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Vol. 8, No. 9

Welcome to Ute Country



"Small birds throw seeds out of the feeder;
large birds pick them up off the ground,
but the squirrels try to muscle in."

— Lilian Jackson Braun

PEEK INSIDE...



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Fortune Club Diner, Hotel & Lounge



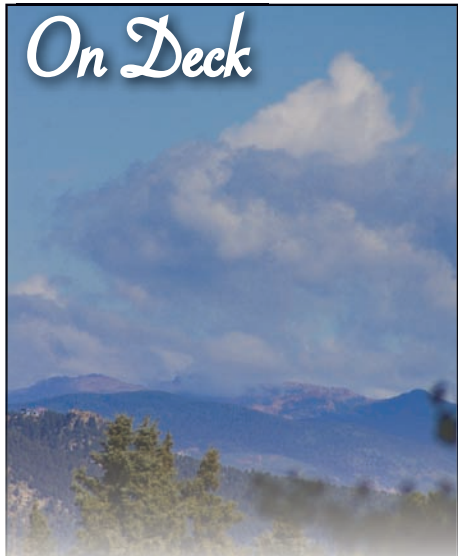
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The soul of solar in Colorado



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A loving legacy



The squirrel on this month's cover is showing his agility skills as he goes for the gold. He is diligently filling his belly as he carries as much as his cheek pouches can hold to stash away for winter. Mr. Squirrel is an excellent problem solver when it comes to collecting seeds from the bird's feeder. He's also good at capturing our cats' attention as he goes about his task.

There is much we can learn from Mr. Squirrel as we, too, prepare for the winter months ahead. There are harvests to store, and there is a need to keep our minds, bodies, and souls in the best condition possible today and in the months ahead. The pages that follow may assist you in such preparations; please read on!

We promised last month if you send photos of your critters we will stop showing you photos of ours. Thank you for a new face! Please see Tigger on page 18. Also see how close Jade and Shadow have become. There ARE benefits to colder weather creeping in! Have we bored you yet with Shadow and Jade? Then send in YOUR photos of critters indoor or outdoor. 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

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Seeds to Sprouts Milk matters

by Maren J. Fuller, MSM, CPM

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!

Are you a grandparent helping your children as they welcome new family members into their homes? Are you a new parent yourself who might be struggling with starting or continuing to nurse a baby? Are you an employer who is wondering how to support an employee's choice to continue providing milk for her baby? Maybe you're just an interested community member who wonders "What is with this new push to nurse babies and even toddlers?" No matter what your role, please read on! Research shows us that the support of a mother's partner, family, workplace, and community plays a huge role in her chances of successful breastfeeding in the first year of her baby's life. What is one of the best ways to be supportive? Learn about nursing: the basics, the benefits, the challenges, and the laws here in Colorado. This article cannot give a full description of everything involved but will provide you with a quick overview of these topics.

The basics

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all babies be given breastmilk as their ONLY food for the first six months of life. This means no baby food and no cereals until after six months of age. They also recommend that babies continue to receive breastmilk for at least the first year of life and continue to breastfeed as long as it is mutually desired by mom and baby. The World Health Organization suggests that babies be breastfed for at least the first two years.

The benefits

Dr. Sears has written extensively about the benefits of breastfeeding for the baby, the mother, and the whole family. The first and perhaps the most important reason is because human milk is the perfect food for a growing human baby. Just as a mother goat makes the perfect milk for her baby, so it is with our babies! A baby who is breastfed will also have less chance of ear infections, colds and many other common infant illnesses because the mother makes all the right antibodies to fight disease, right in the moment they are needed. They also have a lowered risk of SIDS, digestive problems, gas, reflux, and bladder infections.

Babies not only grow and thrive as infants but also reap the benefits of mothers' milk throughout their whole lives with lowered rates of juvenile diabetes, obesity, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, asthma, allergies, childhood cancers, and digestive problems. They will also have better teeth and vision! Long term studies have shown that breastfed babies perform better in school and have higher IQ scores as adults – this benefit goes up even more with longer breastfeeding time as an infant/toddler.

Mothers who breastfeed also get great benefits including better emotional health postpartum, lowered risk of breast, ovarian, and cervical cancers, improved postpartum weight loss, lowered chance of osteoporosis, and improved spacing between children. We also see an important increase in mother-infant bonding and improved early parenting experience when an infant is breastfed. On a side note – breastfeeding is more convenient (no washing bottles or heating water on the go) and is significantly less expensive than feeding your baby formula so you'll save money too!

The right start

There are lots of ways to get prepared for nursing a new baby, whether you're the mom or partner or another family member. Consider reading a book about it, such as: *The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding* by La

Leche League Int'l, *The Breastfeeding Book* by Dr. William Sears, or *The Ultimate Breastfeeding Book of Answers* by Dr. Jack Newman and Teresa Pitman. Talk to a family member or good friend who has successfully nursed a baby recently and ask lots of questions! If you don't know anyone personally, look into attending a La Leche League meeting or moms group during your pregnancy and especially once you have a new baby. Being around other moms who are nursing their babies and who have overcome challenges is a great way to find support and answers to common questions!

The challenges

There can be many things that are challenging when learning to breastfeed a baby: positioning, good latch, milk supply, engorgement, thrush, sore nipples, biting, and nighttime nursing. The thing to remember is that these problems are *solvable*! The books listed above have lots of suggestions for each of these concerns. These are also challenges that many other women around you have dealt with successfully. Finding local support through meetings or personal connections can be a real key to success. At Community Midwifery, we host a New Parents' Group on the second Tuesday of every month at noon where we offer lots of breastfeeding support and community! (See below for details).

Just as a mother goat makes the perfect milk for her baby, so it is with our babies!

Cesarean section

If you deliver your baby by c-section, it may take a little more work to begin breastfeeding but research shows that moms who have c-sections can breastfeed just as successfully as moms who give birth vaginally. Some of the things that can make your transition easier are these:

- Ask to see and be given your baby as soon as possible – many doctors will agree to hand the baby to mom in the operating room, even before the surgery is complete.
- Lots of early skin-to-skin contact and snuggling, and then nurse early and often!
- Ask for help from nurses or a lactation consultant. (Have your partner watch how they help you so they can take over at home!)

Return to work

Returning to work when your baby is very young can make breastfeeding more difficult but it is definitely worth the effort! Breastfeeding before and after work can provide valuable time for bonding and give your baby an opportunity to reconnect after a long day away from you. It is also important for babies in daycare to receive at least some breastmilk in order to boost their immunity to the many illnesses that spread throughout these centers. Most daycares will take bottles of breastmilk to give to your baby throughout the day and you can nurse during the hours that you are together. Ask your employer for a place where you can pump in private and keep the milk refrigerated or in an iced cooler until you go home. This way you keep up your milk supply and give your baby all the benefits of this perfect food while still holding a job.

Breastfeeding "On-the-go"

Whatever your personal feelings are when it comes to mothers nursing their babies in public spaces, the reality is that if we are to promote the health and wellbeing of all mothers and babies in our community, we have to make allowances for moms to feed their babies whenever and wherever they get hungry. Colorado law states that a mother has the right to breastfeed her baby in any public place where she has the right to be.



Which means that a mother feeding her baby in a restaurant, in a park, in a store, or at school is not only normal but protected by law. There are also laws in place that require employers to provide a time and place for working moms to pump milk to bring home to their babies.

- What can you as a family or community member do to help support nursing mothers you know or might encounter? Here are some quick tips:
- Don't stare. A mother is feeding her young child in a perfectly normal, natural, healthy way. Would you stare if it was a bottle?
 - Don't ask her to nurse in the bathroom. Public restrooms are generally gross, smelly places to be, even for their intended purpose. Why would anyone want to sit and feed an infant in there?
 - Be supportive and encouraging, especially if a mom is struggling. Family pressure will just make her want to give up. Be the one to stand up for her and help her keep going!

For moms and families who cannot breastfeed

This article and the information in it is not meant to make anyone feel like they are not doing everything "right" for their baby just because they can't breastfeed. For some moms, babies, and families, breastfeeding is not a real possibility for many reasons and in these situations we are fortunate to live in a time when infant formula is better than ever. Be sure to choose a natural formula that adds DHA as this is a key part of brain development in the first year of life. Know that you are working hard to give your baby the best no matter how you feed your little one!

- Resources and suggestions for further reading & support:**
- Dr. Sears on breastfeeding: <http://www.askdrsears.com/topics/feeding-eating/breastfeeding>
 - Dr. Sears' reasons to breastfeed: <http://www.askdrsears.com/topics/feeding-eating/breastfeeding/while-working/6-reason-why-continue-breastfeed>
 - Dr. Sears on solving common breastfeeding problems: <http://www.askdrsears.com/topics/feeding-eating/breastfeeding/common-problems>
 - American Academy of Pediatrics on Breastfeeding: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/129/3/e827>

- Interested in meeting other local, like-minded parents?**
- Come join our New Parents' Group the second Tuesday of every month at noon. All parents with babies under one year are welcome! Call or email for details 719-761-7541 or CommunityMidwiferyCO@gmail.com
 - Join the Colorado Mountain Birth & Parenting Network on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/Coloradomountain-BPN/>
 - Visit Maren's website: www.Community-MidwiferyCO.com

Questions? Comments? Suggestions for future columns? Please send them to: utecountrynewspaper@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.



A Mountain Seed: Grit and hurdles

by Jessica Kerr

Coming inside after a walk through the trees, dreaming about the sound of quaking aspens, I looked at my cell phone and saw that the United States Olympic team won gold in women's hurdles.

I was planning on writing about aspen trees and the changing of seasons. The last few mornings here in Oklahoma have been cooler, which is wonderful; it makes me miss the cold nights back in the Rockies. I have been dreaming about it for a month now...cold nights, the sound of golden aspen leaves...

I can't finish writing about that right now, though.

The Olympics. Every single one of those athletes had at least one particular coach who sparked the dream of that torch in their hearts, and keep it blazing (whether by memory or presence) until they hoist a medal made of gold. I have been thinking a lot about coaches this month, and with that comes some pain.

Growing up in the mountains comes with unique sport experiences. The first sport I ever tried was gymnastics. An example of something that happened because of the mountain climate is this: It was winter time, of course, and it was cold outside. I loved gymnastics. My friends and I would practice bar exercises all recess long. In the winter, our hands would get cold. Once I decided to wear my gloves so my hands wouldn't get cold on the bars. As I ran at the bar, my hands slipped and my rear end landed on sharp rocks, which made it hard to walk for a week.

Another time, I was practicing a particular gymnastic trick with a friend and we both ended up breaking some teeth when our heads collided. It hurt, but it didn't stop me from practicing pullovers and flips on the bars. I was dedicated and loving every minute. That is, until I was humiliated in front of my peers.

I won't dredge out my childhood trauma, I don't even remember exactly what happened (I was six). I only remember my coach's anger, my confusion, and the way I never wanted to go back to gymnastics practice with her. I regret the decision as an adult, but I feel safe saying that it wasn't my fault and a coach did more damage than she knew. I could have been a gymnast when I got older, except that experience made it hard.

Since then, I have had many other coaches — soccer, track, basketball, volleyball, softball. There are a handful of those who changed my life, but I will introduce only one of them.

Anyone who has lived in the mountains long enough knows of the mountain's erratic weather in autumn or springtime. Spring sports are both wonderful and terrible simply because of the season. Monday practice might be a beautiful 70 degree day. Tuesday might begin that way and end in a snowstorm. Wednesday could be just like Monday but with puddles everywhere. It just depends on the mountains' mood.

Track was my favorite sport in middle school. I was a sprinter and hurdler. In elementary school, I took pride in being one of the fastest girls in my class. When I was finally able to do organized track I was so excited. It was life. My journals record how important it was to me. The practices were great, even though they were sometimes difficult because of the unique mountain weather.



With its chilly wind and rustling leaves, September brings with it a particular memory. It happened at the very end of September, and these past three years I've spent remembering these three people. There are different things that remind me of them, but the Olympics — the importance of coaches — and track events are some of the sharp reminders.

My biggest regret from high school, or maybe ever, has been letting fear take control of my life. There were events that happened during my freshman year that caused me to become fearful of everything. I struggled getting through basketball that year and by the time spring sports rolled around I was so discouraged that I decided to refrain from all sports. To this day I regret that decision, and that regret was amplified the day one of my favorite coaches left this earth.

Dawna Johnson was the kind of coach that all coaches should aspire to be. She was encouraging, tough, and knowledgeable about her sport. When it came to muscular anatomy and the correct way to train, stretch, and eat, she knew it all. I still use the routines she used to warm up, stretch, and cool down. She was hard on us and expected us to be hard on ourselves. If we were caught drinking soda during track season, we were required to do extra conditioning.

On the other hand, if we ran poorly, or tripped on a hurdle, or came in dead last, she would stand at the finish line and encourage us to keep our heads up and try again tomorrow. She was great at navigating the tough practice situations the Rockies offers, and she was also great at adjusting our relay team positions when the wind at the track in Gunnison was too strong for our slimmest runner.

All she ever did was encourage me to always work my hardest, no matter what. I was responsible for my own success and

when I ran on a team; I was responsible for my part of the deal. No exceptions.

A coach can make or break a kid. Even if an athlete doesn't compete past the season they run, the coach still has that small amount of time to make a big difference in the life of that kid. Mountain kids are tough, and it takes a strong coach to help cultivate what's inside that mountain seed. I would like to congratulate Mason Finley, another mountain kid, on his success in his first Olympics. What each of his coaches throughout the years taught him remains on the inside and is growing that mountain seed.

I would like to thank Coach Dawna for being such a strong force in my life, even now. While I'm at it, I also would like to thank Dwayne for being a strong coach to my brother, too. I also would apologize for promising to run the year (and all those that followed after) when I didn't follow through. I think I let a couple of people down, as well as myself. But I also would tell them that I won't let what got in the way to get in the way anymore. I'm getting back on my horse. I'm using what they taught me all of those years ago.

If you're a kid, pay attention to your coaches now, while you have them. They are there for your benefit. If they get angry at you (even if for no reason), just let it slide off your shoulder and keep going. Don't give up. Take what they say and improve on it. Listen to them. They're your coach for a reason.

If you're a coach, I say thank you. You are more important than you know. There is even more responsibility with mountain seeds, because I think we hold something extra special inside. Being a coach is one of the best things you could ever do with your life. You have the power to empower or destroy. You are so needed. We all say thank you.

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The dinosaur greets visitors arriving at the Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience on west U.S. 50.

**Royal Gorge Dinosaur
 provides family fun**

by Charlotte Burrous
 photos by Charlotte Burrous

Before the dawn of time as human beings knew it, dinosaurs roamed the Earth and particularly in Fremont County, Colorado. After they disappeared, what was left of them remained hidden for thousands of years.

That is until Marsh and Cope arrived in the area and discovered a wealth of dinosaur bones and fossils. In the past, they were sent to various museums around the country. After the Dinosaur Depot closed, organizers scrambled to find a new place. After thinking it over, Zach Reynolds, along with his parents, David and Mariam Reynolds decided it would be a good fit for them. After all, they were getting ready to close Reynolds Construction and this would be a good way to end that part of their life. So they worked on it for more than a year. Recently, the culmination of their hard work paid off when the Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience held its grand opening of the brand new tourist facility west of Cañon City.

The center has been segmented into three parts, which include the museum, the Dinosaur Wild Walk, and two ropes courses.

"With the ticket to the museum, it includes a guided tour of our two exhibit areas; the terrestrial and the marine areas," Zach Reynolds said. "That includes 27 different full-size prehistoric creatures and the casts of them."

The ticket also includes the touch screens, touch stations, a view of the fossil lab, the children's early learning center and the theater, which is currently showing a film about the Dinosaur Bone wars in Fremont County.

The Dinosaur Wild Walk is a quarter mile groomed trail that exhibits outdoor life size skinned moving dinosaurs. While on the walk, the dinosaurs jump to life with sounds and different motions whenever anyone approaches it.

"(This) has been a huge hit with the public," Reynolds added.

The third experience is a ropes course. "We have two of those," he said. "One is for junior guests ages two - seven and the other is for guests who are 48 inches or taller. Both of them have guests in harnesses that

is attached to an overhead track. It is a self-guided tour . . . where you can go anywhere on the course safely by yourself. They've been quite popular as well. Kids, adults and seniors alike have had a lot of fun with it."

Other attractions include a dinosaur dig pit, where children may uncover fossils in the pea gravel pit. The gift shop, the café and the outdoor patio are free to the public. The café offers snacks, hotdogs, nachos and other refreshments.

Reynolds' interest in dinosaurs began when he first heard about the fossils found in Fremont County. Going to high school in this community, he said he was fascinated with paleontology so he earned a degree in biology at Western State College. His maternal grandfather, Pete Allen became friends with Fred Kessler, who was involved with dinosaur digs back in the 50s and 60s.

The idea of building a tourist attraction began three and a half years ago. So they developed a business plan, got the proper approval and broke ground in October 2015. Reynolds Construction acted as the general contractor while Colorado Springs resident Jack Paulson served as the architect.

"We basically designed the entire facility and the grounds," Reynolds said. "He basically took what we had already drawn and put it on paper. We designed the whole thing."

Since the grand opening, the Royal Gorge Dinosaur has been going full speed ahead with much success. It is open 361 days a year from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and from noon to 6 p.m. Sundays at 44895 W. U.S. 50.

Tickets are \$12 for adults' first experience and \$10 for each additional experience, \$8 for kids three to 12 and \$6 for each additional experience and free for children 2 and under. Discounts are offered for seniors, active and retired military, local residents of Fremont, Custer, and Chaffee Counties, who can enjoy a 20 percent discount. Groups of 10 or more also receive discounts. In the future birthday parties also will be offered. For more information, call 1-800-209-0062.



Dinosaur fossils are on display inside the museum at the Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience west of Cañon City.



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Netflix to film in Florence this fall

by Charlotte Burrous

This fall, Robert Redford and Jane Fonda will star in the Netflix movie *Our Souls at Night*, written by the late Salda author Kent Haruf.

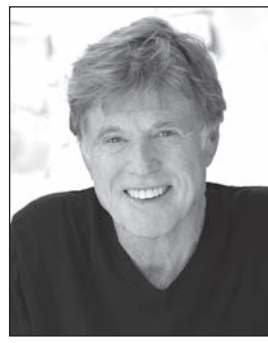
Filming kicks off when the two make their first appearance during the Pioneer Day Parade on Sept. 17 in Florence. Then they return on Sept. 28 and 29 and Oct. 14, 17, and 18.

"The film is based on a fictitious town of Holt, which is a very small Colorado town," said location manager Patrick Mignano. "The two main characters (will perform scenes) in a coffee shop, a barbershop and there's a possibility we may want to shoot in the bowling alley for a day. There's some walking and talking of our two main characters on the street of Holt so we'll see some storefront scenes."

In conjunction, there will be a couple restaurant scenes, possibility a baseball game and a café scene in the old Florence Hotel. "It's very calm movie," Mignano said. "In this film, there's no Hollywood stunts or car explosions or gunfire or anything like that."

At this point, none of the streets will be closed for any length of time. In the movie, there is a scene with a parade, which works well with the Pioneer Day Parade at the same time.

"You guys have a parade so we won't have (to close the street) for that," Mignano said. "We may have to recreate elements of it because we'll have the main



Robert Redford and Jane Fonda will be shooting a Netflix film in Florence, CO.



actors come back on the 28th. You'll see the parade; you'll see the footage; then you'll see our actors with some people standing around, watching it."

The film company searched for a small town that could depict Holt; Florence seemed to be ideal.

The director said Florence has charm and has a small town American feel to it. Along the way, the company may send out a casting call for extras to be part of the movie, said Mignano.

Raised in Jackson Hole, WY, Mignano said he knew cowboys hangout in cafes so it would fit with one of the scenes of the movie.

When they visited one of the restaurants, the movie people found a table filled with cowboys, telling their stories to each other so they'll probably be in the movie along with others. The casting call will happen within the next few weeks. So be ready to join in the fun.

Labor Day Weekend Coffee stop at Wilkerson Pass

The Florissant-Lake George Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #11411 and its Auxiliary will be staffing their traditional annual Coffee Stop at the Visitors Center on top of Wilkerson Pass for travelers the entire Labor Day weekend beginning Friday (September 2, 2016) at 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday through Monday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, providing free coffee, punch, water, cookies, and lots of lively conversation.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to

place their "dot" on the map showing where they come from, where they are going, or where they wish they were.

The Forest Service generously allows the Post the use of their covered porch for the refreshment table.

To learn more about membership in the Florissant-Lake George VFW Post #11411 or its Auxiliary, contact Post Commander Randy Ford at 748-5344 or Auxiliary President JaNiece Tyler at 748-1335.

BLM seeks comments on additions to Salida area trails

The Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office is seeking comments on a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on a proposal to add new non-motorized trails to the Arkansas Hills and Methodist Mountain Trail Systems outside of Salida.

The Methodist Mountain Trail System connects riders from the Rainbow Trail to Salida, while the Arkansas Hills Trail System is appreciated for its close proximity to town and south facing slopes. In 2010, a BLM trail counter registered more than 10,000 users, by 2013 that number jumped to 17,286, demonstrating that these trails are prized by Salida.

Salida Mountain Trails approached the BLM with a proposal to build connections between trails, create easy to navigate loops and diversify experiences. The BLM sought public feedback on the proposal in 2015, which resulted in additional research, changes to what was originally proposed and a range of alternatives that balance impacts to other resources, including critical winter wildlife habitat.

The BLM's draft EA documents these findings, identifies the range of alternatives that are

being considered and the associated environmental impacts. Specific details about the project, including a description of the proposed new trails and a map, are available on the BLM's ePlanning webpage at: <http://bit.ly/2aMrOY1>.

The BLM is seeking public comments through Sept. 19, 2016. Comments concerning the proposed action, alternatives and identification of environmental issues are most helpful. For additional information or to submit a comment, please contact Kalem Lenard at 719-269-8538 or email comments to rgfo_comments@blm.gov.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment — including your personal identifying information — may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Thank you for your interest in the management of your public lands within the Royal Gorge Field Office.



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One Nation Walking Together Challenges for Native Americans starting schoolyear

by Kelsey Comfort

School is back in full swing and the scent of sharpened pencils and new, crisp notebook paper fill the air. It's an important time of year. As school begins, we're reminded about the importance of education. It's a crucial tool necessary to bring positive change and improve our country.



But in order to do this, we need quality education opportunities for all. Native American youth have the lowest graduation rates of any group, with only 67 percent of students graduating from high school (*U.S. News and World Report*). The rate is even lower for those who attend the Bureau of Indian Education's schools, who itself reports that only 53 percent of its students graduate (*Newsweek*). The average national graduation rate is 81 percent (*Newsweek*). So why is there such a comparatively lower graduation rate for Native Americans? Well, this can be attributed to many different factors. With such dire conditions on American Indian reservations, it can be hard for students to focus at school. The poverty rate is almost 80 percent higher on reservations than the general population (*Indian Country Today*). On some reservations, the unemployment rate is nearly 90 percent (*Indian Country Today*). Health problems are rampant. The diabetes rate is over twice as high, and heart disease is 20 percent higher than the general population (*Indian Country Today*). These horrendous conditions continue into the school system. Many of the school facilities on American Indian reservations lack basic necessities such as heat and running water (*U.S. News and World Report*). Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, is often quoted as referring to the Bureau of Indian Education school system as "just utterly bankrupt" and saying the system is "just the epitome of broken" (*Politico*).



It doesn't help that the Bureau of Indian Education, which oversees 183 schools that serve approximately 48,000 students, has experienced inconsistent leadership and financial problems (*U.S. News and World Report*). For example, "in the last 36 years, the bureau has had 33 directors" (*U.S. News and World Report*). Additionally, the issue of Native American education is a bureaucratic mess. Although education falls under the Department of Education, the Department of Interior is actually responsible for schools on the reservations, but the Department of Housing and Urban Development is supposed to provide teachers' housing that is needed in the remote reservation areas (*U.S. News and World Report*). Strides have been made to try to help the desperate situation. In March, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., introduced the Native American Education Opportunity Act (*Newsweek*). The bill would provide Native children the opportunity to access education savings accounts (*Newsweek*).

Education savings accounts contain funds that would have been spent on a child in a Bureau of Indian Education-funded school (*Newsweek*). Parents could control these

accounts in order to afford other educational opportunities for their child such as attending a private school and utilizing online learning opportunities as well as special education services and therapies (*Newsweek*). Unused funds could be rolled over to following years and in some states even be used for a college savings account (*Newsweek*). But as we wait to see whether or not the bill passes, we can begin helping today. Throughout the month of September, One Nation Walking Together (ONWT) will collect the important tools needed to help Native children succeed. You can help by donating school supplies such as backpacks, notebooks, pencils, binders, pens, rulers and more for ONWT to give to Native children both locally and on the reservations. You can drop-off your donations or send monetary contributions to:

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Fortune Club Diner, Hotel & Lounge

by Kathy Hansen
photos by Jeff Hansen

Funny how you can have something in the back of your mind for years and suddenly those famous last words come to fruition. Such is the case for Byron "Buck" Hakes who said, "...I've wanted to buy the Fortune Club for a long time. I said years ago that if it ever came up for sale I'd buy it, so when I saw the For Sale sign last summer, I did it." Buck lived in Victor, Colorado as a child and had been coming back for years. The opportunity arose in 2006, and his cousin Sue decided to join in the purchase. Thus the transformation began.

The remodel began in May when new owners Kelly and Meagen Hakes (Buck's son and daughter-in-law) closed the diner for eight days to fully redo the kitchen. Modernized equipment had been installed, and a larger working space was created for greater efficiency. They brightened the dining area, yet maintained that old-timey feel. It looks clean and welcoming.

The lounge/bar had been a liquor store. They removed a wall, moved the bar back, created a new bathroom, added a storage area, and slathered on fresh, badly needed paint. The newly installed foot rail is actually an ore cart railroad track. The first drink they served in the newly remodeled bar was the first drink served in the building since prohibition ended in 1933.

The dining area and bar are once again connected through an opening they reopened near the back of the building. They found newspapers dated in the 1920s serving as insulation. They had uncovered a small hole the size of a .45 long colt in the tin wall almost to the top of the opening between the rooms. "Buildings are a lot of work; a mystery lies behind every wall," Meagen commented. They have found lots of photos of historical interest, graffiti, burned beams (the new beams were placed adjacent to the burned beams), and even a time capsule. They could not resist adding a few touches of their own. Not only does the family relish in the history, they make efforts to keep current history going. One way is by installing the brass rail under the side bar from the building that had housed Zeke's bar years ago.

The rooms above the diner and lounge are also being updated, as well as all the bathrooms. The Ladies room is nicely decorated with a mural painted by Shannon Hessel, Meagen's sister. There are nine rooms operational now and they are gorgeous thanks to Cheryl Hessel, Meagen's mom, who has been the primary decorating consultant, painter, and finder of the perfect pieces to adorn each room. Meagen said, "Mom's good at that stuff" as she grins ear to ear. The rooms are themed by their previous tenants, primarily soiled doves of the day. Although, there is one room themed the "Cowboy Room". The rentals are available on daily, weekly, and monthly rates. It has been a family effort. The Hakes home-



Floor joists in the basement show evidence of fire from the Victor fire of 1899.

steaded off Phantom Canyon in 1901. The family ties remain on that property. In fact, Kelly and Meagen were married on Chapel Hill on the property on August 24, 2013. The management team is Buck's son, Kelley and his wife, Meagen. The remodelers include Kelly Hessel, Meagen's father Kelley Hakes, Meagen's mother Cheryl, as well as Jay Hickman, and Jay Salvato. Kelly and Meagen mentioned many times throughout our visit they could not have done this without the support and encouragement of friends, family, and community.

They understand the importance of supporting the local economy. The breads all come from the Victor Bakery, and they receive fresh deliveries from Palisade on a regular basis. Both the green and red chili is made of fresh ingredients. The red chilies are from New Mexico and the green chilies are from Pueblo. Cheryl makes all the pie served in the diner. They have their own smoker so they can smoke their own salmon and other meats. The evening menu is expected to begin offering traditional home-made meals such as meatloaf with mashed potatoes and a steak dinner on weekends by the end of September. Chef Richard Sarmiento is excited about creating the new menu.

They decided to keep the ice cream tradition going in the diner, a favorite of both the locals and the tourists. The cold temperatures the day we visited made the chili more appealing (both the red and green were decidedly delicious!), so we asked local ice cream expert, three-year-old Rae Rae Sarmiento which flavor is her favorite. Being the realistic person she is, she replied, "Chocolate, strawberry, and rainbow sherbet". Having several favorites can prevent



The diner was recently remodeled and takes full advantage of the large windows to supply lots of natural light.

getting into an ice cream rut.

Another way they support local economy is by displaying Joe Harris' paintings of landscapes in the diner and his nude paintings in the bar. Meagen loves his work. She believes the bar is the appropriate place for the nudes, given the history of the building. The paintings are available for sale and are likely to be swapped out with his new series at some point in the future.

The City of Victor had recently created an "Enterprise Zone" which helps with purchasing equipment and labor costs by giving a tax deduction at the end of the year. The benefit is expected to continue as city planners hope to make this small town appeal to new businesses and new residents.

Meagen and Kelly were grateful for recent modification to the patio in front of their busi-

Above: Handyman Craig Salbato, owners Meagen and Kelly Hakes, Chef Richard Sarmiento, Meagen's parents Cheryl and Kelly Hessel. Below: Kelly Hessel, Kelly Hakes, Meagen Hakes, and staff Crystal Sarmiento & Loretta Anderson.



ness and say working with the city has been a good experience. They found Sandy Honeycutt (City Clerk) and Deb Downs (City Administrator) especially helpful navigating the liquor license requirements. There were many details to attend to seemingly all at once. The mindfulness of Sandy and Deb became a godsend Kelly and Meagen are grateful for. They commented that ground had recently been broken across from the Claim Jumper for the new community events plaza. Meagen and Kelly are confident all systems will be in place by its completion and they look forward to serving the guests the community event plaza will draw.

Stop into the newly remodeled Fortune Club for an ice cream, a burger, or a home-style family dinner. Meet some of the guests that checked in but never checked out... and their pets. Yes, many of the Fortune Club family have had paranormal experiences, especially as the remodeling began. Lights have turned on when no one has been in the room. Doors slam on their own, especially in the basement. Evidently, "he" doesn't like being locked down there. Richard has felt banging under his feet while cooking in the kitchen. Meagen was helping with the bathroom remodel, thought she saw something out of the corner of her eye only to look down and find a gold ring with an orange bead on the floor. It was not there a second ago. Meagen has also seen a cat walk by in the bar and restaurant. The cat has also been seen by Kelly Hakes. Skeptics might say these experiences are vague and likely due to long hours, lots of stress, and perhaps the effects of the spirits they serve. What would such skeptics say when two people report the same experience? Craig and Kelly Hakes were both working in the bar area. Craig was standing

on a ladder as Kelly was framing the back wall. Kelly had just returned from picking up supplies that he set on the bar. Kelly was walking toward the door as he saw the paintbrush he'd just set on the bar fly into the air and then slap to the floor. Craig saw an image he'd seen before; a woman standing in a high-necked white Victorian dress about five feet tall next to the hand truck.

Another shared paranormal experience occurred one evening after work when Jay and Craig were sharing their individual ghost stories as they were sitting in the bar area. Suddenly lights were turned on in the restaurant; they had to search for the switch as serving the guests where the light switch was to turn the lights off.

The paranormal activity seems to have quieted down since the remodeling is mostly complete, yet reports of "corner of my eye" continue with less frequency. Perhaps the old spirits have become accustomed to the new Fortune Club Family and are grateful for the life the Hakes are putting back into this historic building.



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Growing Ideas September season

by Karen Anderson *The Plant Lady*



At some point, the 'killer frost' comes along and that is when I begin to sadly say: "You have blessed me with your beauty and your bounty all summer long and I am grateful, but it is time to say 'Farewell my Flowery Friends'. Thank you."

We want to keep Peace. Will you help us?

Ñ Red Cloud-Sioux Chieftain

Greetings fellow Gardeners! I would like to begin by congratulating every living being in the State of Colorado for FINALLY receiving the legal right to "harvest" a couple of 55 gallon barrels of life sustaining water from "everybody's skies"! Thanks to all who fought for changing this law. I am very grateful. Yay!

Well, here we are already, moving on into the early autumn season. September in the Rocky Mountain Region is composed of a pleasant blend of warmth in the first few weeks, with an extremely noticeable transition into cooler (colder) days and evenings toward the end of the month. The crisper atmosphere brings on the feeling and awareness of Mother Nature bringing on inevitable and perpetual change. In the Gardening World, this means we should prepare for some major shifts from our summer routines.

"Beginner frosts" may come as early as mid-September. Have row covers handy so that you can cover and protect your prized annual arrangements or outdoor plantings of tender veggies for a little bit longer. I am willing to do that for a while, until I simply get tired of covering and uncovering all the time. At some point, the 'killer frost' comes along and that is when I begin to sadly say: "You have blessed me with your beauty and your bounty all summer long and I am grateful, but it is time to say 'Farewell my Flowery Friends'. Thank you."

After the initial shock of freezing and basically dying the plants still have one more very beneficial gift to the gardener and that is being incorporated into the compost, therefore goes back into the Earth, from whence it came; full circle.

Native trees and shrubs, as well as perennial plantings begin to look a bit "tired" and start to turn various shades of yellow and brown with leaves dropping in the slightest breeze. Sometimes, we are blessed with breathtaking color and sometimes not so much! There are many variables, including the amount of moisture we have had or will receive, the element of wind, early or late frosts, snow, insect issues etc., which will determine how beautiful the aspen peeping will be in any given year. Of course, as always, beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

A reminder: Please continue to water your perennial gardens and trees even though they are starting to diminish in their "good looks". They need fall watering to keep their root systems healthy enough to survive the winter.

You may also want start bringing any houseplants that have been enjoying the great outdoors during the summertime to the great indoors! Check for any insect pests and treat with Safer Soap (or similar insecticidal soap) and a good rinsing before moving them inside to avoid affecting or infecting other houseplants. Do not hesitate to begin this process soon, as the mountain climate changes very quickly. Better safe than sorry.

The resident deer along with every other kind of critter will be "foraging foliage with a fever", so I suggest that you keep up with repellents if you want to harvest your vegetables and herbs or collect seed from any plants. I am gathering seed almost every day throughout the end of September and the month of October for the Paradise Gardens Seed Collection. I plan on sharing more information about my technique on the topic of seed collecting in high altitude next month...so stay tuned! My Organic, High Altitude Seeds are always available for purchase at Mt. Naturals in Woodland Park, at the Outpost in Florissant, or you can inquire with me personally at 719-748-3521.

Greenhouse activity: There are lots and lots of tomatoes and peppers on the vine right now, but not ripening quickly. So, now is the time to allow the heat to build up inside the hot house. I am keeping the entry door closed more these days with a fan still running for air flow. Cut back any leaves that appear unhealthy or not contributing to the fruit of the tomato plant. This trimming back allows more sunshine and energy to aid in the ripening process. Remember, we want to grow tomatoes, not gigantic tomato plants!

Rodents, rodents, and more rodents! Keep your traps set in the greenhouse and continue to check where they might be squeezing through. Do your best to correct this problem as soon as possible. I have lost precious plantings that have been nurtured for months — overnight — with a "broken heart" in the morning. Darn!

You might consider planting a few new crops of spinach, lettuces, radishes and other cold hardy, quick growing greens within the safety and comfort of the greenhouse at this time. There is plenty of time to do so, especially if there is some supplemental heat available.

Enjoy the rest of your Rocky Mountain gardening experience. Accept and embrace the seasonal transitions with grace and gratitude. Give yourselves some major "Kudos" for the progress you have made in your gardening endeavors this year and keep dreaming of your creative visions for future planning. If you need professional guidance, I will still be available for private landscaping consultations as long as the weather permits 719-748-3521. Wishing you all peace and happiness always, happy gardening!

Hartsel Days a huge success!

Once again this year's Hartsel Days exceeded last year's performance. We had quite a crowd.

Our pancake breakfast sold out in no time. Our vendors were many and varied. The bed races were a crowd pleaser as was the ever popular dunk tank.

Thank you to the Hartsel Days Committee members who worked so hard to make this event the success it was. Thank you to the many vendors who participated, our local authors who

spoke, Smokey Bear, the magical tooth fairy, the BB shooting range for the kids, and our fabulous bigger than ever Hartsel Parade!

This year we will be donating a portion of our proceeds to the Hartsel Community Center. Surprisingly enough, Bareface Pete eluded us yet again, but did leave a few ladies swooning!

To all who stopped by, thank you, we couldn't have made it the success it was without you.

LOVE sculpture at Burning Man Festival Striking chords in hearts of many

by Kathy Hansen

If a picture speaks a thousand words, then this 3-D art sculpture speaks a thousand volumes. This sculpture was created by Alexandr Milov, a Ukrainian artist who submitted the piece for the 2015 Burning Man festival, an annual gathering that takes place at Black Rock City (a temporary community erected in the Black Rock Desert) in Nevada.

The outer portion of the sculpture is two adult figures created of wire, seated back-to-back. Inside are two children reaching out toward each other. "It demonstrates a conflict between a man and a woman as well as the outer and inner expression of human nature," wrote Milov, who continued, "Their inner selves are executed in the form of transparent children, who are holding out their hands through the grating. As it's getting dark (night falls) the children start to shine. This shining is a symbol of purity and sincerity that brings people together and gives a chance of making up when the dark time arrives."

This image originally came to me via email from my dear friend, Karen (Thank you, Karen!). It took my breath away when I first saw it, striking chords so deeply within me that I decided to take a short walk to be with all it had stirred.

My mind raced back to Kindergarten when the teacher taught us about manners: Sharing, taking turns, saying please and thank you, yet perhaps most importantly to say "I'm sorry".

Then my mind raced to the present because there was someone I needed to apologize to. I had spoken inappropriately to a new friend and the guilt was building. My mind moved to problem solving, determined to find a way to deliver my message. Immediately after the message was delivered, I felt free! It was as though that adult cage had lifted from me. I felt lighter, more optimistic, and centered, even though I had yet to learn the apology was accepted.

I thought, 'How simple: the opportunity to



own my behavior as shameful as it was, to apologize and admit the wrong-doing could leave me feeling so light'. Then I recalled a challenge from an author regarding three truly difficult things to do:

- Say, "I was wrong".
- Include the excluded.
- Return love for hate.

When I first read this, I thought, 'Gee, that doesn't sound very difficult'. Of course it sounded easy, I was reading a book in a park and completely relaxed. These three tasks are more challenging when there is tension or conflict, or when I have yet to pull my ego out of the way to simply observe my own behavior without judgement. They also become easier with regular practice.

What made this so much simpler in Kindergarten? Perhaps it was the guidance of the teacher, or maybe it was the way the teacher accepted we students were immature and therefore knew at the onset to expect such behavior, as well as to accept the role of mentoring manners as a way to work through the conflict. Perhaps as adults we expect we've become mature; so we are surprised at our immature behavior when it appears and it is easier to blame someone else than to take our own responsibility. However, easy doesn't equate to integrity, so that part of us that knows we did wrong appropriately produces

guilt. The guilt can motivate us to take the right action.

It seems we have forgotten we continue to learn throughout our lifetimes, and part of that learning process means we WILL make mistakes. I remember one of my Cognitive Psychology classes had a section on speech errors. The studies showed adult humans make at least 10 speech errors a day. What was more interesting is how unaware of the error(s) we are; most subjects were convinced they spoke the words they intended and even questioned the audio tape had been tampered with when the error was played back for the insistent subject. Evidently, not only do we make a lot of mistakes daily, but we are reticent to admit them when we do.

Thinking back on Kindergarten I now wonder how our lives could be different if we approached ourselves, our friends, our neighbors, and co-workers the same way our teachers did; with the acceptance that we are fallible, errors will be made, so acknowledge it, and move on. The LOVE sculpture reminds us of our fallibility, of the innocence that resides within, and our innate need to connect to others. When we choose to let go of judgements, accept our error-prone ways, and simply apologize we can become free from the expectation that hold us captive. We can meet each other with genuine intention and innocence. We can BE together and share our journeys.

The Burning Man gathering is governed by 10 main principles: Radical inclusion, self-reliance, self-expression, community cooperation, civic responsibility, gifting, deconstruction (a strategy for sustainable consumption), participation, immediacy and leaving no trace. The first Burning Man gathering was held in 1986, organized by Larry Harvey and a group of friends. It has grown to 70,000 attendees in 2015. This year's festival is being held from August 28th to September 5th.

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Where in the World is Glentivar, Colorado?

by Linda Bjorklund

Only a deteriorating building on U.S. Highway 24 just west of Wilkerson Pass gives a hint of the town that was known as Glentivar, Colorado. A record of Park County post offices reveals that the Glentivar Post Office was located in perhaps four different locations under at least half a dozen different postmasters, before its demise around 1961. But before there was a post office, there was a school district that encompassed Howbert, Lone Chimney, and Glentivar. A list of Park County school districts indicates that District # 6 included the three areas as early as 1880.

The original influx of population to the Colorado mountains was due to the 1859 discovery that there was gold hidden in the hills. Many flocked to the area to try their luck, but most found nothing but dirt. Rather than return home in disgrace, quite a few would-be miners discovered other ways to make a living. The U.S. congress had passed the Homestead Act of 1862 shortly after the southern states seceded from the union. The Act provided that any citizen 21 years or older could apply for a federal land grant of 160 acres. There was a residency requirement of five years.

As settlers began to take advantage of the Homestead Act in sparsely populated mountain areas, they discovered that 160 acres wasn't enough land to support farming and ranching in a semi-arid climate. A Stock-Raising Homestead Act was passed in 1916 that allowed ranchers to homestead 640 acres. It was announced in 1919 that World War I military veterans were to be given the residence benefit if they decided to apply for a homestead.

Most of the land that included Howbert, Lone Chimney and Glentivar can be traced back to homestead filings. The town of Howbert is now under the waters of the Eleven-Mile Reservoir. Lone Chimney is located between Lake George and the same reservoir. Glentivar was located mostly



Photos given to the author by the Makings family. Above taken Sunday, June 15, 1941. Below obviously during a Rocky Mountain winter.



around Sulphur Mountain, west of Badger Mountain and north of Howbert. Most towns are named after an important personage or a local landmark. So far, the only reference that could be found on the name Glentivar was a plantation in Virginia located near Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's plantation. However, it may be significant that the first postmaster, Benjamin R. Wood, had family in Albemarle County, Virginia, near the Glentivar Plantation. Wood applied for the Glentivar Post Office designation in January of 1921, which he located in his small store. The legal description of the location given indicates that Glentivar was near the corner where County Road 23 — the road to Eleven Mile State Park — now intersects with Mineral Springs Road, about two miles from U.S. Highway 24. The site now shows no evidence of a town at that location.

The *Fairplay Flume*, however, published a column entitled "Glentivar Heights" during 1923 and 1924, which talked about the comings and goings of the residents of that town. Among them was a local rancher who advertised as the L.A. Bartlett and Son furniture hospital. His products included upholstered Turkish rockers. Many of the local farmers and ranchers boasted of the potatoes that they grew and sold.

An intrepid reporter wrote to the *Flume* in May of 1924, "There were six cars in front of the store at Glentivar Tuesday. Business is getting good. Well, why shouldn't it?"

In 1928 a new application for a Glentivar Post Office was filed by Martha E. Lang. The legal description indicated the new site to be a half mile away, toward what is now U.S. Highway 24. The 1929 Colorado Business Directory included Glentivar with a population of 50. Merchants listed were Earl Hitchins, dairy; Bert Lang, grocery, Martha Lang, postmaster; and J. A. Runyon, auctioneer.

Vangelle Wilmot, a popular teacher that first came to the area to teach for a private family near Guffey in 1927, wrote in George Everett's *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, that she had accepted a teaching position "near Howbert" in 1928. She described the school house: "a white, painted, frame building — plastered walls, nice seats and desks, with a good supply of books and other material." That school was moved in 1930 due to the construction of the Eleven Mile Reservoir.

In May of 1930 it was announced that the post office at Glentivar had been discontinued. In 1931 J.J. Walsh opened a store in the post office building.

Also in 1931 Mrs. Larry (Vangelle) Wilmot was teaching at the school in Glentivar. The Wilmots had filed for a homestead near the town of Trump and Vangelle drove back and forth between the school and their homestead. She told of one Sunday in February of 1932 that she attempted to get from the Glentivar school to her home in Trump but was forced to turn back because snow had drifted on the roads so badly that no one could get through. The road grader and county truck were working to clear the road,



The current "town" of Glentivar.



Photo from the Park County Local History Archive dated 1940s from the Kenneth Makings family.

but it took until the next Friday for the mail truck to get out.

1934 appeared to be a fairly prosperous year as an ad in the *Flume* appeared: *Glentivar Lunch Room and Grocery Mrs. G. W. Gentry Short Orders At All Hours of the Day. Good Home-Made Chili A Specialty*

Nearby farmer Henry Heisler had a successful "spud" crop, marketing most of his potatoes in Arizona.

J. J. Walsh was found making several improvements in his garage, besides installing an air compressor and an additional gas pump to handle increasing business. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Jones took over operation of the store that Walsh had opened a few years before. Reported in a column in the *Flume* now entitled "Glentivar Notes," "the store had undergone a complete renovation in order to display properly the complete line of groceries carried. In connection with the store will also be a real lunch counter and they [the Jones's] claim their chili is so good they eat it themselves."

In 1935 Clyde Jones applied to the federal government to re-open the Glentivar Post Office. The next spring the infant son of the Jones's died of convulsions and was buried in the Fairplay cemetery. The 1936 roster of Park County Schools listed only Lone Chimney and Howbert in District #6, indicating that the Glentivar School no longer existed.

In 1937-1938 the road over Wilkerson Pass, through Lake George and Hartsel, was re-routed to the current U.S. Highway 24.

In 1938 Mrs. Ellen Makings applied to the federal government for a change to the Glentivar Post Office, relocating it to a site one and a half miles north, which put the

town right next to U.S. Highway 24. In June of that year Ray and Ellen Makings were reportedly moving the post office and store equipment to their new location. There was a lunch room and a two gas pumps at the store. A well was dug near the store in 1939.

In 1941 Ellen Makings again applied to the federal government for a change in location of the Glentivar Post Office. The legal description and map indicated a location further west on the old Mineral Springs Road only a mile or so from the Spinney Ranch. There is no indication that the move was ever made.

It was announced in March of 1946 that Herman and Martha Krauth had purchased the Glentivar store from Ray and Ellen Makings and would take over the post office as well. Ray Makings had learned from his doctor that he had a heart condition and needed to move to a lower altitude. The family moved to Brush, Colorado, where they operated a locker plant for a while.

The Colorado Business Directory 1950 edition listed Glentivar with only the Glentivar Store and Martha Krauth as postmaster. The same listing gave sheep raising as the principal industry and the population of the town as five people.

After Martha had been in charge of the post office for nearly 10 years, it was announced that the Glentivar Post Office would be closed as of February 28, 1955. The mail would thereafter be addressed to Lake George.

Martha continued to operate the Glentivar Store and offered home-made candies for sale as Christmas Gifts — Chocolates and Marzipan fruits were featured in a 1957 ad. Martha stayed in the store even when her husband found a job in Colorado Springs and moved there. After working for a season as cook at the Hartsel School, she finally joined her husband and left the store empty.

In 1964 a gas company hired a Colorado Springs Film Company to take "before and after" pictures of the town of Glentivar. They renovated the store front, erected signs and even installed fake trees for the film shoot. After it was all over, the company completely dismantled everything and left the buildings of Glentivar in its former desolate state.

Although Glentivar has joined the ranks of ghost towns in Park County, the remnants of an old building whisper hints of past lives.

City of Victor slated to be Colorado's newest gem

The City of Victor, located an hour from Colorado Springs and ten minutes from Cripple Creek, has all the makings to be the next compelling visitor destination due to its revitalization efforts.

Through two grants from Colorado's Department of Local Affairs and Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, the city was able to plan for its revival. "The first grant allowed us to complete an historic building inventory and marketing strategy," says Debra Downs, the City's Administrator. "The next phase is implementation of the marketing strategy which we hope will result in brokering deals between property owners, realtors, and potential investors."

In preparation for increased development, the city also adopted tax incentives, including acquiring enterprise zone status for the entire community, and generated a comprehensive database that audits many of its historical buildings, several for lease or sale. Over 60 turn-of-the-century Victorian structures exist in Victor, exhibiting unique architecture not found in today's modern construction. Aged brick, charming storefronts, and rich woodwork encapsulate the City's mining past and a bygone era.

The affordability of Victor's commercial real estate makes it ideal for startup busi-

nesses. Plus, fee waivers have been established to support a lower cost of entry for those looking to start new. On its website, www.VictorRECO.com, the city offers resources and suggestions on potential businesses for entrepreneurial endeavors. The city's location also provides a steady stream of visitors allowing for plenty of niche markets. Its quality of life attributes with instant access to recreational opportunities create the perfect work-life balance for residents and those seeking a rural lifestyle.

Victor's authentic Victorian downtown has all the ingredients for a successful revitalization: Close proximity to a metropolitan city, nearby to popular regional attractions, reliable highway access and the ability to grow its tourism base. In addition, its motivated business culture and knowledgeable local government is ready to team with economic development allies to further the revitalization efforts.

"Completed upgrades to sidewalks, street lights and utilities are all elements of the City's revitalization efforts. Now it's time to get the word out that Victor has what it takes to start, grow or relocate a business. We're also well positioned to support real estate professionals, developers and investors," says Downs.

Follow our new Victor City News BLOG at www.VictorRECO.com.

Improving the quality of orthopedic care for US troops

Robert Hunter, M.D., director of the Orthopedic Center of Excellence at Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center, is working to expand opportunities for continuing education for military orthopedic surgeons.

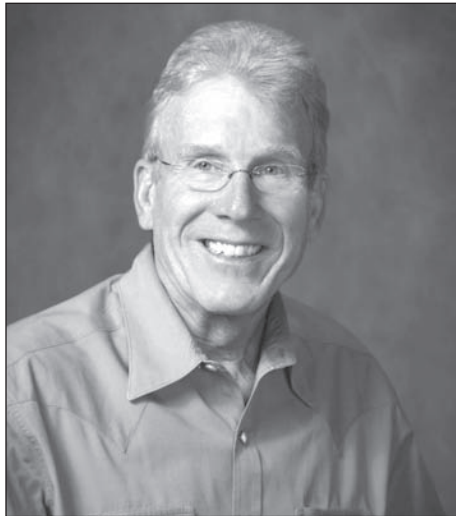
As a board member of the Arthroscopy Association of North America (AANA), Dr. Hunter has been instrumental in developing an annual course designed to provide military orthopedic surgeons with cutting edge, hands-on experience with the latest arthroscopic surgical techniques. Arthroscopy is a minimally invasive surgical procedure on a joint using an arthroscope, which is inserted in the joint through a small incision.

This initiative began in 2010 when the Society of Military Orthopedic Surgeons (SOMOS) approached AANA for help training their active-duty orthopedic surgeons and residents in arthroscopic surgery.

"AANA has provided a once per year course since then — with the exception of 2013 when sequestration made all military travel and training impossible — combining both didactic lecture and cadaveric laboratory exercise," said Dr. Hunter.

"AANA has fully funded this course so it can be offered at no charge to military attendees," continued Dr. Hunter, who is on the teaching faculty for the course. "This effort has been met with wonderful praise and gratitude from our military colleagues but we are only touching 48 surgeons once per year, which is the capacity of our learning center in Chicago, when there are 400 to 500 orthopedic surgeons on active duty with teaching needs and desires that could be addressed by AANA."

As chairman of AANA's Development Committee, Dr. Hunter was entrusted with finding a funding source that would allow the organization to expand its commitment beyond a once per year weekend course. "We have been working over the past



Dr. Robert Hunter, M.D.

18 months to gain access to Department of Defense (DOD) funding by introducing legislation to allocate DOD funds towards physician education with particular focus on arthroscopy," said Dr. Hunter. "As of June 1, we have successfully introduced language in both Senate and House defense appropriations bills thanks to a very concerted effort to gain support from Senate and House members. Although there is a great deal more to do before we can actually expand our teaching efforts, we are well on the way to succeeding with our mission: To improve the quality of care provided to our active duty troops and their dependents."

In addition to his work with AANA, Dr. Hunter lectures around the world and has published more than 40 articles in refereed journals on sports medicine topics. He sees patients at the HRRMC Medical Clinics in Salida and can be reached at 719-530-2000.

Join JA in a Day at Cresson Elementary

Junior Achievement of Southern Colorado, Teller County, will host a 'JA in a Day' event at Cresson Elementary School in Cripple Creek on Thursday, September 15. Community volunteers will present Junior Achievement curriculum on work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills to all school students in 1st through 6th grade. JA's educational materials and activities enable students to develop the skills they need to experience the realities and opportunities of work and entrepreneurship in the 21st-century global marketplace. All necessary volunteer training and curriculum materials are provided. For more information or to volunteer in the classroom, contact Sherri L. Albertson at 719-650-4089 or via email to sherri.albertson@ja.org.

Correction

The August issue of the Ute Country News on page 4 incorrectly typed the summit of Pikes Peak as 14,150 feet. The elevation of Pikes Peak is actually 14,115 feet. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by our error.

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Walk or ride your bike to this event to be entered in a drawing for great prizes.

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Kathrine Switzer, the first woman to officially enter the Boston Marathon, has long been one of running's most iconic figures. Switzer went on to run 39 marathons and win the New York City Marathon in 1974. She is now an Emmy award-winning TV commentator and author who continues to motivate audiences to make fitness a part of their lives and take charge of their health and well-being.

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Cost: \$25 includes gourmet lunch catered by chef Michelle Gapp. Register by October 3 online at hrrmc.com or call 719-530-2417.



MTCC's Aspen Valley Mountain Bike Race

by Deborah Maresca
photo by Deborah Maresca

The Mountain Top Cycling Club had the Aspen Valley Mountain Bike Race Saturday Aug. 13, 2016. Tucker Elliott is 9 years old and a club member. He raced the Aspen Valley Ranch Race sponsored by Ute

Pass Family Chiropractic. His father Ian Elliott and is the Woodland Park High School assistant Mountain bike coach. His mom, Debby Elliott raced Women's Category 3 and took 2nd place.

Congratulations to Hunter Stone!

Woodland Park High School Senior Hunter Stone, son of Erik and Jennifer Stone of Woodland Park, recently attended the 2016 Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference at CSU Pueblo. The five-day conference provides an educational experience that develops leadership, patriotism, and free enterprise competencies for young leaders. Stone received the David Clayton Award (Grace & Humility) making him the only award winner from a smaller school. Congratulations!



Cup and Cone teams with Nicola's Signature Chocolates

What happens when two local business women work together? Something delicious!

Jeri Fry, owner of The Cup and Cone, and Nicola Hagans, owner of Nicola's Signature Chocolates, have teamed together to offer elegant waffle bowls edged in Nicola's Signature Chocolate. "What a delicious opportunity when Nicola opened her shop next door to us," said Fry.

"My chocolate is a blend of different types of chocolate," said Nicola, "without waxes and preservatives. This was a solution for me because shelf stable chocolate would make me sick."

Shelf stable chocolate contains a lot of waxes and preservatives, which Nicola leaves out of her chocolates. People who suspect an allergy to chocolate may actually have issues with the preservatives and waxes.

Nicola opened her shop near the Cup and Cone at 331 Royal Gorge Blvd in February 2016 and busily produces 13 different Homemade Candy Bars, 10 Different Flavors of chocolate covered strawberries, Chocolate Covered Pretzels, as well as a wide variety of solid molded chocolate items including beautiful holiday items, Lollipops, High heels, Cowboy boots and tool boxes.

"I have learned how to achieve the precise temperature necessary to fuse chocolate pieces. This allows me to make intricate and delicate things like a chocolate carousel."



Jerry Fry (left) and Nicola Hagans (right).

Nicola is able to produce large orders and has already done so for local businesses during the Blossom Festival sponsored Chocolate walk in February, as well as various grand opening events locally.

"I love offering menu items that are Colorado Proud," said Fry. "These bowls sell for \$1.75 and are a perfect way to hold your scoop from Cup and Cone's large variety of Colorado made ice cream choices. "We have choices for folks with special dietary needs," said Fry, "as well as ice cream parlor and old time fountain favorites."

To escape or celebrate come to the Cup and Cone open daily.

Rush to Victor for Ghost Town Garage Sale Weekend

Mark your calendars for Sept. 10 and 11, and plan to attend Victor's first Ghost Town Garage Sale Weekend. The town will be making space available in some of the currently unoccupied turn-of-the-century buildings for vendors to set up with their wares. The aspen leaves will be golden in color and the rusty gold will abound. In addition, Victor has several great antique stores and eateries that will be offering specials/discounts. Call 719-574-524-0833 for more information or to reserve a space.

Sign up for vendors will be open thru Sept. 5 at Claim Jumper or by emailing at tuscanyllc@gmail.com. Maps of the sales will be available at claim jumper Sept. 6 through the weekend of the event. Sales will be located throughout town from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Call 719-574-524-0833 for more information or to reserve a space. More information will be available at cityofvictor.com/ghosttown.html.

Thin Air Theatre Company presents The Foreigner

Thin Air Theatre Company (TATC), entering its 10th year at the Butte Theater, will bring *The Foreigner* to Cripple Creek.

The Foreigner, by Larry Shue, is a Contemporary Farce and will run Sept. 2 through 24; shows are Thursday through Sunday.

In this hilarious farce, introvert Charlie Baker is forced by a friend to take a vacation at a fishing lodge in rural Georgia. To avoid having to interact with the other guests, Charlie adopts the persona of a foreigner who doesn't understand English. But when others begin to speak freely around him, he not only overhears their secrets and schemes, but also discovers an adventurer in himself.

The Foreigner is a fast-paced comedy and the winner of two Obie Awards and two Outer Critics Circle Awards as Best New American Play and Best Off-Broadway Production, and *The Village Voice* has called it, "...a constant invitation to relax and laugh at the foolishness of life..."

Directed by Lawrence Leshner, with a cast comprised of many returning TATC favorites (Kevin Pierce, Nick Madson and others.) this show is guaranteed to leave you with a smile.

For more information and to make online reservations, visit ButteTheater.com. To make phone reservations, call 719-689-3247.

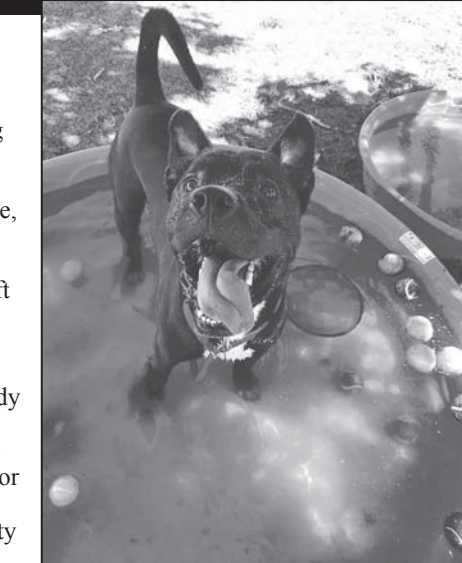
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Dexter is a one year old American Bulldog mix. He is a fun and playful boy. He is full of energy and LOVES to play fetch with balls and to play in water. Dexter loves people, but does not love other dogs, so must be an only dog. Dexter knows quite a few obedience commands and can shake his right or left paw, sit, come, down, and wait. If you fill his pool with tennis balls, he will take them out in record speed. Dexter is already neutered, microchipped and fully vaccinated. He is ready to find his forever home.

Visit Dexter at the Humane Society of Fremont County at 10 Rhodes Ave, Canon City, or call 719-275-0663 for more information.

Do you want to support the Humane Society of Fremont County and get a good breakfast, too? Attend the breakfast fundraiser at Chili's, 106 Latigo Ln, Canon City on September 17 from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Call or stop by the Humane Society to buy your tickets 719-275-0663. All proceeds go to the HSFC.



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Updates on CUPS projects What's happening in and around the Upper South Platte Watershed

by Coalition for the Upper South Platte
photos courtesy of CUSP

Volunteers

A few months ago CUSP talked about the importance of volunteers who help us get our work in the watershed done. We thought we'd let you know how the summer has gone so far with so many great folks helping us on projects large and small.

CUSP's 2016 volunteer season has proven to be fruitful and productive! Dedicated service groups have been making their annual appearances (some biannual, and even some triannual!), and we are grateful to have hosted new volunteer groups this year as well. So far this year, CUSP has hosted 92 volunteer projects with the help of about 1,500 youth and adult volunteers who put in almost 10,000 hours of work on the ground. Their work has provided more than \$160,000 of in-kind match for federal and state grants funding these projects.

One of our most committed and hard-working volunteer groups is the Cutthroat Chapter of Trout Unlimited (CCTU), based out of Littleton. This year they have helped us with trail maintenance near Cheesman Reservoir, noxious weed mitigation along the Platte, as well as flood and fire rehabilitation on Trail Creek. In addition to helping us with several projects a year, CCTU has always been dedicated to the same cause; protecting the ecological health of the Upper South Platte Watershed.

In July we had the pleasure to work with one of our largest and most diverse groups; Up With People. Up With People is an international organization focused on the arts, music, traveling and service. This year, they consisted of about 100 people from Bermuda, Belgium, Japan; from all over the globe. Together we accomplished important fire and noxious weed mitigation work! At Beaver Ranch, which is nestled in a densely populated Wildland Urban Interface (W.U.I.), we built burn piles, and raked debris to clear up a previously logged area.

From across the country to right in our backyard, groups and individuals are eager to help restore the Hayman and Waldo burn scars! First United Methodist of Colorado Springs helped us plant Ponderosa Pine Saplings. DeLaSalle High School of Minnesota helped us rehabilitate burn pile scars. Sanborn Western Camps helped with noxious weed mitigation. Boy Scouts helped us with trail maintenance at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. United States Air Force Cadets helped gather up wood for Help the Needy. Working with these groups is a constant reminder that there is so much good in the world!

Mushrooms

Back in March CUSP shared an article (The Fungus Among Us) about the exciting world of myco-remediation and the work CUSP has been doing to train mushrooms to eat wood chips and help remove fire fuels from treated forest floors. An initial report can be found at: <http://cusp.ws/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Fungal-Degradation-FINAL.pdf>.



2016 Mushroom Fair

So far this year we have monitored the first year (2015) plots and have been collecting new species for training in the lab. We have created a testing regime; finished compost (as well as raw chips) can be monitored for nutrient contents and carbon quantities. We are interested in the carbon sequestration value of this process, as well as conversion of trace elements into plant nutrients. We hope to have a better idea of what the mass conversion is: how much bulk is left after composting and what the actual compounds are.



DeLaSalle High School students from Minnesota

This work has piqued the interest of quite a number of folk including academics from across the country as well as the Colorado Mycological Society and the Denver Botanic Gardens. CUSP attended the Colorado Mycological Society "Mushroom Fair" at the Denver Botanic Gardens on Sunday, August 21. The CUSP mushroom team of Jeff Ravage and Dr. Marc Donskey greeted almost 1,400 enthusiastic visitors and introduced them to the fungal degradation study. They also took advantage of the hundreds of specimens brought in by the public to choose four new potential wood rotting strains and do live tissue cultures for the experiment. The spectators, especially the children, were fascinated to watch actual cloning before their eyes, and right behind CUSP's fair booth.

We have found a site for a larger test next year and we plan on making smaller test beds at the newly opened Bailey slash site so that we can simultaneously test multiple organisms for speed and fruiting efficiency. CUSP will keep you posted on the progress of what we think is some very exciting science!

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Just The Facts The soul of solar in Colorado

by James W. Hagadorn, Ph.D.



What is the second fastest growing industry in Colorado? Solar and renewable energy.

Unlike wind power, which may plateau in the near future, solar will continue to experience astronomical growth. This billion dollar industry is fostered by our favorable regulatory climate, sunny high elevations, and a bevy of savvy companies and labs that are pushing the frontiers of solar research, like the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden.

Photovoltaic cells, or PV cells, are the microscopically thin silicon sandwiches that make energy from the sun. They're composed of a veritable tongue-twister of ingredients, blended together to turn incoming solar energy into electricity.

In other words — a PV cell is like an LED in reverse.

There are three categories of PV systems: i) utility-scale systems that consist of huge fields of PV panels connected together like a power plant; ii) commercial and residential systems dominated by roof-mounted solar panels; and iii) community solar systems, aka solar gardens, which are stand-alone PV arrays that folks who rent, have shady roofs, or are on a tight budget can buy into.

Most of these PV systems are tied to the grid via some type of electrical meter, substation, or the like, providing what's called "distributed power generation" to our society. Rather than having all our power come from one place that a single entity controls, PV allows power to be generated in little batches, closer to where it will be used, with excess being sent back out onto the grid to benefit neighboring users.

Today's PV technology is as mind-blowingly advanced as the stuff in an iPhone. Panel efficiency has risen while costs have dropped — just like occurred in computers and cell phones in recent decades. Panels are so efficient and cost-effective that modern utility-scale systems, like the Comanche Solar field near Pueblo, can produce power at about the same cost as a modern gas-fired power plant.

PV systems have other advantages besides being cost-effective. They're quiet, maintenance-free, don't use water like coal- and gas-fired power plants, and they help provide national and local energy independence. By offsetting fossil fuel emissions, they yield health benefits through cleaner air and reduce global warming. Homes with seller-owned PV systems sell faster, and for more money than those without.

Both residential and commercial rooftop PV systems reduce overall pollution and prices of electricity for everyone on the grid, even those without PV. That's because panels generate the most power during the summer months, at a time when utilities are forced to buy higher-cost, less-efficiently-produced power to offset a portion of society's air conditioning needs. Also, they last — even after 25ish years of Colorado hailstorms, PV panels still perform at incredibly high rates of efficiency.

What about downsides? Photovoltaic systems, like any piece of technology and equipment, cost a lot of money to bring online. Their predictability, like wind, is



Both residential and commercial rooftop PV systems reduce overall pollution and prices of electricity for everyone on the grid, even those without PV.

photos by NREL

subject to the vagaries of weather. Most aren't coupled to electricity storage systems, so aren't dispatchable on a moment's notice, nor is their energy portable like jet fuel. PV panels also produce DC power, so an inverter is needed to convert it to AC power, resulting in energy loss. Utility-scale systems, which tend to be mounted on the ground, also have land-intensive footprints. But with a bit of foresight, like the giant array mounted atop an old landfill on Fort Carson, their impact can be minimized.

Payback time for a system that provides 100 percent of an average Colorado home's needs is five to eight years, after which all the electricity is free. For utility-scale systems that use ground-mounted arrays



Panels are so efficient and cost-effective that modern utility-scale systems, like the Comanche Solar field near Pueblo, can produce power at about the same cost as a modern gas-fired power plant. photo by Kent James

and newer cadmium-telluride thin-film PVs, payback can be less than a year.

So what's next? Keep your eyes peeled on giant lithium-ion and similar batteries for your home or business, or perhaps even at the utility-scale. Such batteries have the potential to make PV-generated electricity dispatchable and predictable, just like oil-, gas-, and coal-fired power sources. The future might also include a return to homes that operate on DC, rather than AC. To step into this future, we'll need to carefully manage our tangled electrical grid, to make sure that electrons from the sun are en route wherever and whenever needed. Microgrids, increasingly common in the northeast US and elsewhere, will almost certainly be part of that future.

The fastest growing (pun intended) industry in Colorado? It's an electricity hog. But if it were to use LED lights fueled by rooftop PV panels, it could save money, help public health and the environment, and grow even faster. Something to think about.

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

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Real Estate Report

Statistics continue to show a trend of more buyers and sales prices increasing. Year to date compared to 2015 - overall in Teller County the listing inventory is down 4.4% with sold homes up 5.7%. The median sales price is \$250,000, up 9.8%. Woodland Park has the strongest increase in median sales price up 14.8% to \$295K, and Cripple Creek-Victor is the lowest with a decrease of 10.3% to \$130,000.

Fall is a great time to put your home on the market - there will still be plenty of buyers throughout the season. Call or email me if you'd like to know more about sales in your neighborhood.

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Critter Corner

Tigger showing us how relaxed he was - Laura Pearson, Florissant, CO

Jade and Shadow share the futon - Jeff Hansen, Florissant, CO

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.

Time Warp

by Danielle Dellinger

Time Warp and her parents appeared in August 2016's issue, on pages 20 & 21, "The Horned Dove."

As a little girl, Time Warp sat with her father, Past, and watched the ships glide underneath the bridge they sat on. "Where's mother?" Time Warp asked. She saw her father's shoulders hunch as he sighed. "I don't know, Ti. Off in the world somewhere, I suppose, fighting another war or battle." "Why can't she be home, here with us?" Past looked at his daughter. "Because she says there are bad things in this world that need to be taken care of."

"Is she being truthful?" Past hesitated, but then nodded. "Yes, she is." He rubbed her back, returning his gaze to a ship right as it started underneath the bridge. "I wish she would come home and take care of my bad things."

He looked at her quizzically. "Your bad things?" "My angry and sad thoughts about her being gone." "Ah, I see. Well, I wish she was home to take care of that, too."

Ti exhaled and leaned into her father, his arm going around her back.

Three months later...

Spell knelt down and hugged her daughter tightly. "I'm so glad to see you!"

"Mother! You're back!" Ti exclaimed, burying her face in her mother's hair as she hugged her back.

Spell looked up at Past and noted the weary expression on his face. She frowned, and he motioned for her to come talk with him. After telling Time Warp to go play, Spell went into the study where Past waited, closing the door behind her.

"I heard about your shenanigans while you were in the field," he said solemnly, facing away from her. "I heard about how you looted a house, then set fire to it to cover your tracks."

"Past, I only did that to cover my tracks so I could give those things to people who need them."

"No one needs the prime minister's sword but the prime minister, Spell," he said gruffly, finally turning to face her.

"You don't understand," she said. "It'll..."

"You're right, I don't understand," he interjected. "Do you really want to teach our daughter to be a thief? Do you really want her breaking into houses where people of authority live? That's the kind of trouble we won't be able to get her out of."

"Past, listen to me. The sword will help increase..."

"Your magic," he finished. "It's always about your magic. It always has something to do with increasing your power."

"You don't want me to get stronger?" "Not at the expense of time with your daughter, with your family. It's selfish."

Spell looked at the floor. "I'm really trying here, Past."

"Are you? Because I don't feel you are."

"What do you want me to do? Go back in time and alter how I was born."

He watched her, clearly mulling over whether it was something he could pull off or not.

"Past! You can't be serious! You should accept me for me!"

He shook his head, turning away from her.

again. "I can't do that when you're not being the best version of yourself that you could be. Nearly everything you do, nearly every decision you make, should be for the sake of our child and her well-being. I want her to have the best life possible, don't you?"

"I do, of course I do! How could you think I want something different?"

He rounded on her, eyes narrowed.

"Because you're not behaving as a mother should. You should be here for your daughter. But you're not. You're off stealing and fighting pointless battles. Time Warp turns 10 tomorrow. I hope you can find it in your heart to be there for the festivities." Past then left the room without another word.

Spell stood in silence for what felt like hours. Finally, she emerged from the study and went to find Time Warp. She found her playing out in the front yard, carriages trundling by on the cobblestone street a few yards away.

"Ti," Spell said gently as she approached, sitting down beside her. "Are you upset with me for being gone often?"

Ti nodded in a way only a little girl could.

"Do you know why I leave?"

Ti shook her head, staying focused on the doll made out of rags in her hands.

"I leave to make the world a better place for you. Did you know that on the day you were born, April 28, 1795, the Vagrant Act was put into effect here in England?"

Ti looked up at her blankly.

"That law meant magistrates could enroll smugglers and vagrants in the Royal Navy as an alternative punishment. I spent a lot of time rounding up those kinds of people and bringing them before the magistrates so their enrollment would bolster the Navy's numbers."

She paused, running her fingers through Ti's hair. "At that time your father was a former smuggler, and he and I helped bring in as many of those people as we could."

Ti stared at her with big eyes. "Why?"

"Because the rewards for bringing those people to justice were large, and that money has been used to take care of all your needs. Plus, your father's former smuggling connections helped us find a lot of them."

"Father was a smuggler?" she asked, trying to understand.

"He was," Spell nodded.

"What did he smuggle?"

"Mostly expensive things that had been

stolen for important people." Spell was about to go on when a rough clearing of the throat came from behind her.

"What lies are you filling Ti's head with?"

"They're not lies, Past," Spell said pointedly, looking to him.

"They are, Spell. Why're you trying to turn her against me?"

"Isn't that what you're doing? Aren't you telling her that I'm bad because I'm trying to do good for this world?"

"I've never said anything like that. But how would you know if I did?"

"You know how," she said, glaring at him.

"So you're building up your magic in order to spy on me?"

"Maybe I should be so I can be certain that you're not bad-mouthing me to our daughter."

He rolled his eyes. "Ti, please tell your mother that I haven't said anything bad about her."

Ti looked away from her parents, staring out at the street. "You did say that one time that mother was useless

even with her powers."

Spell glared at Past. "How dare you!" she shouted, getting to her feet and scooping up Time Warp in her arms.

With a dramatic wave of her hand, the lawn went up in flames.

Past shouted and jumped back, calling out for Time Warp, for Spell to give her back.

The sudden flames startled Time Warp, and she squealed, trying to shield herself.

"Oh, honey," Spell cooed. "Look."

Time Warp peered out from behind her arm and saw that the sparks were rising slowly while the flames lazily waved back and forth, like the controlled wave of a county fair queen.

"Can you find us a way out, Ti?"

"What about father?" she asked, her voice small and timid.

"He'll find a way out. He always does."

It took her a minute, but Ti lifted her hand and tapped the air in front of her with just the tip of her index finger. The air rippled out from where she touched, and Spell instinctively knew to walk into the ripples.

They appeared a few blocks away, about 10 minutes in the future.

Spell looked back in the direction of the fire, watching the black smoke swirling up above the buildings. A part of her did worry that Past

would be unable to escape, but at the same time, she knew his ability. He probably went back in time to the moment just before she got up and lit the lawn on fire and left from there.

Now, soft sobs in her ear brought her back to the present situation. Ti cried into Spell's hair.

"Sweetheart, you're okay. I've got you. You're safe with me. I won't leave you ever again."

"I want father," she cried.

Tears sliding down her cheeks brought Time Warp out of her thoughts. She quickly wiped them away.

"My dear, are you listening?" spoke a man, Avery.

Time Warp blinked, then nodded. "Yes. You said that we should reserve the Great Hall for the party."

"Do you think you'll be able to handle the preparations and setup?"

"Yes, love." She smiled at the man she met a couple months after landing in the Baltimore Inner Harbour.

They'd currently been together for a year.

"Good. Excellent. The party will be held at the end of next week, then."

"Perfect. I shall see to it that everything is in order." She got up, smoothing down the folds of her dress.

"Ti, wait. Are you sure you're alright?"

She nodded. "I'm sure. Thanks," she said, offering a smile.

"Those tears... What caused them?"

"It's nothing. Just painful memories that I shall soon forget." She kissed his cheek as she passed, going to the door.

As she walked down the hall, she heard the clicking of heels hurrying after her. She sighed and rolled her eyes.

"Mother. Not now," she said sternly.

"Yes, now. Don't ignore me, Ti!"

"For the billionth time, I'm not leaving."

"Why not? You think that black eye suits you?"

Ti's steps faltered, but she forced herself to keep going.

"A party won't make up for him hitting you, Ti. You must know that. A party will never make up for what he's done to you."

"Mother, please leave. This discussion is over."

"Why won't you leave him?!" she

exclaimed, her voice echoing off the stone walls and floor.

Time Warp spun on her heel to face her, then grabbed her arm and pulled her into the nearest room.

"Because, mother," she hissed. "He's threatened to kill you if I try to leave. So, just drop it. Please, for your own sake. You know he's got a temper."

She pulled away from Ti. "Yes, I do know. Those cracked ribs the other week were for you not attending dinner." She fought back tears. "You are my daughter, Ti. Your well-being matters to me. I will not stand idly by while this man hurts you."

"This is just the way things are, mother. You know that. Father hit you on occasion, didn't he?"

Spell averted her eyes, unable to make eye contact with Ti.

"So, you should get it. It's just something men do to women."

"But it shouldn't! Women aren't inferior to men. No one deserves to be hit."

debating. "I can't do that, mother. I'm sorry. That would put you in harm's way even more."

A couple days before the party Avery proposed to her, and by the morning of the party they were a married couple. Spell watched in horror at the events unfolding before her. She felt powerless, and it was a feeling that made her skin itch.

Things were going along smoothly for the party until Avery came in to see how the preparations were coming along. When he learned that one of his best friends had been uninvited to the party, he went into a fit of rage. He stormed around, searching high and low for Ti. When he finally found her, he cornered her.

"Why did you rescind the invitation to my friend, Oliver?" he growled, his face inches from hers. She held her ground.

"Because I felt this party wouldn't be the right fit for him."

"Oh? Why's that?" he snapped, his hand going over her throat and squeezing.

"Because," she rasped, "he tends to like more serious affairs, such as your poker nights."

"You had no right to do what you did without consulting me first. I did not give you permission to uninvite him."

"I'm sorry," she choked. "It was a mistake."

"Yes it was," he sneered, pulling his other hand back into a fist.

Stars bloomed on the inside of her eyelids and the pain shot through her like an arrow. She thrashed against his hold, trying to break free. However, his strength outmatched hers by far. As the darkness began to envelop her, she thought of the fight between her parents in their front yard. She thought of all her feelings, but primarily her fear. Her fear of not being in control of the situation,

of not being able to make it stop, of watching the two people she loved the most fight with each other.

Now, here she was fighting for her own life. She struggled from the lack of oxygen to recall that feeling she'd felt just before she'd created a time warp. She knew that was the only thing that would save her. She barely knew what was happening as he lifted her up and slammed her down. She barely felt a couple ribs crack from the stone floor greeting her body. She barely heard him shouting insult after insult at her.

Where was that feeling?

Why wouldn't it come to her? How deeply had she buried it?

Then, she felt a tickle of something inside of her, and just as she felt an explosion of pain and pressure on her head, the feeling ignited.

She waited, but nothing happened. Then she heard footsteps walking toward her as everything gradually faded to white.

"You're too late," said a familiar voice. She looked up and saw her father.

"Too late for what?"

"To save yourself," he replied as he offered her his hand and helped her up to her feet.

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36th Annual Ed Snell Memorial 10K Walk/Run

by Flip Boettcher
photos by Flip Boettcher

Guffey library branch manager, Rita Mick and her son, Anthony were two of the 35 runners in the 36th Annual Charity Fundraiser Ed Snell Memorial 10K Run/Walk on Saturday, August 20, 2016. The race began in Cohen Park in Fairplay and extended to the stone church in Alma; that is equivalent to 10,000 meters or 6.21 miles at 10,000 feet altitude.

The Mick's each came in first in their age division and crossed the finish line hand-in-hand. Rita, 50-59 year division, finished in one hour five minutes and one second, and Anthony, 20-29 year division, finished in one hour five minutes and five seconds. The first runner to cross the finish line was Pepi Peterson, 40-49 year division, from Boston and a past Ed Snell run winner, with a time of 41 minutes and 27 seconds.

There also were 14 walkers, 10 women, in the race this year for a total of 49 participants. Last year, according to Beth Swanson, race organizer for many years, there were 32 contestants. The first men's walker to finish was Greg Ambrose, 60-69 year division, Fairplay resident, with a time of one hour 11 minutes and 42 seconds. The first women's walker, Melissa Morgan, 30-39 year division, finished with a time of one hour 28 minutes and five seconds. The walkers started in Fairplay one hour before the runners.

The youngest participants were two 10-year olds, Kasey Klock, overall first place winner, and Ava Landis, overall second place winner, 10-14 year division. They both finished in just under 53 minutes. The oldest participant was Connie Keller, over 70 year division, with a time of one hour 48 minutes and 32 seconds.

Two women pushed baby carriages with one mother's three-year old son running some of the race and crossing the finish line.

An Alma couple was at the race watching their son, who is on the Green Mountain Falls High School Cross Country running team along with 10 other of his cross country teammates. The team went home with quite a few ribbons.

Lunch was provided at the finish line, all donated, prepared and served by volunteers. Awards were given out to each first, second, and third place finisher in each age group for men runners and walkers and women runners and walkers, as well as overall first, second and third place men and women.

The Ed Snell Memorial Race started in February, 1979, when Bill Reeves challenged his friend Tom Knebel to a race from a bar in Fairplay to Alma's Only Bar after several beers, and talk about prowess in high school track and field. The race took place a week later on a cold night on the highway from the Park Bar in Fairplay to Alma's Only Bar. The winner was Reeves and he said in *Early Days in South Park*, by Laura Van Dusen, "I'm still savoring that beer." The loser had to buy the beer.

The race grew each year from there and was dedicated as a fundraiser to help local individuals and families in times of need. The race was named after longtime Alma native Ed Snell, 1905 - 1975. Snell was a miner with a heart. Snell was a geologist, environmentalist and helper of those in need.

Erik Swanson, nephew of Snell, and wife Beth have managed and sponsored the event for years. All funds raised go to charity except for the annual T-shirt for the event.



From left to right at the finish line are Beth Swanson, race organizer; Olis McGlothlin, race volunteer; and first place men's walker 60 - 69 year division, Greg Ambrose.



First place runner men's 40-49 year division Pepi Peterson.



Anthony Mick on the left and Rita Mick on the right at Cohen Park at the start of the Ed Snell Race in Fairplay.

For the last several years the race management group has been under the blanket of the 501(3) non-profit Alma Foundation.

The funds from the first race went to a local child and her family who were in financial difficulty because of high medical bills. Over the years funds raised have gone to help pay for medical bills, propane, gas, rent and grocery costs which top the list, said Beth.

Funds also went to a successful liver transplant, car repairs, and a dream trip to see the ocean for a terminally ill young man. This year's recipient, four year old Bella, is undergoing surgery and chemotherapy for cancer.

For more information about the race or to make a donation, visit the website: www.almafoundation.com/events. Any questions please call Rimfrost Antiques: 719-836-4832 or visit them at 441 Front St. in Fairplay. Erik and Beth Swanson own Rimfrost Antiques. For a more detailed account of the Ed Snell Memorial Race see *Early Days in South Park*, by Laura Van Dusen.

CENTER OF THE KNOWN UNIVERSE

DIVIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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.

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Psychic on the Peak Walking a Spiritual Path

by Tatianna Ramos

Man is lost and wandering in a jungle where real values have no meaning. Real values can have meaning to man only when he steps on to the spiritual path, a path where negative emotions have no use."

~ Sai Baba

There are many ideas about what it means to walk a Spiritual Path. The world is filled with tens of thousands of paths. Like many of you, I have pondered and questioned, *how do I choose the path that is right, or at least right for me?* The only conclusion I have come to is to choose the path of personal growth. This can include changing our ideas, thought patterns, feelings, beliefs, desires, to something that is more consistent with our values.

We are a culture of lost souls who have indeed lost sight of real and meaningful values. We distract ourselves with unnecessary things, people, ideas, etc. Yet, we all crave a spiritual purpose. We all have a sense, deep within, that something essential is missing. We each must seek a path to follow which leads us to positivity, connection with others, and source. No matter which road

we take the destination is the same. This is a difficult task. It is much easier to avoid and distract, but far less fulfilling. We must discover a way to find the small joys, little moments of peace. These passing times of calm are what give us direction, leading us to a lifetime of bliss and understanding.

Discover your own path by following the circumstances and events that feel good and push you to better yourself. Rejuvenate your spirit by reflecting on what you desire to obtain and/or maintain in your life. Recreate your life by setting goals that seem realistic and move to achieve them. Nourish your soul, feed your needs, and balance your existence.

We are on a constant journey of self-improvement and re-education; forever rediscovering ourselves, others, the universe, and how it all fits together. Human connection is imperative for personal growth, which in my eyes is the ultimate Spiritual Path, in order to lead a life of authenticity, where we are able to realize our "real values".

We must teach ourselves to practice compassion: Compassion for ourselves, compassion for others, compassion for all that is. Through compassion we feel gratitude. Through gratitude we find the joys that lead us in a direction where we are open to learning, changing, and growing. Be diligent in your pursuit of self-growth. It will not always be comfortable, but it promises to be rewarding. Be dedicated to finding the joy that belongs in your life!

Should you be interested in a personal reading/session, please text or call to make an appointment at 719-694-4789.

American Legion Post 1980 dedicates flag to WPHS

by Kathy Hansen
photo by Jeff Hansen

The American Legion Post 1980 is committed to dedicating new flags to schools in the Teller County area. This year, new flags have been presented to Woodland Park High School, Woodland Park Middle School, and Colorado Springs Christian School. The ceremony included a briefing by American Legion member Larry Ingram on the significance of the stars and stripes, a brief history of old glory, and the proper protocol of removing your hat and placing it on your heart (or just your hand on your heart if you do not wear a hat) during the Pledge of Allegiance. American Legion member John Meyer played the bugle while the flag was rising. American Legion members Chuck Gardner and Robby Cox raised the flag. The students of WPHS could choose between remaining in class and attending the flag presentation. Approximately 200 of the 750 students chose the flag ceremony.



American Legion members Chuck Gardner and Robby Cox prepare to raise the flag.

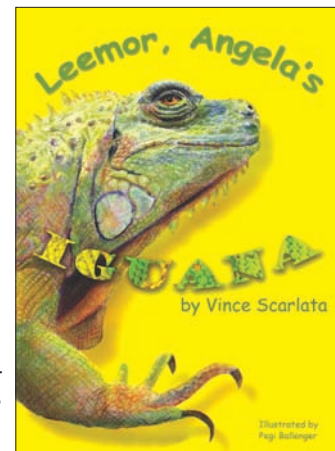
Leemor, Angela's Iguana The latest book by local author, Vince Scarlata

by Kathy Hansen

Local author, Vince Scarlata is happy to announce his fourth book, *Leemor, Angela's Iguana* is now for sale on Amazon for only \$9.95. Vince thought children would enjoy reading about having a lizard for a pet and the adventures Leemor brought to the family. After all, kids like lizards!

The book was illustrated by Pegi Ballenger, who also illustrated *Honey of a Dog*, *a Book About a Little Dachshund and Teddy*, *the Amazing Wolf-Dog*, Vince illustrated *Charlie the Red-Tailed Hawk*, at my *Window with a Broken Wing* using photos he had taken.

The story is about how Angela, family and friends adapt to life with Leemor, an iguana as a pet. While Leemor gives Angela great joy, there are many challenges of having a lizard as a pet. The reader learns even an iguana can train a human to be a good pet owner!



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Aspen Gold Summer's end is autumn's friend

by Sonja Oliver
photo by Sonja Oliver

The fall of 2016 promises to be a better-than-average year for aspen viewing since this past summer has been moderate in its cycle of rains and subsequent dry weather. Already the first signs of autumn can be seen with just a hint of red and gold painted upon the tips of trembling aspen leaves.

As summer wanes, the decrease in sunlight causes chlorophyll — the green color in leaves — to diminish. With the hues of green fading, the leaves turn into the rich colors of gold (and sometimes red or orange) until the dying leaves flutter to the ground.

By mid-September, aspen groves have begun their transition into a glorious display of golden hues and by the first week of October, the colors have reached their peak with leaves dropping to the forest floor as the tree prepares itself for winter dormancy.

Populus tremuloides — or the quaking aspen — grows in the cooler mountain climates in locations along streams and in sub-irrigated meadowlands and along canyon floors.

They can be seen sprouting up in places where wildfires have ravaged the area, providing new growth and cover for wildlife to begin a new cycle of regeneration.

Aspens naturally reproduce through their elaborate root systems, by sending up suckers from the roots to create “clones” which are connected underground at the root and are genetically identical to the mother tree. An aspen stand that is a family (genetically identical) will sprout leaves at the same time each spring and, in the fall, the leaves turn into the same shade of gold together at the same time.

Aspens contain a chemical very similar to aspirin. This chemical, known as salicin, helps reduce inflammation. Aspen bark was made into a medicinal tea by Native Americans and is used as a way to reduce fever and

pain. Woodland creatures also benefit from the aspen tree. In fact, the black scarring seen on tree trunks comes from deer, moose, elk and other wildlife who have rubbed or gnawed the trees as a way to alleviate pain or to eat the twigs and foliage as a food source. In addition, the outer bark produces a chalky powder which can be used as a sunscreen.

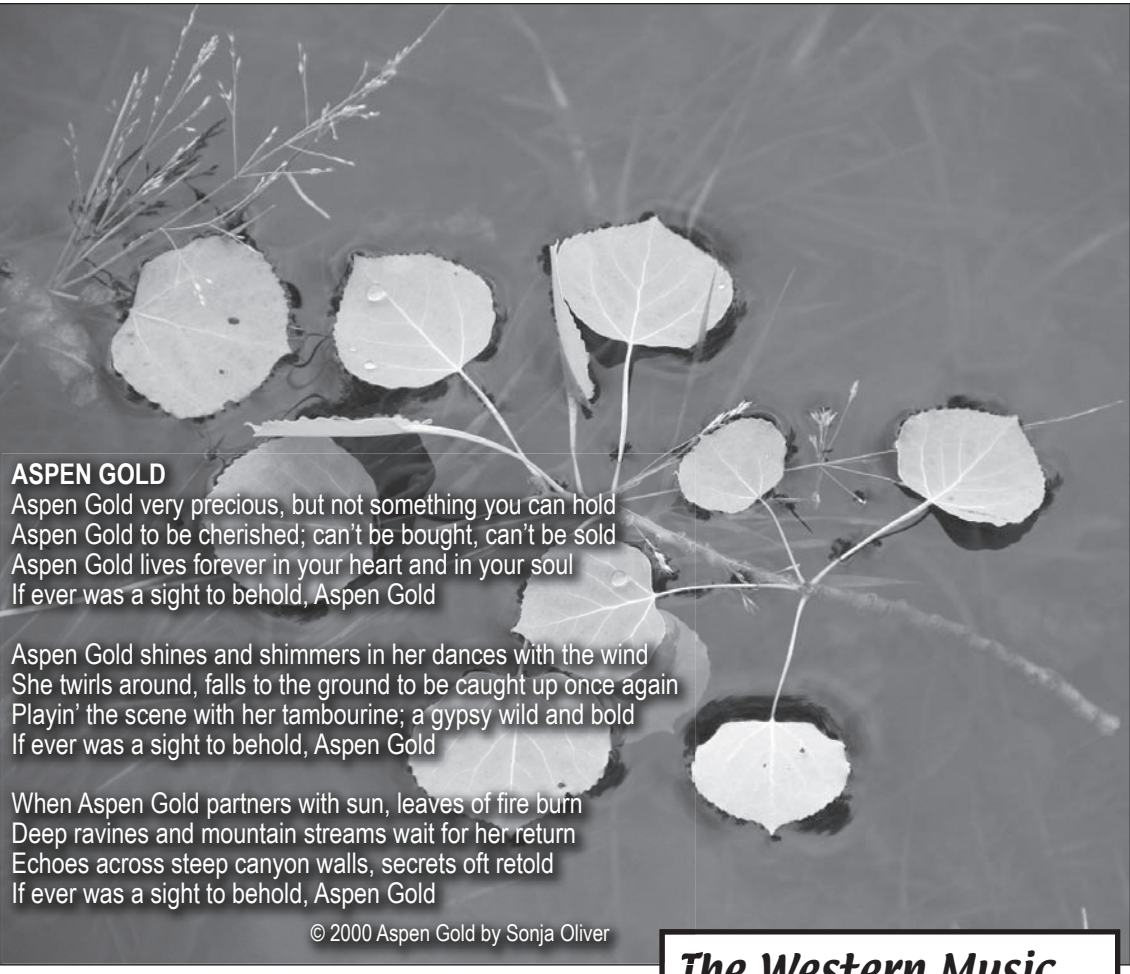
It's easy to see why the song “Aspen Gold” was chosen by Cripple Creek to be the theme music for this year's Big Aspen Happenin' Fall Festival and will be featured at the Pikes Peak Cowboy Gathering.

The glorious brilliance of the aspen tree against a backdrop of evergreens and crystal clear blue skies in the Colorado Rocky Mountains entices visitors who make a yearly pilgrimage to view the leafy splendor.

Then, that momentary display of nature's fireworks is gone.

Cripple Creek's Big Aspen Happenin' will celebrate the height of the aspen season while colors are at their peak during the city's inaugural Fall Festival slated for Sept 24 and 25.

Although the search for gold in Cripple Creek drew thousands of prospectors to the “World's Greatest Gold Camp” over 100 years ago, visitors now come to the area seeking a different kind of gold, the golden spectacle of the aspen tree while in its full glory. One of the



ASPEN GOLD

Aspen Gold very precious, but not something you can hold
Aspen Gold to be cherished; can't be bought, can't be sold
Aspen Gold lives forever in your heart and in your soul
If ever was a sight to behold, Aspen Gold

Aspen Gold shines and shimmers in her dances with the wind
She twirls around, falls to the ground to be caught up once again
Playin' the scene with her tambourine; a gypsy wild and bold
If ever was a sight to behold, Aspen Gold

When Aspen Gold partners with sun, leaves of fire burn
Deep ravines and mountain streams wait for her return
Echoes across steep canyon walls, secrets oft retold
If ever was a sight to behold, Aspen Gold

© 2000 Aspen Gold by Sonja Oliver

top driving routes to view aspens runs down Colorado 67, continuing through downtown Cripple Creek's Bennett Avenue.

Traditionally, the time to view the peak of aspen gold is the final weekend of September, which is why the mountain town has chosen September 24 and 25 as the dates for the Big Aspen Happenin'.

The city hopes to draw in visitors who come to view the area's aspens with the aspen-themed festival offering numerous activities for the entire family, including music, entertainment, rides, street vendors, food and more on the city's main thoroughfare.

The Western Music Association

by Sonja Oliver

Western music and cowboy poetry enthusiasts have an opportunity to hear award-winning cowboy poets and musicians from the American West at the Cripple Creek Heritage Center during the Big Aspen Happenin' Fall Festival, Sept. 24 and 25 in Cripple Creek Colorado. The public is invited come and enjoy new and original Western songs, poems and stories as well as the traditional old favorites performed by some of Colorado's best western entertainers. The event is free to the public.

The Western Music Association (WMA) - Colorado Chapter “Branded Western” is a non-profit organization dedicated to encourage and support the preservation, performance and composition of historic, traditional and contemporary music and poetry of “The West.”

“Western Music is the folk music of the Western life style and vista” says the WMA official website.

While some Western music originates from roots in English, Scottish, Irish, and Welsh ballads, as well as musical influences from the European countries of immigrants who traveled west, other western music styles have jazz and blues origins. Although “Cowboy Music” is an important part of the Western Music heritage, the stories, history and lifestyles of Western culture — both historic and modern — are equally important.

A wide range of personalities covered by Western songs and poems include cowboys, settlers, farmers, ranchers, Native Americans, horsemen and women, soldiers, miners, opportunists, gamblers, saloon keepers, school teachers and town folk. Also portrayed are the mountains, valleys, prairies, deserts and open range are western vistas that enchant all who come to experience the American West. The cowboy's love of the horses they ride and the cattle they tend are frequent themes in cowboy music and poetry.

Cowgirl Poet Susie Knight of Conifer, Colo. has made it her life's mission to promote western music and poetry throughout Colorado. According to Knight, “Once you've experienced western entertainment you'll be a fan for life. I'd be hard-pressed to find someone in any age group who doesn't like western music and cowboy poetry once they've heard it.”

“It has been my passion to showcase the talented performers of western music and cowboy poetry here in our state of Colorado through our Western Music Association. Membership is open to all who are interested and you don't have to be an entertainer,” Knight said.

The Pikes Peak Cowboy Gathering is an effort to continue the culture of the American West through the art of cowboy music and poetry. For more information about Western Music, Cowboy Poetry and how to get involved visit www.wma-colorado.org or www.westernmusic.org.

MTCC's Bike the Night

by Deborah Maresca
photos by Deborah Maresca

Mountain Top Cycling Club hosted its Third Annual Bike the Night July 30, 2016 starting from the Ute Pass Cultural Center. Thirty-six riders registered, dressed up in costume, and lit up their bikes.

Thanks to the Woodland Park Lions Club for providing volunteers and for the Ute Pass Brewery for providing the post ride party.

Everyone enjoyed the glow in the dark t-shirts and the post ride celebration. Scott Adams with Mountain Top Cycling Club gave a good safety talk at the start of the event while Cathy Keeler, Club Vice President of MTCC dressed up as a Fairy Godmother and lead the ride. Eight cyclists won prize money and Mountain Top Cycling Club provided pizza for all the participants.

A special thanks to the Woodland Park Police Department for providing the escort and watching for safety throughout the event.



Elle Freer, 13, from Colorado Springs.



Macy Gallart, 13, from Chicago IL



Jennifer and 9 year old Logan Pena from Colorado Springs.



Olivia Frisinger and Elena Frisinger from Woodland Park.

89th Florence Pioneer Days

by Flip Boettcher
photo by Flip Boettcher

There will be more than just the 89th Annual Florence Pioneer Days parade on Saturday, September, 17 at 10 a.m. The Netflix movie crew will be filming the parade as part of their new movie *Our Souls at Night*, starring Robert Redford and Jane Fonda.

Our Souls at Night is based on the book of the same title written by Colorado native Kent Haruf. Haruf was born in Pueblo, went to middle school and high school in Cañon City, and passed away in Salida in 2014 at the age of 71. It's a great book; everyone should read it, according to Patrick Mignano, Netflix's location manager at a meeting with the Florence City Council late August.

It's a love story about two widowers, Redford and Fonda, who form a relationship after many lonely years. The story takes place in the fictitious town of Holt, Colorado. Florence was chosen for its small town charm which struck the film's director, according Mignano.

Besides filming the Pioneer days parade September 17th, the crew will be back September 18 and 19 and then again in mid-October. According to Mignano there is a barber shop scene, a coffee shop scene and maybe filming in the bowling alley. Perhaps other locations too, added Peg, owner of the Fox Den of Antiquity on Main Street, like historic homes and churches.

The 89th Pioneer Days runs September 16, 17, and 18. September 16 and 17 will



Small quilted wall hangings at the Bell Tower Art Center in Florence.

be the 15th Annual Junktique, a vintage market, with vendors set up on a closed off street, according to Peg. There are already 23 vendors signed up she added.

Saturday, September 17 there will be food and crafts at Pioneer Park and Sunday, September 18, there will be a tractor pull at Pathfinder Park.

Also, the historic Bell Tower Art Center will feature quilted wall hangings made by the Westcliffe Contemporary Quilters and Fiber Artists from now through September 18 on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Bell Tower is located at 201 East 2nd.

For more information on Junktique, visit: florencecochamber@guestoffice.net, or call 719-784-3544. For all other information, call Peg at the Fox Den: 719-784-2303.

Celebrating Seniors Expo

The evening of August 25, 2016 at the Ute Pass Cultural Center, the First Celebrating Senior Expo gave opportunity to learn about senior services and benefits in the area. Folks met with participating vendors/ service providers and attend mini-workshops which were held simultaneously in the downstairs meeting room.

The idea was suggested about a year ago by Deb Idleman of Pikes Peak Regional Hospital to move forward with a Senior Expo that was contemplated by a few others several years ago. Deb has past experience with expos in the Woodland Park area and thought it would be a great addition for the Golden Bridge Network, who sponsored the event.



Thank you to the sponsors: DayBreak-An Adult Day Program, Prospect Home Care & Hospice, Forest Ridge Health Center, Aspen Bowers, Pikes Peak Regional Hospital, Teller Senior Coalition, Teller County Department of Social Services, Woodland Park Senior Citizens Club, Cripple Creek Care Center, Teller County Public Health, and Aspen Mine Center.

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All concerts at High View Baptist Church
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Admission: \$15 (Students \$5 with valid school ID)
Tickets available at www.utepasschamberplayers.org,
At the door, or by calling 686-1798.



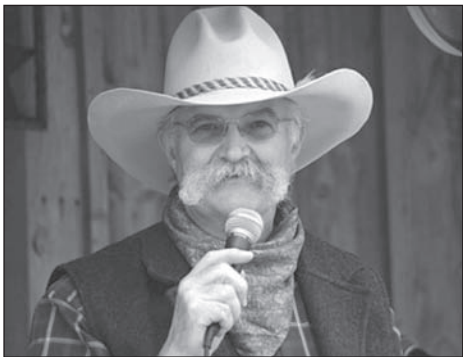
Award-winning cowgirl poet Susie Knight will be featured at the Western Music Association - Colorado Chapter Cowboy Gathering Sept. 24-25.

Susie Knight

The 2014 WMA Female Poet of the Year, 2013 Academy of Western Artists Cowgirl Poet and 2012 WMA Cowboy Poetry CD of the Year, Susie Knight is Colorado's own "All-Around Cowgirl Entertainer" performing for audiences at campfire and concert hall settings throughout the West. Susie's story-like cowboy poetry and western songs capture a woman's perspective on ranching, rodeo, and romance. Former barrel racer, riding instructor, and working ranch cowgirl, Knight hangs her hat in Conifer, Colorado.

AI "Doc" Mehl

2013 WMA Cowboy Poetry CD of the year winner, Doc traces his family roots to central Kansas, where his grandfather raised six children on the family homestead. With one foot in the past and one in the present, Doc weaves the history and the mystery of the West into his original "westlectic" po-



Western Music Association's 2015 Cowboy Idol Poet Floyd Beard.

Consider all aspects of college savings options

It's back-to-school time. If you have young children going to public schools, your biggest expenditures may be on pens, pencils, and notebooks. But if you want those same kids to go to college someday, you'll eventually face considerably larger costs — so you may want to start preparing soon.

College is costly. For the 2015-16 school-year, the average expense (including tuition, fees room and board) was nearly \$20,000 at a public, four-year school, and more than twice that amount at a four-year private school, according to the College Board. Of course, cheaper alternatives are available — your children could go to a local community college for two years at a very reasonable cost, and then transfer to a four-year school. Still, if your child does go on to get a bachelor's degree, those big bills will eventually arrive. As you consider how you can best deal with these costs, ask yourself these questions:

How much can I afford to contribute?

As much as you'd like to help your children pay for college, you also have to think about your own needs — specifically your retirement. Think very carefully before reducing contributions to your retirement plans, such as your IRA and 401(k), to help fund a college savings plan. After all, your children may be able to get scholarships and grants,

and even if they have to take out loans, they'll have many years in which to repay them — but you can't postpone saving for retirement without jeopardizing your ability to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle. When it comes to prioritizing your financial goals, putting yourself first is not necessarily a selfish act.

When it comes to prioritizing your financial goals, putting yourself first is not necessarily a selfish act.

What college savings plan should you consider?

A number of college savings options are available. For example, you could contribute to a 529 plan which offers potential tax advantages and high contribution limits. You might also consider a custodial account, such as an UGMA or UTMA, although when your children reach the age of majority, they are free to do whatever they want with the money — and their plans may not include college.

What will be the effect of a college savings plan on financial aid?

When colleges determine financial aid packages, they will evaluate your child's assets differently than your assets. Your child typically would be expected to contribute 20 percent of his or her assets, while you are only expected to contribute up to 5.6 percent of your assets. Consequently, you may be better off saving for college in your name, rather than your children's. Under the federal financial aid guidelines, an UTMA/UGMA account is classified as a student asset, while 529 plans are counted as parental assets if parents are the account owners. (The rules on financial aid are not always so clear-cut, however, so it might be worth your while to contact a financial aid officer at a local college or university to ensure that your chosen method of saving will still allow for the greatest possible assistance.)

As you can see, you've got several factors to think about when it comes to helping your kids meet their higher education goals. Study up on these options, so you can find the right answers for your family's needs.

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

Gold Rush “Thank You!”

Thank you for the role you all played in making the 2016 Victor Gold Rush Days a wonderful festival. We could not have done it without you! We're looking forward to another amazing event next summer!

- City of Victor
- Newmont Mining Company, Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mine
- Ames Construction
- Gold Camp AG and Mining Museum
- Colorado Trading and Transfer Company
- Z Studios
- The Claim Jumper
- Century Casino
- Double Eagle Hotel & Casino
- Wildwood Casino
- Triple Crown Casinos
- Cripple Creek Venture Foods
- Victor Storage Sheds
- Regester Electric
- Victor Elks Lodge #367
- Victor Lowell Thomas Museum
- Victor Heritage Society
- Gold Belt Build A Generation
- Black Hills Energy
- Victor DREAM
- Rocky Mountain Tractor Puller's Association
- All of our wonderful vendors and performers!

A Very Special Thank You to our volunteers!

- Judy and Terry Akins
- Brad Poulson and Lisa Becker, CC&V Gold Mine
- Teller County Posse
- Renee Bunting
- Gary Horton
- Bruce Davis
- John Hansen-Carlson
- Samantha Mat
- Emily Matosich
- Liz Diaz
- Guido Honeycutt, Sanducci Electric
- Claire Greenwood
- Marjie Stevens
- Cathy Downs
- Sandy Honeycutt
- Buck Hakes
- Eidelheid Honeycutt
- Kelsi Honeycutt
- Kyle DeCarolis
- Woody Hunt
- Joe and Marjie Stevens
- Pete Collyer
- Newmont Mine Rescue Team
- Cripple Creek EMS
- Victor Volunteer Fire Department — Chief Chivas Groves, Patrick Evans, Everett Prickett III, Travis Rock, Mickey Groves, Jamie Schurk, Donna Distel, Sarah Farmer and Mickey Nothaus
- Sheriff Mike Enslinger
- Commissioners Marc Dettnerrieder
- Commissioner Norm Steen

Obituary

Maurice Wells

Born October 30, 1937 and passed away at Pikes Peak Hospice on August 7, 2016.

Maurice was born in West Virginia and moved with his parents to Baltimore, Maryland as a child, where he graduated from The Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, served in the Navy as a medic, and later graduated from Towson State Teachers College. He served as a science teacher and administrator with the Baltimore City Public School System until his retirement in 1988, when he and his wife, Paige, moved to the Lake George area and built their home in W. Indian Creek. Always liking to stay busy, he worked for the United Way in Colorado Springs for three seasons, followed by being breakfast cook and then manager at the former Mountain Shadows Restaurant in Lake George. He then worked at the front gate at Eleven Mile State Park for many summers, in addition to volunteering for and being active in a number of local organizations and committees. He loved his life in the mountains and his activities and friends in the Lake George and Florissant area.

Editor's note: Mr. Wells had been writing for the Ute Country News when we became owners and was graciously willing to continue until recently. We are grateful for all he has contributed to the Ute Country News. We know he will be dearly missed.



Native Plants of the Ute Country Common Sunflower, *Helianthus annuus*

by Mary Menz
photo by Mary Menz

When most of summer's wildflowers have exhausted their life cycles and have gone to seed, the Common Sunflower blooms and provides a welcome and vibrant color in August and September. This common roadside beauty is known by many names: Roadside Sunflower, Wild Sunflower, and Mirasol. The Latin name translates from the Greek *Helios anthos* (literally sun flower). *Annuus* refers to its annual growth.

The sunflower species is part of the Asteraceae family, which features flowers that have two types of flowers on one plant: the “disc” flowers that comprise the center circle of the sunflower are dark, tiny, and generally a tube shape (though one needs a hand lens or microscope to see this). These disc flowers are the predecessor to the sunflower's seeds. After these disc flowers go to seed, it's easy to see the fascinating pattern of Fibonacci's golden ratio, wherein there are two interconnecting spirals of seed patterns displayed. The number of left and right spirals is in Fibonacci sequence (same as is seen on the bottom of a pine cone).

The second type of flower on the sunflower is the yellow “ray” flower that extends from that circular platform outward. Many people refer to it as a petal.

Explorers Lewis and Clark made note of the sunflower, observed in the wild and as cultivated by the plain tribes. Native people cultivated the crop and selected only the largest seeds for the next year's planting. Since these early reports and observations, scientists have proven that the cultivated sunflower seed has increased in size nearly 1,000 percent over several hundred years. Of

course, this kind of selective breeding still occurs in the domestic seed market.

The wild Sunflower is in the same family as the domesticated sunflower grown as a crop for its oil and seeds. The seeds from the wild Sunflower — though much smaller than the cultivated varieties — are delectable to small mammals and birds, particularly wild turkeys.

A native to all lower 48 states, the sunflower lives not only on gravelly roadsides, but in deserts, marshy areas, and forests. According to the National Science Foundation, there are more than 50 native species nationwide and they hybridize readily.

Native sunflower species have been used by people for ages as food (oil, flour), medicine, and for the dyes created by the plant parts. Most recently, sunflowers have been used in phytoremediation efforts (such as after the Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear disasters). Sunflowers are plants that can grow in metal-laden soil, extract metals through their root systems, and then accumulate the heavy metals in the plant tissues without damaging the plant itself. Researchers laud the plant's ability to clean up polluted soil and water. Read more this finding at <http://gardencollage.com/new-noteworthy/innovation/scientists-using-sunflowers-clean-nuclear-radiation/>.

As if that isn't enough of a good thing, the Common or Wild Sunflower is a friend to pollinators. The large circular landing plat-



form of disc flowers makes for a welcome feeding station for butterflies and bees. As they feed on the plant's nectar, the pollen is transferred from female flowers to male flowers.

Find joy in the fall season's wildflowers.

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.

Why aren't there leaves on some of the aspens?

Recently, Newmont CC&V's environmental department noticed that the aspen trees in several locations around Cripple Creek and Victor, Colorado, were not producing as many leaves as expected for the early summer season. The photo of Bull Hill, north of Victor, on the northeast side of CC&V's mining operation, was taken near the end of June. Notice that many of the aspen trees in this grove seem to be barren of leaves.

On closer inspection, CC&V's environmental department found an insect infestation of what are commonly called tent caterpillars, and requested an investigation and opinion from the Colorado State Forest Service.

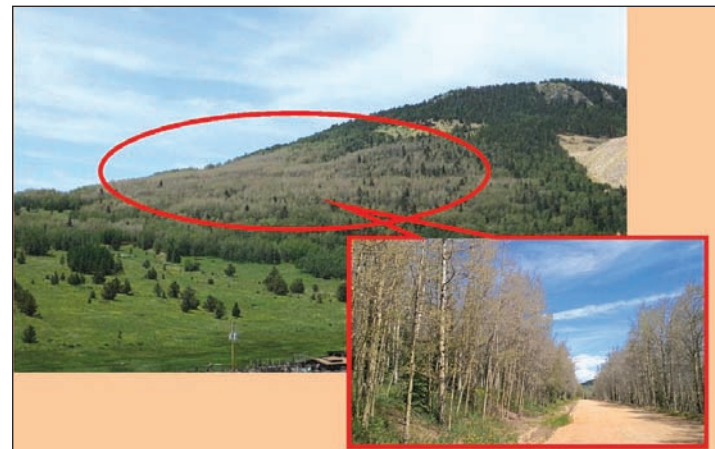
The Colorado State Forest Service's site visit and investigation on June 30, 2016, sampled six sites around the area and their Insect Observation Report identified “a sizable population of large aspen tortrix (LAT) in five locations... We also observed significant aphid activity in locations associated with the LAT. It is also worth noting significant populations of lady bird beetle (commonly known as lady bugs) larva and adults, as well as significant populations of spiders, this makes sense due to the food source available.”

Gary Horton, Sr. Environmental Coordinator for CC&V described the situation this way, “The large aspen tortrix, commonly called a tent caterpillar, is a defoliator and quickly eats all the leaves off the aspens. It is particularly acute on the north side of Victor Pass and in Grassy Valley right now...”

The good news is that the moths don't harm the bud of the aspen. However, the trees will be lacking in density of leaves and they will be smaller than usual. It's conjectured that the abnormally high evening temperatures may have contributed to an unusually large outbreak of LAT. We can expect this type of thing to continue up here for another couple years according to our research.”

That's why some of our aspens don't have leaves.

Bull Hill, north of Victor looks barren of leaves (top). Tent caterpillars seem to be the culprit (bottom).



Mountain Offices for Lease



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From Left to Right: Mayor Buck Hakes, Emilio Trujillo, Bruce Davis, Jack Henris, Terry Akins, Lisa Becker, Robert Thompson, Don Peters, Clay Brown, Mark Dettenrieder, Debra Downs, Dan Delaney

City of Victor creates community spaces

On Tuesday, August 8th, 2016, the City of Victor broke ground on their newest project, a downtown community events plaza. The project is being funded through an Energy and Mineral Impact grant from Colorado Department of Local Affairs and a financial contribution from Newmont Mining Inc./Cripple Creek Victor Gold Mine and the City of Victor.

The project will feature an outdoor stage, concessions stand, year-round public restrooms, off-street parking and decorative lighting and plantings. The ribbon cutting will be scheduled for this fall following completion of the project. The City's Main Street Manager, Becky Frank has this to say about the project, "This will be a great opportunity for the city to build social capital within the community through hosting events that are geared toward residents in the city and the gold camp district. Having an outdoor community gathering space was identified as a need by residents and will create additional social and entertainment opportunities for the community."



There were so many items to bid on during the 2015 event that the silent auction tables extended down the hallways and out into the lobby. The lobby display featured custom-made mountain furniture.

Christmas in Divide coming in November

by David Martinek

The Divide Chamber of Commerce's annual *Christmas in Divide* craft fair is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th, just a day after Veteran's Day, at the Summit Elementary School gymnasium (490 Meadow Park Drive in Divide). So why are we reading about it in September, one may ask? Halloween comes first. Well, the simple answer is that the chamber is looking for craft vendors, and donations to their silent auction, and decided to get a head start on the project to see if they could exceed the wonderful event they held last year. Proactive planning.

Summit Elementary has provided an excellent venue for *Christmas in Divide* over the last few years but space is limited, and the chamber wants to fill all the vendor spaces to capacity. Craft vendors wanting a booth at this year's event should contact Joe Kain now at the Ancestral Arts Trading Post in Divide (11115 U.S. Highway 24, or call 719-687-2278, or email: ancestralarts@juno.com).

One of the biggest success stories from the 2015 craft fair was the silent auction. There were so many items to bid on that the tables extended down the hallways and out into the lobby and everything was sold! If a business or individual wants to offer an item for the auction, they should contact auction chair, Bunny Sabula at 719-686-7605, or Divide Chamber President, Lisa Lee at Shipping Plus in Divide at 719-686-7587.



The Summit Elementary School gymnasium floor is transformed into a field of vendors each year during the Divide Chamber of Commerce's Christmas in Divide craft fair.

The *Christmas in Divide* craft fair is the traditional fund-raiser of the Divide Chamber of Commerce. 2016 marks the 25th year that the chamber has sponsored the fair. The much anticipated annual event provides an excellent opportunity for local residents to get an early dose of Christmas spirit and to start their shopping. The proceeds from the fair help the chamber maintain its presence in the community and fund its various projects, including its support of the continuing renovation of the Midland Depot at Divide, sponsored by their non-profit partner organizations, the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition and Midland Days at Divide.

For more information about the Divide Chamber of Commerce go to the chamber's website at www.dividechamber.org.

A loving legacy Congratulations to Gwen and Harold "Pete" Peterson on 68 years of wedded bliss!

by Kathy Hansen
photos by Jeff Hansen

It all began at Wieboldt's warehouse in Chicago, Illinois in 1948.

Harold, aka "Pete" worked maintenance and Gwen was a telephone operator. She also held the paychecks. Pete came every week and as Gwen handed his check over she would say to him, "Don't spend it all in one place." One week, Pete felt especially confident and could no longer hide his attraction to Gwen, so he replied, "You want to help me spend it?" At our interview on August 17, 2016, Gwen said, "I've been helping him spend it ever since!"

It turns out Pete and Gwen's second date was at Riverview Park (an amusement park in Chicago). They sat together on a giant crescent moon as Pete offered her the stars by asking her to marry him. Their wedding was a short three weeks later.

We asked each of them how they "knew" this was the one to marry. Gwen answered, "The Lord said to me, 'You better hang onto him.'" Being the Christian woman she is the directive was easy to follow. Pete answered, "Well, I wasn't going out with anyone else," then he flashed a smile. He had not asked anyone else.

Together, the couple had six children: Kathy, Karen Kris, Kit, Kurt (deceased 21 years ago), and Kelly. All but Kelly live in Colorado. There are 16 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Pete and Gwen are proud of their family. Pete insisted on showing us the cherished gifts they received from each of the five remaining children three years ago at their 65th Anniversary Celebration; each had made a poster to



Gwen and Pete have been married for 68 years.

Sketch on the cover was done by their son-in-law, Dale Dillavou of Florissant, CO.

represent their family. These unique posters adorn the walls of their home in Florissant. Pete made sure we could see each of them as his face beamed with pride of a parent.

Life had its challenges for Gwen and Pete over their 68 years together. Pete spent 27 years serving our country. First in the army in WWII Germany, where he held watch over "Axis Sally". He was not allowed to have a sidearm as the concern was it could be turned on him. After WWII, he transitioned to the Air Force and became an airplane mechanic until he retired. He also served in Korea and Vietnam.

Gwen held many positions to help feed

and care for their six children: From waitress, cook, bartender, manager, surgical and X-ray technician, to housekeeper. The majority of the time they lived in off-base housing. The family traveled and relocated many times living in Holland, Germany, Greenland, and France. They shared fond stories of holidays in Holland where they were invited into neighbors' homes to feast and to meet St. Nick. The custom was for St. Nick to ask the parents if the children were good. If the parents answered "Yes" they received a gift of candy and if the answer was "No" they received a lump of coal. Their daughter, Kathy said, "We never got coal!"

The couple decided to move to Colorado Springs after Pete retired from the Air Force. He continued to work in maintenance at the Printer's Home, and later at an eye care clinic that had difficulty finding a replacement for Pete to the extent they called to see if he would be interested in coming back to work three times after he finally retired!

Gwen's trustworthiness and work ethic remained with her as well, as she worked as a housekeeper. "I cleaned from top to bottom, the walls, windows, and floors. I did it all," remarked Gwen as she reflected on the many buildings in the Colorado Springs area she made sparkling clean.

We asked Pete and Gwen what their secret is to staying together. Pete said, "I'll tell you the same thing I always say, 'Two things; you don't go to bed mad' and 'Yes, dear'!" Gwen piped right in, "We never went to bed mad. Everybody makes mistakes and sometimes you do or say the wrong thing. Just because you get into a spat doesn't mean you have to get divorced."

As for advice to newly-weds, they had this to share, "Have the strength to realize everyone is wrong once in a while. Be willing to accept you can't always be right."

We wish Pete and Gwen many more happy anniversaries!



Photo from their second date in Chicago, IL



A short 3 weeks later they were married.

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Ancient Art of Spinning Fiber workshop

Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center located at 2234 Busch Run Road on Sacramento Creek near Fairplay is offering a fiber workshop called “The Ancient Art of Spinning Fiber” on September 18th from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For \$25 adult participants will learn spinning skills and will take home a skein of luxury yarn and a drop spindle. Space is extremely limited so please sign-up early by contacting Kristin Barrett at kbarrett@beaverponds.org or call 719-838-0143. Instructor Jane Wunder has been spinning for over 40 years and will be accompanied by Beaver Ponds staff who will introduce concepts for keeping fiber animals and processing raw fiber. Participants will get to meet alpacas, goats, and a llama who annually contribute their fiber to the Beaver Ponds Sustainable Ag Program.

“Come and learn the ancient art of hand-spinning natural fiber. The process is meditative, sustainable, practical, and some say cosmically inspired,” explains Beaver Ponds Program Coordinator Kristin Barrett. “You will learn about keeping fiber animals, processing raw fiber, carding fiber, and history and sustainable aspects of spinning including the charkha, Gandhi’s invention to promote freedom for the Indian people. Most importantly, you will experience and



learn spinning through over two hours of hands-on spinning in a small class where you will get very individualized attention.” At the end of the class, participants will have their own 2-ply luxury fiber yarn, a drop spindle, amazing newly acquired spinning skills and some new friends in fiber. The class is geared for beginning spinners but participants with any level of expertise

are welcome. Snacks will also be provided.

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. For more information about Beaver Ponds please visit www.beaverponds.org.



The llama (above) is called Donzi”and the alpaca (below) is named Quantum .



Ephemeral Pond Walk & Talk

Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center located at 2234 Busch Run Road on Sacramento Creek near Fairplay is offering a free program called an “Ephemeral Pond Walk & Talk” on September 3rd at 11am. Join Beaver Ponds staff as they talk all about the geology and plants of the Alma/Fairplay area. Along the way kids will play the Predator and Prey game where they get to “catch” their prey and determine if, as a predator of choice, they’ve eaten enough to survive.

“This is going to be a great time for anyone interested in learning more about local geology and plants,” shares Program Coordinator Kristin Barrett. “Families with kids will love the way the Predator and Prey game opens up their imagination in this interactive game. We’ll answer questions like: What is an ephemeral pond? What kind of rare plants can be found in Park County? How much does a mountain lion have to eat to sustain its life?”

This event is taking place during Beaver Ponds final summer open visiting hours scheduled for September 3rd. Staff will also be providing guided tours of the property on the hour between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to any visitors who can’t make the

program but would like to experience this gorgeous environmental education center located at 10,200 feet on 70-acres.

Visitors can expect to learn about sub-alpine ecology, beavers, alpacas, llamas, goats, and chickens. They can also visit the greenhouse and learn how to keep a year-round garden, as well as learning about micro-fodder systems. In addition, visitors will learn about five types of renewable energy: Wind, photo-voltaic, solar thermal, micro-hydro and in-ground, geothermal. They’ll also learn ways to make forests healthier, fire mitigation treatments and will learn about the very-old Bristlecone pines in our area — some are nearly 2,000 years old! Most importantly, visitors will have the opportunity to get outside and hike on a beautiful, private piece of Park County. Go to www.beaverponds.org for more information.



Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center’s namesake beaver in a pond.

South Park Plein Air Arts Celebration at Beaver Ponds

Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center located at 2234 Busch Run Road near Fairplay is hosting South Park Plein Air Artists on September 9th between noon and 4 p.m. The public is welcome to come enjoy a free tour of Beaver Ponds while watching artists painting onsite. Situated on 70-acres along Sacramento Creek, the scenery, painting, and process of creating art is sure to offer a unique and enjoyable afternoon.

“Visitors can come and enjoy our gorgeous facility for free while getting a sneak peek of the art that will be sold that evening at the artist reception,” describes Beaver Ponds Program Coordinator Kristin Barrett. “If you see a piece of art that you love, you can attend the reception being hosted at TBK Bank later that evening and purchase it. From the Creek to the forests, native plants, wild and domestic animals,



and everything else Beaver Ponds has to offer, artists will have an astonishing array of scenes from which to be inspired. Visitors will get a personal tour of the property as well as the opportunity to watch artists



Sunrise, sunset.

at work. We are very excited to host this ‘sneak peek’ for the public!”

Visitors who choose to take a tour can expect to learn about subalpine ecology, beavers, alpacas, llamas, goats, and

chickens. They can also visit the greenhouse and learn how to keep a year-round garden, as well as learning about micro-fodder systems and sustainable agriculture. In addition, visitors will learn about five types of renewable energy and will learn about the very-old Bristlecone pines in our area — some are nearly 2,000 years old! Most importantly, visitors will have the opportunity to get outside and hike on a beautiful, private piece of Park County at an elevation of 10,200 feet while enjoying art. 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.

Take the Hiking Challenge! Hike all the trails in the park, 60 miles within four weeks, and earn a prize for your efforts. Join in the guided hikes three times per week. Sign up early for the Elk bugling hikes! Become a part of the scenery to witness the annual display of bull elk calling and competing and for the females.

Fall is a favorite time for horseback riding at Mueller. Come stay at our new equestrian campsite where you and your horse can camp overnight and enjoy the fabulous trails.

Learn it at the library

by Polly Roberts

A report commissioned by the American Library Association and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation shows that 98.9 percent of all public libraries offer free public access to computers and the Internet — a growth of more than 400 percent since 1996, when just one in four libraries did. Libraries connect communities with information and knowledge, and in today’s world, see the role of a library as a place to enable access to information, regardless of the format.

Seniors are the most likely of all audiences to receive technology training at libraries (57 percent), followed closely by people who do not have Internet access at home and adults seeking continuing education. The Rampart Library District will offer several computer classes at the Woodland Park branch this fall:

- **Computer Basics** is scheduled for both Friday, September 16 and Friday, October 14 from 10 am to 11:30 am. Learn the basic parts of a computer, basic computer terminology and simple tasks such as how to delete, backspace, and maneuver around a computer screen.
- **Microsoft Office 2013 Word I** is being offered Wednesday, September 7 from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn the basic fundamentals of writing, editing, previewing, and saving your own documents.
- **Microsoft Office 2013 Excel** is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21 from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn how to set up, format, preview, and save a basic spreadsheet. It is recommended that you attend a Microsoft Word class first.

Both the Florissant Public Library and the Woodland Park Public Library will hold classes that teach some of the new features of Windows 10. This is a 2-part class and will cover how to use the new navigation features, searching, using new apps, and the new Edge browser. Windows 10 – Part I will be taught in Florissant on Thursday, September 29 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and in Woodland Park on Friday, September 30 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Windows 10 – Part II will be taught in Florissant on Thursday, October 27 from 10 a.m. to 11:30

a.m. and in Woodland Park on Friday, October 28, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Registration for all computer classes is required; call 719-687-9281 x 102 to sign up.

For older adults who prefer learning technology, or really any subject, on their own, there are many websites available that provide training and information on a wide variety of topics.

The Seniors Guide to Computers: <http://www.seniorguidetocomputers.com>

According to the website, The Seniors Guide to Computers is simple, useful, and uncluttered. It shouldn’t be any other way with technology. This site walks you through everything related to computers and the Web with their easy-to-navigate “Learning Center”. Want to back up your data? You’ll get written instructions complete with screen shots and animation. You can discuss your favorite topics, ask your toughest questions, or just shoot the breeze with beginners and geeks on the Seniors Guide to Computers Blog.

GCFLearnFree.org

From Microsoft Office and email to reading, math, and more, GCFLearnFree.org offers 125 tutorials, including more than 1,100 lessons, videos, and interactives, completely free. One of the more popular tutorials is on using a computer mouse. Using a mouse can be a huge barrier to new computer users. There are no technical explanations or boring drills. Instead, learners build proficiency with the mouse by playing through a series of mini-games.

Techboomers.com

Techboomers.com is a free educational website that teaches older adults and other inexperienced Internet users with basic computer skills about websites, such as Pinterest, Netflix, Amazon Prime, Facebook, Ancestry, and more that can help improve their quality of life. Techboomers.com introduces users to trusted new websites and Internet-based applications through an easy-to-navigate directory and targeted emails based on their interests. It provides video and article tutorials.

Celebrate autumn at Mueller State Park

Mueller State Park has a full line up of guided hikes and educational programs for folks to get out and enjoy autumn during the month of September. Join us to see the beautiful fall colors, breathe the crisp mountain air and hear the elk bugle!

The fall event on September 24th, Mueller in Gold, is a day full of family activities to learn, play and enjoy.

School children will be coming for field trips to learn all about the science behind leaves changing colors and the lifestyles of elk. They are invited to bring the whole family to see Mueller in Gold!

Take the Hiking Challenge! Hike all the trails in the park, 60 miles within four weeks, and earn a prize for your efforts. Join in the guided hikes three times per week.

Sign up early for the Elk bugling hikes! Become a part of the scenery to witness the annual display of bull elk calling and competing and for the females.

Fall is a favorite time for horseback riding at Mueller. Come stay at our new equestrian campsite where you and your horse can camp overnight and enjoy the fabulous trails.

- 1 **Hike Wapiti Trail.** Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:30 a.m. 1- hour hike.
- 1 **Hike Turkey Cabin Overlook.** Meet at the Black Bear Trailhead at 1 p.m. About a 3.5 mile hike.
- 2 **Hike Wapiti Trail.** Meet at the Visitor Center at 10 a.m. 1-hour hike.
- 2 **Amphitheater: Digital Outdoors** begins at 7:30 p.m.
- 3 **Hike Dynamite Cabin.** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead at 10 a.m. 1.8 miles.
- 3 **Hike Digital Outdoors.** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead at 2 p.m. 2.25 mile trail.
- 3 **Star Party.** Meet at the Visitor Center at 7:30 p.m. View the stars and planets of the night sky.
- 4 **Touch Table: Skins and Skulls** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Visitor Center.
- 4, 18 **Hike Outlook Ridge.** Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead at 3:30 p.m. Hike to three overlooks off the trail.
- 4 **Amphitheater: Jeopardy in the Park** at 7:30 p.m. Test your knowledge on wildlife, geology, flowers, and animal facts.
- 5 **Hike Rock Canyon.** Meet at the Rock Pond Trailhead at 9:15 a.m. 5 mile hike.

- 5 **Hike School Pond.** Meet at School Pond Trailhead at 2 p.m. 1.5 mile hike.
- 6 **Hike Osborn Homestead.** Meet at Black Bear Trailhead at 1:30 p.m. 3 mile moderate hike.
- 8 **Hike Buffalo Rock.** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead at 1 p.m.
- 9 **Hike Stoner Mill.** Meet at School Pond Trailhead at 1 p.m. Moderate 2 miles.
- 9, 11 **Hike Elk Bugling.** Sign-up early at Visitor Center. Hike begins at 5:45 p.m. Please sign up at the visitor center via walk-in or by calling 719-687-2366.
- 10 **Hike Cheesman Trail.** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead at 9:15 a.m. Long but moderate trail.
- 10 **Touch Table: Scats and Tracks** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Meet at Visitor Center.
- 10 **Hike School Pond.** Meet at School Pond Trailhead at 2 p.m. 1.5 mile hike.
- 10 **Amphitheater: Deer and Elk.** 7:30 p.m.
- 11, 18 **Touch Table: Skins and Skulls** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Visitor Center
- 11 **Hike Outlook Ridge.** Meet at Outlook Ridge Trailhead at 3:30 p.m. Hike to three overlooks off the trail.
- 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28 **Fall Challenge Hike.** Meet at Visitor Center at 8 a.m. Ask at the Visitor Center for more details.
- 12 **Hike: Elk Meadow.** Meet at Elk Meadow Trailhead at 1 p.m. Moderate 2 miles.
- 15 **Hike: Nobel Cabin.** Meet at Black Bear Trailhead at 1 p.m.
- 16 **Hike Cheesman Trail.** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead at 1 p.m. Long but moderate trail.
- 16 **Amphitheater: Midland Days** at 7 p.m. Guest Speaker Dave Martinek will share the exciting history of the Colorado Midland Railway. Dress warmly!
- 17 **Hike: Cahill Loop.** Meet at Grouse Mountain Trailhead at 9:15 a.m. 2.5 mile hike, see the flora and fauna.
- 17 **Touch Table: Horns and Antlers** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Visitor Center.
- 17, 25, 30 **Hike Elk Bugling.** Sign-up early at Visitor Center. Begins at 5:15 p.m. Please sign up at the visitor center via walk-in or by calling 719-687-2366.
- 18 **Amphitheater: Friends in the Night** at 7 p.m. Learn about the facts and myths surrounding the only flying mammal. Dress warm.
- 19 **Hike: Trains and Lost Towns.** Meet at

als in a language suited to those who may not be the most tech-savvy. The educational content is always free and fully accessible without needing to create an account.

edX.org and Coursera.org

Founded by Harvard University and MIT in 2012, edX.org is an online learning destination offering high-quality courses from the world’s best universities and institutions to learners everywhere. Whether you are interested in computer science, languages, engineering, psychology, writing, electronics, biology, or marketing, they have over 950 courses for you. Participating educational institutions include:

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Cornell University
Princeton
The University of Edinburgh
The University of Michigan

Coursera.org and edX.org are both examples of MOOC (massive open on-line courses), online courses aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the web. In addition to traditional course materials such as filmed lectures, readings, and problem sets, many MOOCs provide interactive user forums to support interactions among students and professors. MOOCs were first introduced in 2008 as a popular development in distance education. Most of the courses offered are free.

Whether you prefer to learn in a group setting or on your own, the Rampart Library District is the place to be. Stop in today and let our friendly staff help you become “tech savvy”. See more in Out & About pages 31 & 32.

Editor’s note: Libraries can be incredible places for learning. If you have not checked out your local library in a while, stop in and see what is new. If you are in Florissant, stop in and visit with Dean the Great. You’ll understand what I mean when you meet him!



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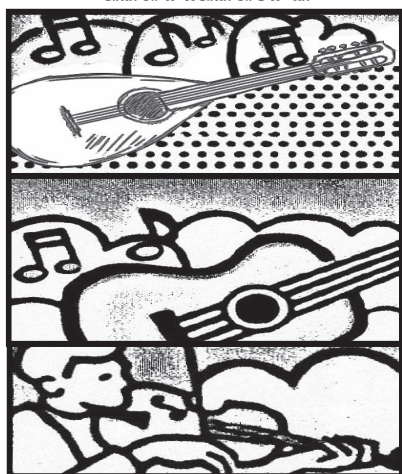
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~OUT AND ABOUT~

continued from page 31

5 p.m. Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs
21 Excel I from 10 a.m. to noon
27 Voter Registration Day - all day
28 Excel II from 10 a.m. to noon
30 Windows 10 Part I from 10 a.m. to noon
Woodland Park Library will be closed

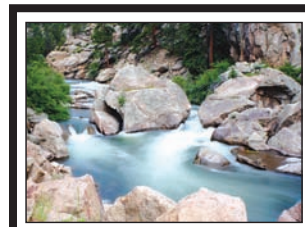


photo by Bernie Nagy

Photo Outing

The Greater South Park Area Camera Club is hosting a photo trip to Eleven Mile Canyon on Saturday, September 17. Meet at the Old Courthouse in Fairplay at 8:30 a.m. We will drive to the Eleven Mile Canyon Recreation Area near Lake George. Bring a picnic lunch and we will eat by the river. For more information visit www.facebook.com/GSPACC/ or contact Molly D'Arcy at southparkcameracub@gmail.com to sign up.

September 4 & 5 for Labor Day, and 17 & 18 for Oktoberfest
Banned Books Week September 25-October 1
Call 719-687-9281 X 102.

SENIOR CENTER

10 Senior Center Car Show Pancake Breakfast at the Woodland Park Senior Center, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. \$8. Kids 6 and under \$2. Our open to the public event helps to support the programs and activities of the Woodland Park Senior Center. We appreciate the support of each one of you!

17 Senior Center Pancake Breakfast at the Woodland Park Senior Center, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$8. Kids 6 and under \$2. This open to the public fundraising event helps to support the programs and activities of the Woodland Park Senior Center. Mark your calendars and plan to join us on the 3rd Saturday each month of the year. Woodland Park Senior Center, Pine and Lake St.

20 Senior Citizens Club Music Series at the Woodland Park Senior Citizens Center presents a Ute Pass Chamber Players concert preview at 12:30. The featured musicians will be Elisa Wickes (violin), Bob Dunn (clarinet) and Barb Riley-Cunningham (piano) performing the music of Beethoven and Kreisler. This mini-concert is free and open to the public. Donations to support Senior Center operations and activities are always appreciated!

TEEN CENTER
Sign-up sheets for all activities are at the teen center.
2 Brain Teasers. Participate for your chance to win a prize! 3:30 p.m.
5 Closed for Labor Day Holiday
6 Enjoy a walk in the woods at Aspen Valley Ranch with Dee from Guides-to-Go, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You must be signed up to attend. Be at the Teen Center at 12:30 p.m.
7, 14, 21 & 28 - Snack Special! Grilled Mac & Cheese Sandwich & Chips \$1.
8 Awesome Self Activity at 3:30 p.m. Tell us in one word what makes you awesome! We'll create a Word Cloud for display!

12, 19 & 26 Happy Hour from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Fruit Smoothies for \$1.
13 Adopt-A-Spot. Clean Up Around Memorial Park and Recycling 3:30 p.m.
14 Book Club. Find out what the new book will be 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
15 Redbox/Netflix Movie 3:30 p.m.
21 Pictionary Party. Join a team and play this fun game 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

22 Meet at the TC at 3:30 p.m. to walk to Scoops! \$3 for a double scoop cup with 1 topping or a small shake.
23 If you're on the TAB Board, come to a party just for you! Dinner included.

27 Come build your best Lego creation. 30 TAB Meeting. If you're on the Board, plan on attending 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 Café 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. After school hours: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. No school 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 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ute Pass Historical Society and Pikes Peak Museum offers free guided tours every Saturday through September 17. The walking tour of historic downtown Woodland Park begins at 10 a.m. and takes about 90 minutes. The walking tour meets at the Museum Center in History Park. This year the tour will include local flora and fauna. Tour the historic buildings of History Park from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. All tours are weather permitting. For more information, please call 719-686-7512, or check the website: UtePassHistoricalSociety.org. History Park is located at 231 E. Henrietta Avenue, next to the Woodland Park Public Library.

Woodland Country Lodge entertainment schedule on page 6.

VICTOR

10 & 11 Victor Ghost Town Garage Sale weekend starts on page 15.
24 Ute Trail Muzzle Loaders: shoot and meetings the last Saturday of each month at Victor. For information call 719-684-7780.



Ute Indians - Chief Colorow Left half

COLORADO SPRINGS

The Works and Life of Pioneer Photographer B.H. Gurnsey by Ed Bathe Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. at Colorado Springs Masonic Hall, 1130 Panorama Drive. B. H. Gurnsey came to the new town of Colorado Springs in 1872, and established the first photograph gallery. The record of his career until his death in 1880 will be accompanied by many examples of the stereoview photos he published. Catered dinner setting at cost of \$17; reservations required by noon, Friday prior. For more information call Bob 719-473-0330 or email posse@dewitterenterprises.com.

Recruiting for Gold Camp Christmas

Recruitment for 2016 Cripple Creek and Victor Christmas event has started. A lot of fun activities annually and volunteers are always needed. Expanding this year with the theme of "The Twelve Days of Christmas". Some of the events for Gold Camp Christmas include: Tea at the Aspen Mine Center on Sat. Nov. 5; main event reception Dec. 7; Soup and Cookie Contest and Victor parade Dec. 9; Cripple Creek parade, Santa, craft fair, and more, all Dec. 10. Ideas welcome; come to meetings at 4 p.m. at the Aspen Mine Center, or call coordinator Kathi to talk or set up meeting at 719-659-3599.

Lost Dutchman 5K Trail Run/Walk

For a day of fun for the whole family, we've included age groups for everybody from nine and under, to 70 and up! The Lost Dutchman 5K (3.1 mi) Trail Run/Walk will be held at the Lost Dutchman in Florissant on Sunday, September 25 at 10:30 a.m., and we've got room for everybody from the serious runner to the weekend walker! This is a great opportunity to support our fire department volunteers and have fun with your family, too! (Leave Fido at home, please — no dogs allowed!) TH Promotions and Lost Dutchman are organizing and hosting the event, in conjunction with Divide Fire, and a fun post-race event is planned at the finish.

Entry before race day is \$30 per participant, and race day entry is \$35. On-line registration is encouraged at the link provided below, or register in person at the Divide Fire Department Pancake breakfast on September 4th. You're welcome to register on-line anytime through noon September 23 or in-person on race morning (from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.). Bib pick-up is race morning from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The race is supported by our generous local sponsors Autogross Marketing Consultants, LaGree's Venture Foods, McGinty's Wood Oven Pub, and Paradox Beer Company. Finish Line Timing is providing our timing and race support and participates in the "1percent for the Planet" program, in which members commit to donate 1 percent of their total revenue to environmental organizations.

It's important for our community to support our local firefighters, and the recent Colorado fires serve as a stark reminder. We'd love to have you join us to walk or run the beautiful, lakeside, gravel-road route at Lost Dutchman, and do positive things for our community at the same time!

For complete race details and registration information (or to get an e-mail contact to volunteer), please go to: <http://www.finishlinetiming.com/lost-dutchman-5k>

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