at 8:25. Check out the Woodland Park Roots Project FB page for details.

14 Odyssey Curiosity with Miss Wiley at the Teen Center. Fun experiments and discoveries await from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

16 Archery with Ms. Roshak at the High School. Meet at the TC at 12:30 to walk over. \$2.

17 Art Project at the Senior Center. Lots of cool ideas from Angie, an art teacher. \$2.

20 Adopt-A-Spot: Clean up around Memorial Park and Recycling at 3:30 p.m.

21 Discover Nature Hike at Catamount Institute, professionally guided. \$2.

23 Redbox/Netflix Movie w/free popcorn 3 p.m.

24 Odyssey Curiosity with Miss Wiley at the Teen Center. Fun experiments and discoveries await from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

24 Luau Dance Party, \$2 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

27 Let's create an Outdoor Classroom at Columbine Elementary from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Teen Center.

28 Shopping Day in Old Colorado City for Outdoor Classroom (14 max.) from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

30 TAB Meeting - If you're on the Board, plan on attending from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

At the Teen Center we have lots going on every month. Besides what's on above, we have our Elevate Cafe offerings, movies, board games, card games, puzzles, Xbox 360 and PS4 game consoles, a pool table and a ping pong table! We are a safe, supervised place for teens to come and spend the afternoon.

Hours: noon to 6 p.m. Youth in Grades 6-12 are welcome!

Teen Center is located at 220 W. South Ave. Call 719-687-3291 for more information.

UTE PASS CULTURAL CENTER

3 Jazz in June featuring renowned jazz trombonist Bill Watrous with Swing Factory. Tickets \$20 6:30 p.m. cocktail hour. 7:30 jazz concert. For tickets call Craig Harms at 719-687-

2210, by on-line at www.woodland-parkwindsymphony.com or purchase at the door. Music students \$10 with confirmation from teacher.

11 Pikes Peak Brass Band at 7 p.m. Free! Ute Pass Cultural Center, 20 E. Midland Ave., Woodland Park 719-687-5284

Save the date: July 14 Power against Fraud seminar at 6 p.m. dinner is served, reservations required call 719-687-5962.

UTE PASS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

18 Get Lost in the History of Teller County Ghost Towns. Throughout Teller County, history lovers can find abandoned towns and forgotten main streets that once bustled with life and commerce.

Even before Teller was carved from surrounding counties, the scenic mountains and lucrative mines of the gold rush era brought thousands of settlers and attracted resort owners and tycoons eager to exploit the rich setting. Seemingly overnight, towns in the Cripple Creek District and other places popped up, flush with gold and people looking for opportunity. As the ore disappeared, the miners moved on in search of the next big lode. One by one, the towns were all but forgotten. Join Jan MacKell Collins and the Ute Pass Historical Society on Saturday, June 18th for a book signing. History Park will be open from 11 to 1 for free tours, and Jan will be on hand to

sign her new book Lost Ghost Towns of Teller County.

Available NOW, the long awaited Discovering Ute Pass, Volume I, which chronicles the development of Lower Ute Pass, beginning with Cascade and traveling westward up the Pass through Chipita Park, Green Mountain Falls and Crystal. The history comes alive through the use of stories, anecdotes and first-hand accounts of the health-seekers and pioneers who first came to the area in the mid-1800s. Hundreds of photos punctuate and personalize the tales of the early days. Discovering Ute Pass:

Volume I retails for \$22 and UPHS members receive a 10% discount. The UPHS Gift Shop is located at 231 E. Henrietta Avenue in Woodland Park. Contact UPHS at 719.686.7512 for more information.

WOODLAND COUNTRY LODGE

Music lineup see ad on page 28.

VICTOR

25 Ute Trail Muzzle Loaders: shoot and meetings the last Saturday of each month at Victor. For information call 719-684-7780.

WOODLAND PARK

LOVELL GULCH TRAIL

25 Come out to help local volunteers make improvements to the Lovell Gulch Trail near Woodland Park, under the leadership of the Colorado Mountain Club. We will be finishing a wall and turning platform just north of the main stream crossing. We provide all the tools and training - no experience needed. Age 16 and over; under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please sign up at www.cmc.org/stewardship or at <https://www.cmc.org/Calendar/EventDetails.aspx?ID=32742>.



sign her new book Lost Ghost Towns of Teller County.

WOODLAND COUNTRY LODGE

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VICTOR

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~UTE COUNTRY BUSINESS~

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4th Annual Gem & Mineral Show in Victor

The Fourth Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Southern Teller County Focus Group (STCFG) in Victor, Colorado will be held June 17 - 19, 2016. The event will be held in downtown historic Victor and is open and free to the public.

The show will include vendors from across the state selling Colorado dug minerals, as well as New Mexico vendors. Items

for sale will include polished gems, hand-crafted jewelry, rough slabs, specimens, cabochons, Cripple Creek & Victor Mining District gold ore specimens, Burtis Blue Cripple Creek turquoise, and more. There will also be gold and gem panning at the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum.

Show hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 17 and 18, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

June 19. The Victor Elks Lodge members will be grilling burgers on the lodge porch as a fundraiser.

In addition to the show, the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum gift shop will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with its collection of rocks, gems, minerals, jewelry, geodes and gold panning for the kids. The museum also houses a mineral collection as well as historic

mining equipment, photos, and historic displays. In addition, guided tours of the modern gold mine are available through the museum—see VictorColorado.com for reservations.

Enjoy the weekend exploring all Victor has to offer. For more information on the STCFG or this event, visit VictorColorado.com, email stcfg@victorcolorado.com, or call 719-689-2675.

~UTE COUNTRY BUSINESS~

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