



UTE COUNTRY NEWS

FREE

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March 2022

P.O. Box 753, Divide, CO 80814 • 719-686-7587 • utecountrynews.com

Vol. 14, No. 3

Welcome to Ute Country

"Snow was falling,
so much like stars
filling the dark trees
that one could easily imagine
its reason for being was nothing more
than prettiness."

— Mary Oliver

PEEK INSIDE...



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Exploring Yaks at the Double Eagle Ranch

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The front of the Mose Public House in Cañon City, located at 409 Main Street.

Mose Public House

by Flip Boettcher
photo by Flip Boettcher

The Mose Public House is located at 409 on Cañon City's historic Main Street, housed in a building built in 1898. The Mose Public House opened in October, 2020. Proprietor Gerry Meloni named his public house after Old Mose, the famous grizzly bear who roamed around Black Mountain, 39-Mile Mountain and 31-Mile Mountain in the Guffey area between 1870 and 1904, hoping to keep some local history alive, he said.

In his reign of terror, Mose is supposed to have killed some 800 cattle and horses and a few humans. Mose was finally killed in 1904 and it was estimated he weighed 1000 - 1500 pounds and measured 9 feet from nose to tail. Mose's hide was on display in Cañon City for a time and eventually went to the University of California at Berkeley, where he still is today. Each booth in the Mose Public House has a written account of the tale of Old Mose.

The public house has a full bar and specializes in classic cocktails. The pub serves up soups, hero sandwiches, Philly cheese steaks, and cheese boards. The public house was awarded "best bar" this year in the *Cañon City Daily Record's* Reader's Choice. Meloni's manager is Jennifer Myers.

The Mose Public House is open Sunday-Thursday 11-midnight, Friday and Saturday 11-2 a.m. They can be reached at 719-315-2266, info@mosepub.com or www.mosepub.com.

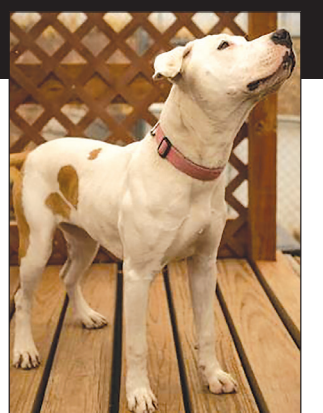
Visit the 400 block of Cañon City's historic Main Street. If your computer needs some work, Madi Weber at Positive Computing can most likely fix it. While waiting for your computer, you can visit the newly opened Medora Gallery and then have lunch with Mose. Perhaps the grizzly bear will pay you a visit while you are there.

Adopt Me by TCRAS

Lyn

I'm super excited to tell you about myself! I'm just a pup at 1 year and 6 months of age and I still have so much to learn and I can't wait. I LOVE people and will hop all over just to express my excitement! I would really benefit from having an experienced owner who's willing to help me on my journey of learning some great new manners. If you think I'm the one for you please call my friends at 719-686-7707 to set up an appointment to meet me. I'm looking forward to it! TCRAS is located at 308 Weaverville Road in Divide.

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Things Left Behind: An Intimate Time with Spencer and Julie Penrose

Spencer Penrose made a fortune mining gold in Cripple Creek and then copper in Utah. After investing his money, he molded the Pikes Peak region into a tourist mecca by building the Broadmoor Hotel and other attractions. Both Spencer and Julie Penrose made significant contributions to the business, social, and philanthropic communities of the Pikes Peak region. Join Steven Veatch as he shares Penrose rocks, gold ore, stories, historic photographs, and artifacts from when his grandfather was the private secretary for Spencer Penrose and later Julie Penrose. Veatch relies on these Penrose artifacts, charged with emotion and memories, to provide an intimate look into their lives and personalities. This FREE presentation happens on March 12 at 10 a.m. at Lake George Charter School gym.



Spencer Penrose



Trooper Tips Winter driving season

by Master Trooper Gary Cutler

I guess it's that time of year to make sure everyone is ready for the impending spring snow season. This is mostly a list of making sure you haven't taken anything out of your vehicles that you may need when you are traveling this winter.

Let's go over the basics. Are your tires in good condition and do they have at least 3/16th inch of tread as required? I know you don't take these out of your vehicle, but do you usually run snow tires during the winter? It's a good time to get ready and make sure the tires are in good condition, and there are no cracks or rubber missing from them.

Now to make sure that if we unfortunately get stuck, do we have what it takes not be in really dangerous trouble. If you have read my articles before you know that I'm a fan of your trusty shovel. I've gotten out of a lot of predicaments using mine.

If you have to use the shovel, then you will be wanting water after having shoveled the heavy snow. Have some of it with you along with snacks. You have to keep that strength going.

If it looks like the shovel may not be the answer this time, be prepared to stay the night. Blankets and a flashlight will

keep you company through the night. If you plan on using the vehicle's heater, make sure the exhaust pipe is clear and you have a window cracked to allow air flow in the vehicle.

Try to stay with your vehicle. This is the safest place since rescuers will be looking for it because you were thinking



ahead; told someone your travel plans and route in case something like this happened.

Some other items that should be staples in your vehicle are matches, toilet paper, a coat that is warm enough for a stay in the mountains, and a change of clothes in case you get wet.

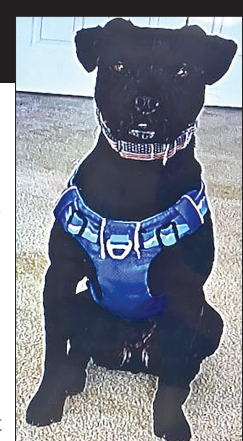
Finally, sometimes it just safer to stay home if it looks like there might be bad weather in the forecast. The ride might be safer next week or tomorrow. As always, safe travels!

Adopt Me by SLV Animal Welfare Society

Smudge

Meet Smudge! He is 2 ½ years old, 44 pounds, extremely intelligent and a fun-loving dog of the Boston Terrier Lab persuasion, who seeks a new best friend(s) to be a member of a loving home. He's looking for a new position that will allow him to utilize his loyalty, companionship, ability to zoom and stunning good looks. Smudge is a certified gentle treat muncher, a relaxed bath taker, carefree truck rider and a no-pull park walker! His is also house trained and knows to sit, stay, lay, come and leave it. Smudge is neutered chipped and current on all vaccines. To meet Smudge come to the PetSmart March 5 at 7680 N. Academy in Colorado Springs 11-4 p.m.

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www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap

Applications can be accessed online or at your Teller County DHS office at Tamarac Business Center in Woodland Park or Aspen Mine Center in Cripple Creek.



COLORADO

Office of Economic Security

Division of Food & Energy Assistance

After you qualify for LEAP you can also get help with your water bill

Grants available for fire mitigation

The Department of Natural Resources- Executive Director's Office is pleased to announce the release of the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP) Workforce Development Grant. COSWAP is a wildfire mitigation funding program designed to protect life, property and infrastructure and this release of funding is specifically targeted to support workforce development throughout the state. COSWAP funds can support projects on all land ownership types in Colorado.

The Workforce Development Grant has four funding opportunities associated with it, all of which are described in detail in the Request for Applications (RFA). We encourage everyone to read through the RFA before contacting us with specific questions regarding your project proposals. If you are uncertain about which funding opportunities you are eligible to apply for, visit page two in the Request for Applications for a detailed flow chart. Last, please visit our website for more information on Strategic Focus Areas and eligibility. The RFA and Application are also available for download directly from COSWAP's website <https://dnr.colorado.gov/divisions/forestry/co-strategic-wildfire-action-program>

The Workforce Development Grant encompasses:
Two types of project requests

1. Wildfire mitigation work completed by a conservation corps or DOC SWIFT crew. DOC SWIFT crews are available STATEWIDE while conservation corps are only available in COSWAP's Strategic Focus Areas.
2. Wildfire mitigation workforce training (Strategic Focus Areas only)

Two funding mechanisms

1. Crew time awards for 6-25 weeks of Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) accredited conservation corps or DOC SWIFT crews. These awards do not include any cash, only crew time and do not require a match.
2. Cash grants of up to \$100,000 for wildfire mitigation work completed by a non-CYCA accredited conservation corps, or for wildfire mitigation workforce training. Cash grants require a 25% match.

How to Apply

Applicants must complete the application in order to be considered for the Workforce Development Grant. DNR will accept applications on a continual basis until all funding is awarded. DNR will review applications on a monthly basis.

COSWAP's Website: <https://dnr.colorado.gov/divisions/forestry/co-strategic-wildfire-action-program>.

AVHH needs volunteers!

Ark Valley Helping Hands (AVHH) a local nonprofit that serves older adults in Chaffee County is seeking volunteers who reside in Buena Vista and Nathrop. Through vetted volunteers, AVHH provides an array of services for its members, which helps them remain independent in their homes as well as connected to our awesome community.

Ongoing volunteer opportunities include: grocery shopping, prescription pickup, friendly visits, care calls, simple handy services, occasional light cleaning and more. To learn more about AVHH and its mission, visit avhelpinghands.org or call Mason at 719-530-1198.

JA in A Day!

by Sherri Albertson

Junior Achievement of Southern Colorado, Teller County will host JA in A Day this coming spring at Gateway Elementary, May 11 and at Summit Elementary on May 18 for Kindergarten through 5th grades. Community volunteers utilize Junior Achievement lessons to bring a unique classroom approach to teaching children about work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills. JA provides specially-developed curriculum that corresponds with the Colorado educational standards and activities that enable students to develop the skills they need to experience the realities and opportunities of work and entrepreneurship. Getting involved is easy and JA provides all the necessary volunteer training and curriculum materials. Interested in learning more? Contact Sherri L. Albertson at 719-650-4089 or email sherri.alberston@ja.org.



Adopt Me

by Ark Valley Humane Society

Beacon

This handsome gentleman is hoping to meet his forever family soon. Beacon is a 2.5-year-old male, domestic medium hair mix. He is an extremely playful and loving cat. He will melt into your arms when you visit him in our adoptable cat room. Beacon can become easily overstimulated and would do best with a cat-savvy owner in an adult only home. Are you often described as a cat-whisperer? Do you enjoy cats with lots of personality? Please consider Beacon! Ark Valley Humane Society is open Monday-Saturday by appointment. Please give a call 719-395-2737 to schedule a time to meet Beacon!



This space donated by the Ute Country News to promote shelter animal adoption.



A Look Inside the Artist Bob Weir, Musician

by Mary Shell

I have enjoyed the music of Bob Weir for many years. He would entertain guests at my gallery for three years at Cañon City's First Friday Art Walk. Like many good musicians he would play the audience. I'm not sure if it's instincts or a plan, but if the audience got quiet or he noticed a lull in the energy he would play something that would lift the whole crowd. He is very comfortable and content when playing music, as if he get's lost in it and the world disappears.

How long have you been playing music?

I started playing music when I was 15, that was 55 years ago. I started out on the drums and later added the guitar, harmonica and piano. Over the years I have played in many bands, rock and roll bands, oldies bands, Beatles tribute band, and blues bands.

What type of music do you like to play?

I have a wide taste in music and will listen what I feel like at the time, could be old rock and roll, new rock, heavy metal, country, maybe even Andre Bocelli if the mood strikes me. I'll play any genre if I like the tune, some are harder to play than others i.e., I think jazz is the hardest to actually play. I enjoy playing songs I like, and that the audience I like. That is the fun part to me.

Do you play any other instrument?

Yes, I am self-taught on drums, guitar, harmonica, and piano. I have never had a lesson and play everything by ear; can't read music. My wife can read music. Here is the ironic part, I can hand her a piece of sheet music and she can play it on the piano, where I couldn't read it. However,

if you ask me to play a song I know, I can usually figure out the chords myself in a few minutes. She can't do that. I also play a little bit on a handmade native American flute that was made for me personally by a Navajo flute maker in Phoenix Arizona. My totem animal on my flute is a hummingbird.

What musician inspires you?

Initially it was the Beatles, but also Buddy Holly and all the old 50s and 60s groups. Later I fell in love with Cat Stevens, then Neil Young, but those early and mid-60's English rock and roll bands really influenced me.

Do you write your own music?

I have, but I don't now. I just don't feel I could ever write anything to compare to John Lennon and Paul McCartney. I guess I put the bar too high for me to reach.

How do you feel when you play to a crowd?

I was just talking about this. These are troubling times we live in these days, what with covid, supply shortages, worker shortages, and prices going up on everyday items. The only time I don't worry about all those things is when I am playing. I hope that my playing will give my audience the same escape experience. That is why I play.

How often do you play music?

As often as I can, at least weekly. I play a guitar solo show at different venues around southern Colorado, and I also play drums in a rock and roll band call the Frady Catz. This keeps me musically busy. I have a license plate on my car that



says "STLRCKN" (Still rockin'), that's me.

Is there any instrument you haven't played that you would like to try?

I have always wanted to play the saxophone, I think from the times I played in blues bands, The sax is such a bluesy instrument.

What's in the future for you?

Not sure, I am 70 years old, so I know there is a finite time I have left. As long as I can physically play, I will continue. I love sharing my music, I especially love being able to donate my talent to charities and non-profits; it's how I can give back.

Personal note:

Music and sharing music is a very big part of my life in fact in my family's life. I have been married for 48 years and many an evening was spent listening to music with my wife. I hope people get a chance to see me at a show and escape from reality for a short while.

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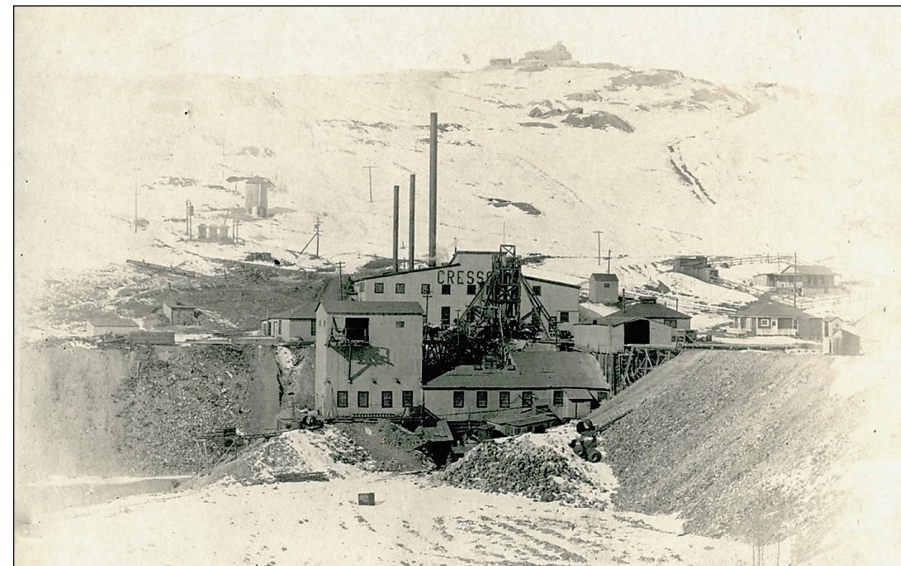
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Visits with History



Early view of the Cresson mine, Cripple Creek, Colorado. Photograph date circa 1914, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

Join Steven Veatch for a Visits with History presentation on *Cripple Creek's Cresson Mine: The Untold Stories*. Come and enjoy this incredible story as Steven Veatch reveals the secrets of this remarkable mine through old letters, newspaper clippings, crumbling documents, and rare photos. Follow the career of Richard Roelofs, who worked at the Cresson mine. Roelofs wrote, "I was a prospector, a leaser, a miner, an assayer and chemist, an underground shift boss, foreman, superintendent, and then general manager of one to the greatest of Colorado's mines." Hear about the mine's legendary underground cavern of gold. It was so rich that the miners shoveled gold crystals into bags for weeks.

Steven Veatch, local historian and Earth scientist, will present this segment of Teller County history, a story so big, so bold, that only the World's Greatest Gold Camp can hold it. The Cripple Creek District Museum invites you to learn more about the Cresson mine on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 2 p.m. The talk will be held at the Cripple Creek Heritage Center, 283 S Hwy-67, Cripple Creek CO. This program is presented as a public service of the Cripple Creek District Museum in partnership with the City of Cripple Creek. Reservations are recommended. Refreshments will be served. For more information or to make a seating reservation, please call 719-689-9540.

Thank you to Ute Supporters!

by Kathy & Jeff Hansen

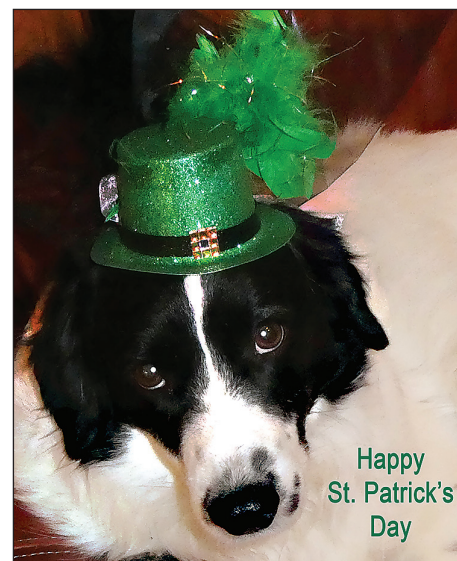
We take this opportunity to say, "Thank you!" to our *Ute Supporters* who have taken their precious time to share feedback about our publication. That feedback goes to our writers; every month we share three comments with our writers, who are always appreciative. We are also grateful to those who have chosen to send in a donation "to keep the lights on during these challenging times." If you'd like to be a *Ute Supporter*, feel free to send your comments and/or check to Ute Country News POB 753 Divide, CO 80814 or stop in at Shipping Plus! We promise to continue to print the positive news of our area.

Where is Katee this month?

Katee will be at the Third Annual Woodland Park Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 12. The parade starts at Memorial Park at noon. Hope to see you there.

Katee wants to thank everyone for supporting the Pet Food Pantry with food and monetary donations so that her canine and feline friends can stay at home with their families.

You can drop off donations at TCRAS in Divide, Blue's Natural Pet Market or The UPS Store in Woodland Park. You can also donate online at www.PetFoodPantryTC.com. Thank you for being so supportive!

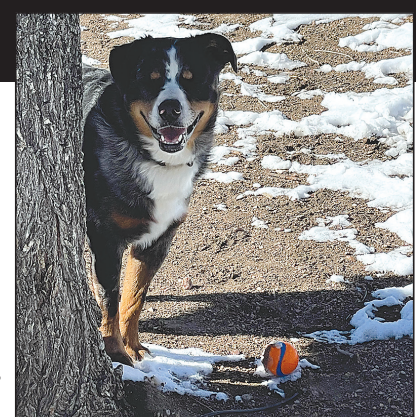


Adopt Me by AARF

Brody

Brody is a gorgeous Aussie, about 2 years old. He's looking for a home with ample room and lots of attention. Brody is sweet, alert, very intelligent and very affectionate. He is just the right dog for someone with an outdoorsy lifestyle. To set up a meet and greet with Brody, call Dottie at 719-761-5320.

This space donated by the Ute Country News to promote shelter animal adoption.



FUN FACTS ABOUT ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Saint Patrick's color was actually azure blue; he didn't wear green. It wasn't until after the Irish Independence movement in the late 18th century that green was linked to St. Patrick's Day. The azure shade of blue continues to be Ireland's official heraldic color. Discontent with English rule eventually turned into rebellion; wearing a green shamrock rather than the ordained blue was a sign of the discontent.

Saint Patrick was born to Roman parents in Scotland or Wales; he was British. His birth name was Maewyn Succat. He changed his name to Patricius after becoming a priest.

Patrick was 16 years old when he was seized from his family's home by pirates who enslaved him and took him to Ireland. This is when he converted to Christianity.

The shamrock was used as a metaphor for the Holy Trinity when he was introducing Christianity to Ireland. The Celts

referred to it as the seamroy, a sacred plant that signals the arrival of spring. The 4-leaf clover is a rare find, chances are 1 in 10,000. The leaves represent faith, hope, love and luck and others say they are fame, wealth, love and health.

According to the fossil record, Ireland has never been home to snakes as it was too cold to host reptiles during the Ice Age. The surrounding seas kept snakes out since. St. Patrick never drove snakes out of Ireland, at least not the reptilian kind.

The famous "corned beef and cabbage" doesn't contain any corn. The large grains of salt historically used to cure meats were known as "corns" and that is where the "corned beef" comes from.

Lobaircin means small-bodied fellow, which is the original Irish name for Leprechaun. This belief likely stems from the Celts who believed in fairies that could choose to use their magical powers for good or for evil. Leprechauns mended the shoes of the fairies.

Here's a little St. Patrick's Day Humor

Q: Why did the leprechaun go outside?
A: To sit on his paddy-o.

Q: What type of bow cannot be tied?
A: A rainbow

Q: What is a leprechaun's favorite type of music?
A: Sham-rock 'n roll

Q: What do ghosts drink on St. Patrick's Day?
A: Boos

Q: When does a leprechaun cross the street?
A: When it turns green.

Q: What would you get if you crossed Christmas with St. Patrick's Day?
A: St. O' Claus

Q: What did the leprechaun say when the video game ended?
A: Game clover.

Q: Why did St. Patrick drive all the snakes out of Ireland?
A: It was too far to walk.

Q: What do you call a leprechaun with a sore throat?
A: A streprechaun.

Q: What instrument does a showoff play on St. Patrick's Day?
A: Brag-pipes.

Q: When is an Irish potato not an Irish potato?
A: When it's a French fry.

Q: How does a leprechaun work out?
A: By pushing his luck.

Q: How can you tell if an Irishman is having a good time?
A: He's Dublin over with laughter.

Q: What do you call a leprechaun's vacation home?
A: A lepre-condo.

Q: Why do people wear shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day?
A: Because real rocks are too heavy.

Q: What do you call environmentally conscious leprechauns?
A: Wee-cyclers.

Q: What is Irish and left on the lawn?
A: Paddy O'Furniture.

Q: Why are leprechauns so concerned about global warming?
A: They're really into green living.

Q: How did the Irish Jig get started?
A: Too much water to drink and not enough restrooms.

Q: What does it mean when you find a horseshoe?
A: Some poor horse is going barefoot.

Q: How can you spot a jealous shamrock?
A: It will be green with envy.

Q: What do you call a bad Irish dance?
A: A jig mistake.

Q: Why don't you iron four-leaf clovers?
A: Because you don't want to press your luck!

Q: What did the Irish potato say to his sweetheart?
A: I only have eyes for you.

Q: What do Irishmen say when you tell them Bono is your favorite singer?
A: You, too?

Q: Why does the River Shannon have so much money in it?
A: Because it has two banks.

Q: What do you call an Irishman bouncing off the walls?
A: Rick O'Shay.

Q: What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?
A: A rash of good luck!

Q: What did St. Patrick say to the snakes?
A: He told them to hiss off.

We thank WorldStrides, History Hit, History.com, and Parade.com.

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Critter Corner



George helping with the puzzle...



Merrill warming himself by the stove - Jeff Hansen, Divide, CO

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Leo the Leprechaun *by Gilrund the Historian*

It was early morning and Leo was ready to go on the hunt for the legendary "Magic Four Leaf Shamrock."

His grandfather had told him of the legend when he was just a child and he had accepted it as just a fun story, like all of the other stories that grandfather had told him while Leo sat on his lap.

Grandfather was gone now, but the story of the four-leaf shamrock had stuck in Leo's mind. It had been nearly 20 years since grandfathers passing and now Leo was in his 20s. He wanted to see if there really were four-leaf shamrocks.

According to the legend Leo had been told, the four-leaf shamrock could only be found in a certain valley that was a three day walk from where Leo's family lived in a forest of Scottish pines.

The valley was a deep one with a wide and deep stream that ran through it and had several caves in the sides.

The legend also told of a treasure that was hidden in one of the caves that no one had been able to find. Treasure would be great to find too. For though leprechauns were supposed to have their own treasure, Leo hadn't acquired his yet.

Oh, he had tricked several humans out of a few coins and caused them some trouble, but he didn't have his own treasure. Also, there was a young and very pretty girl leprechaun, named Lavender Lollypop that he would like to impress. But he had little to impress her with.

He had only a small tree stump with a short tunnel under it on the side of a hill for a home. He wanted Lavender to have a large castle like home under a fine meadow with green grass and flowers that she could enjoy.

Leprechaun magic could only do so much, and without a good reason, it could do very little.

Leo started on his three-day journey on a bright sunny day with food in his knapsack and a skin of good wine hanging from a strap across his shoulder. He looked ahead and saw the green grass of his Ireland homeland and smiled, he loved where he lived.

Hour after hour Leo walked over large meadows and up and down grass covered hills and through thick forests of Scottish pines and ash and some alder trees.

He had walked for many miles as the sun started to set and Leo began looking for a place to spend the night. He found a good-sized tree that had fallen down years ago. He looked down inside the stump and decided that it would be a good place to spend the night.

Leo ate some of the mushrooms and nuts he had brought and drank just a little of the wine, then settled down in some of the soft old tree wood and went to sleep.

As he started his second day of walking,

he saw in the distance a group of humans in a large meadow. They all had their heads down and were looking at the field of clover that they were standing in.

"What could those humans be looking at?" thought Leo as he walked closer.

Soon he could hear some of the younger humans calling to the others.

"Have you found

any yet?"

Leo heard

one of them

inquire.

The

answer

was al-

ways,

"No,

not yet.

Keep look-

ing."

"I

wonder

what they

are look-

ing for?"

Leo said to

himself. Then

he guessed

what it was,

they were

looking for

the four-leaf

clovers that were

supposed to be in fields like this one.

Leo hid in a small cluster of trees

and watched the humans search for

over an hour with no success.

"Silly humans," he said to himself

as he walked away from the trees and

continued on his way.

As Leo walked, he started thinking about

what the four-leafed clover stood for. It was

a symbol of good luck. Everyone knew that.

But what did the shamrock stand for?

"Well," he thought, "the one I am look-

ing for has four leaves and each leaf stood

for faith, hope, love and luck. That's much

better than just luck," he thought, "I'd much

rather have all four than just luck. Sometimes

you can have bad luck. I don't want that."

Leo continued his walk to the secret val-

ley as he thought about the shamrock that

he hoped to find there. "I hope that when I

find the shamrock, it will bring me all of the

things that it is supposed to bring."

The next day was bright and shiny with

no clouds in the sky. Leo enjoyed the walk

through the green meadows and over the

tree covered hills. He would stop every so

often and enjoy a clear stream that flowed

past. Sometimes taking a drink of the fresh,

cool water.

He spent time, as he walked, thinking of

what each leaf stood for on the shamrock and how it might apply to him.

He thought about faith and knew that he would be faithful to Lavender Lollypop if he were lucky enough to have her as his bride. He loved her very much and hoped that she would accept him as her husband.

"Hey!" said Leo as he stopped walking, "That covers all of the four leaves on the shamrock. I've got to find one now."

The next day found Leo standing on the top edge of the valley and looking down at the stream that flowed through it. He couldn't see the openings of any caves,

but then the valley was quite long, and he couldn't see all the way to the other end.

Down he climbed, to the bottom and stood next to the rushing stream. It was mid-day, and the sun was shining down into the valley and Leo could see the green shamrock covered floor of the valley.

He started looking for the four-leafed shamrock that he just knew would be somewhere in the valley. As he walked, eyes to the ground, he was very careful of where he stepped. He didn't want to step on one, it might ruin the magic.

The sun had moved, and it was going to

get dark, and Leo was getting tired, so he walked to the side of the valley and sat down to rest near some thick bushes. As he ate his supper of mushrooms and some nuts, he looked more closely around where he was sitting.

It was then that he saw the opening of the cave behind the bushes that he was sitting next to. He took a quick drink of his wine and then pushed some of the bushes aside to look inside the cave opening.

The sun was in just the right position, and he could see inside a little way. He saw that this

wasn't just a hole in the side of the valley. There was a tunnel that went back into the side of the valley far enough that the sun didn't light up very much of it.

Leo quickly reached into the knapsack that he had and pulled out a candle that was there. He struck a match and lit the candle and slipped through the bushes and into the tunnel.

Slowly, Leo walked into the tunnel, always looking for anything that might harm him and for anything that might be the treasure spoken of in the story his grandfather had told him.

Farther and farther into the tunnel he walked until he found another tunnel leading off to the right side. The opening was partly covered with rocks, but Leo was able to pull some of them away to look down the new tunnel a little.

His candle didn't give much light, but there was enough for him to see some sparkles further down the tunnel. Was it just some shiny rocks or was it the treasure?

Leo started pulling away the rocks that blocked this other tunnel as he hoped that he was lucky enough to have found the legendary treasure.

At last, he had the opening large enough that he could climb through and go further down the tunnel.

There was the treasure that he had been told about when he was just a child on his grandfather's knee. There were sacks and sacks of

gold coins and silver coins and diamonds and emeralds and rubies and sapphires. All there for him to take as much as he wanted.

Now he had the treasure that leprechauns were expected to have, and now he could ask Lavender Lollypop to be his bride. He could give her anything that she might need or want. He could give her the castle that he had dreamed of. Leo was a very happy leprechaun as he danced around the treasure cave and sang a happy song.

Soon, Leo saw that his little candle was going to go out, so he grabbed a few coins and jewels and climbed back out of the treasure tunnel and then ran back down the main tunnel to where he had left his knapsack and wine skin.

He took a quick drink of the wine and then put on his knapsack, then started back down the valley, after making a small pile of rocks to mark where his treasure tunnel was.

As he quickly walked away, he started to wonder how he had found the treasure cave. He hadn't found a four-leafed shamrock, or had he?

Leo stopped walking and looked at what he was wearing. He looked at his shoes and didn't see anything until he took off the right one. There stuck between the heel and the sole was the stem of a four-leafed shamrock with the four leaves sticking out of the side of his shoe.

He had found one, he just didn't know it. He had experienced faith, for he knew that he would find a shamrock and hope, that he would find the treasure cave. He did it all for the love of Lavender Lollypop and the last leaf had brought him luck.

The shamrock legend was true, and he could prove it! He had experienced it in his own life.

Leo was a very happy leprechaun.

It didn't take him three days to get back home, for he ran most of the way out of the pure joy that filled him.

Lavender Lollypop was very happy to be his wife, for she had faith and had been hoping that he would ask her, because she loved Leo very much.

They were a very lucky couple and lived a good life being kind to their friends and loved ones with the wealth that Leo had found.

So, if you should ever go to Ireland, you might want to look for a shamrock with four leaves. You never know what it may bring you. Perhaps the luck of the Irish.

~ THE END ~

Chuck Atkinson of Como, CO enjoys writing fiction stories and treasure hunts for the children at his church. We are pleased to have him contribute to the only fiction in our Ute Country News.

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Wildfire!

by Flip Boettcher

No one is immune from a raging wildland fire. There is no fire season anymore during the dry months in Colorado; wildfire season is now year-round. The recent Marshall fire near Boulder is a case in point. Some of those residents only had 1 ½ minutes to evacuate their homes. What would you take if you had 1 ½ minutes to leave your home, not knowing if it would be there when you got back? You would take only that which you could truly not live without, said new Southern Park County Fire Protection District (SPCFPD) chief Aric Stahly. Think about it, 90 seconds.

More than half of Colorado residents live in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and are at some risk of being affected by a wildfire. If you live in the WUI, it is not a matter of if a wildfire will impact your home and property, but when, according to a Colorado State Forest Service booklet.

Pre-planning is a good idea. You might want to pack some cherished items in your car; items you would like to save but would have no time to take if you had only 90 seconds to leave.

You might also pack extra clothes, shoes, jacket and hat in your car. If you have pets, you might pack their carriers and have food and supplies for them. Don't pack anything that would freeze.

Maybe have a suitcase or backpack by the door with toiletries, cosmetics, medications, extra cash and checks, important documents, snacks, etc. This

would be something you could grab as you, your family and your pets evacuate in 90 seconds.

There are also measures one can take to help lessen the risk of a wildfire to your property and structures. It is ultimately the home owner's responsibility to protect their property and structures from wild-fire, by creating and maintaining a defensible space; it's called fire mitigation.

The SPCFPD provides free wild land risk assessments for properties within their #9 district, in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1144. This provides a method to assess fire ignition potential around existing structures and offers guidance for reducing potential ignition hazards for new construction in the face of a wildfire.

There are three methods of structure ignition: by embers which can be windblown from over a mile away; a surface fire or direct flame contact; and radiant heat.

A home's defensible space is composed of three zones:

Zone 1, 0 - 5 feet, is the hardest to maintain and requires constant vigilance. This zone is to keep the flames from coming into direct contact with the structure. Removing flammable vegetation; trimming branches overhanging the roof; keeping debris out of gutters and off roofs and decks; keep dead



debris raked away; don't stack wood or store anything, in this zone.

Zone 2, 5 feet - 30 feet, is designed to minimize fire spread and intensity and helps protect the structure from radiant heat. Mow grasses; no large piles of fuels; 10 feet of space between crowns of trees; no ladder fuels underneath trees and branches trimmed up 6 feet - 10 feet; and remove dead/stressed trees and shrubs, in this zone.

Zone 3, 30 feet - 100 feet, is for giving the fire less fuel as it approaches your house. no grass mowing is necessary; watch for ladder fuels and space tree crowns 6 feet - 10 feet apart; treat slash, the farther

from the structure the better, in zone 3.

For a more detailed account consult "The Home Ignition Zone," from the Colorado State Forest Service. You can get copies from the SPCFPD fire station in Guffey. The fire department also has a chipper and will come out to your property and chip up your slash piles.

To meet the new chief, Aric Stahly, schedule a fire risk assessment, schedule the department's chipper, or to volunteer, call 719-689-9479, Monday-Sunday 9-3 p.m. or stop by the station; unless they are out on a call, someone will be there.

What would you take if you had 90 seconds to evacuate your home in case of a wildfire? Think about it.

Sitting squarely in town, historically means nothing to fires

by Patty Limerick

On the evening of June 26, 2012, a friend in Idaho sent me a message with an urgent question. "Are you OK?" she asked. "The evening news just provided stark evidence that you all are now threatened." Not far from where I live, when the Flagstaff Fire ignited, 26 homes were evacuated, and 24 households in Boulder went on pre-evacuation alert.

But there is compelling evidence that I was neither alerted nor alarmed. Here is the complacent, unrattled response I sent to my friend's concern, "Thank you for thinking of us. We are a good distance from this fire, and we are squarely in town, not in the foothills."

A decade later, I can only wonder what on earth I was thinking. How could I have been so confident that, since I was "squarely in town," I could dismiss my friend's concern for my safety as well-intentioned, but unjustified?

Embers are lightweight. An intense wind can make an ember almost animate in its migrations. My house is four blocks from the open space of grasslands and forests. If the location of the Flagstaff Fire had not made possible a quick response from firefighters, windborne embers

would have had no trouble finding me.

In 2022, millions of us in Colorado's cities and suburbs still reside in the intact, unscathed houses we occupied before Dec. 30, 2021. In the days and nights since then, every moment we spend in our comfortable homes offers a reminder: we cannot explain our own good fortune, nor can we explain the misfortune that the Marshall Fire brought to hundreds of people who — like us — lived "squarely in town."

Rereading our exchange from 2012, I am struck by my lapse into historical amnesia, forgetting a pattern that was almost universal in the Euro-American settlement of the American West.

In the last half of the nineteenth century, fires regularly laid waste to Western towns and cities. In April 1863, a fire swept through Denver, leaving "most of the eastern half" of the town "in blackened ruins." Flagstaff, Arizona, was an epicenter of cyclical combustion, with major fires in 1884, 1886, and 1888. In 1889, three major cities in Washington Territory — Spokane, Ellensburg, and Seattle — went up in flames, leaving their residents hard-pressed to rebuild. In that same year, the residents of Durango watched a fire



The Cripple Creek fire of 1896

destroy their downtown.

Throughout the West, Euro-American settlers harvested timber from local forests or sometimes imported ready-cut wooden

houses for on-site assembly. They then packed these structures close to each other, with little or no preparation for emergency water supplies. Frequent, devastating fires became a feature of Western urban life. When people caught onto the pattern, they made more use of building materials like brick and stone, created permanent fire departments, and set up better systems for supplying water to firefighters.

Here is the lesson that repeated misfortune taught Western settlers more than a century ago.

Living in a city offers no exemption from the catastrophe of uncontrolled fires. With that recognition, Westerners were positioned to embrace practices that reduced the power of fire to inflict sorrow and loss.

Affliction and hope turned out to be neighbors.

Patty Limerick is the faculty director and chair of the Board of the Center of the American West. To respond to this article, please use old-fashioned technology and call 303-735-0104. We thank Coalition for the Upper South Platte for helping us make this connection. This was first published in the Denver Post.

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CURRANT CREEK CHARACTERS

The Dells - the first generation part XV

by Flip Boettcher

photos by Flip Boettcher

Continuing down Currant Creek past the Crampton homestead, the scene of the brutal murder of William Crampton by the "King of Freshwater" in 1896, we come to the Dell homestead.

Benjamin Reuben (BR) Dell was born in Michigan December 1842, to William J. Dell (1802, Canada - 1886) and Lucretia Martin (1810, Canada - 1875). BR was the sixth of eight children. BR and his father had a general store in Lakeport, MI and the 1850 U.S. census shows the family living in Burtchville, MI.

December 1, 1861, BR married Mary G. Campbell in Burtchville, MI. Mary's parents, Calhoun Walter Campbell, 1803 - 1880 and Catherine Sinclair, 1807 - 1885) came from Scotland. Mary was born around 1841, maybe as early as 1836, and she was the fourth of eight children.

In 1865 BR, 23 years, is living in Decatur, MI, presumably with his family. BR and Mary had six children, all but one were born in Michigan. Mary "May", 1862 - December 29, 1902, Cripple Creek; Bertha, 1864 - 1945, Pueblo; Helena "Lena", 1867 - unknown — she married George Green of the 4-Mile Creek area; Delmer John, 1869 - March, 12, 1878, Kansas; Alfred "Alf" Benjamin, December 18, 1871 - 1964, he died in Cripple Creek but is buried in the Fairplay cemetery; Calhoun Burris, August 31, 1874, KS - January 20, 1950, Cañon City. Calhoun had a lot of nicknames, including Cal, Cally, Burrie and Cale.

In 1870 the Dell family is in Michigan and BR, 28 years, is keeping store, perhaps with his father. His personal worth is \$3,300 and his real estate is worth \$5,000. He is living with Mary, 28 years; May, 7 years; Bertha, 6 years; Helena, 3 years; and Delmer, 3 years. Since Alf was born in 1871 in Michigan, sometime thereafter the family moved to Kansas where Cal was born in 1874.

The 1875 Kansas census has the family living in Parsons, KS. BR, 33 years is a trader; Mary, 33 years; Bertha, 9 years; Elaine (Helena), 7 years; Delmer, 5 years; Alfred, 2 years; and Burrie, 8 months. There is no daughter May listed, but she would have been 11 years.

On March 12, 1878 Delmer John, 9 years, dies in Parsons, KS and BR and family show up in Cañon City, CO the same year. In a 1961 interview with Uncle Alf as everyone knew him, he says they came to Cañon City in 1877, but with Delmer John's death in 1878, the family was most likely still in Kansas at that time. After arriving in Cañon City, the family moves up Currant Creek, where BR acquires first water rights on Currant Creek with his ditch numbers 1, 2 and 3, on June 1, 1879.

The 1880 census has BR, 38 years, living in South Park. He is a farmer and freighter to Leadville. BR is living with Mary, wife 37 years; daughter May, 18 years; daughter Bertha, 16 years; daughter Lena, 13 years; Alfred B., son 8 years; Calhoun Burris, son 6 years; and a farm laborer, John Box, 24 years.

The Dell family is living in the ranch BR bought on Currant Creek, which was a 160-acre cash sale homestead patent that he started filing in 1880. The family lived in the first generation 7-room hewn log house. The homestead is on Colorado Highway 9 at Park County Road 88. Some of the original buildings are still there.

The Kester post office was located at the homestead and daughter May was the postmistress. May was the first postmistress on Currant Creek, according to her nephew Charlie Dell, a long time Guffey resident. May also taught at the Guffey School. May married Bill Hammond, Annie Bender's brother, and had two girls, Della May and Bertha, who both taught at

the Guffey School.

Bill Hammond's brother Hank married Fannie Hahnenkratt. Fannie taught at the Guffey School as well as the couples five daughters, Maud, Blanche, Grace, Mary and Babe.

In 1880, BR also had a 2-story building in Howbert with a large hall upstairs and a grocery store downstairs. Howbert was first called Dell Flats. Records show that BR sold Chandler and Taylor boilers and engines, sawmill engines, blacksmith tools and Little Kentucky Shingle machines. He also sold mules and horses.

Then in 1881, BR runs an ad 27 times from May to December in the *Fremont County Record* advertising the Dell Ranch on Currant Creek is for sale. The ad reads:

Dell Ranch for sale. 33 miles from Cañon, 6 miles from South Park on Currant Creek. One mile on the creek is under fence. 300 acre pasture is under brush fence on good cattle range. There is a 20 acre potato ground. Three springs, 7 room hewed log house and log stables. Asking \$700 cash or ½ the amount in horses or cattle and the rest in cash. Kester post office is located at the house.

The ranch didn't sell until much later, in 1909.

There is an 1881 article that mentions that Nathan Munn's store is located at Dells. A December 1881 *Flume* mentions that at a Christmas party held at Morford's on 31-Mile Creek, the Dell boys, Alf and Cal, got knit hats. The article also mentions that Mary Dell played music at the party.

The family was musical. Mary played the piano and her sons Alf played the 5-string banjo and Cal played the fiddle. Alf's sons Charlie played the guitar and Buford played piano and 4-string banjo.

Something goes wrong with the marriage, and BR and Mary file divorce papers July 12, 1882, in Park County, with BR, the plaintiff, bringing suit against Mary. Their eminent divorce was probably the reason the ranch was for sale the year before.

1885 saw BR's first 160-acre cash sale homestead proofed up with Kester witnesses Bill Hammond and N.A. Munn. BR's second 160-acre homestead was proofed up in 1889.

The 1885 Colorado census has just Mary, head of household 39 years, living with her children at the ranch, Bertha, teacher 19 years; Lena, laborer 17 years; Alfred, laborer 12 years; Collie, laborer 10 years; and hired help Charles Johnson, 55 years and George A. McBee, 28 years. Mary's neighbors living downstream are Olaf Davis, Aaron C. Davis and Joseph Goodnight. Her upstream neighbors are William Littleton, J. Bender and William Beery.

In 1885, BR, 42 years, is boarding at Wilson Thompson and E. Thompson's residence. Wilson is a blacksmith, head of house and E. Thompson is his wife. BR is a merchant and they live in Chaffee County.

By 1887, BR is the Howbert postmaster and also in 1889. In 1888 J.M. Petty sold BR 160 acres comprising part of Howbert for \$1,000. Petty married BR's daughter Bertha.

Also, in October 1888, Mary gets a \$2,500 rebatment from the county. A January 22, 1888 *Flume* article reports that "The family of BR Dell has lately moved into his handsome residence on Currant Creek. It is newly refurbished throughout and is one of the most comfortable homes in the mountains." What about their divorce? Did just Mary and the children move in to the house?

This would be the homestead's second-



The Dell ranch house today. The rectangle in the back with the grey chimney is the original part. The rest were add-ons.



Some old barns and corrals on the Dell homestead.

generation house, which is still standing but has been added onto and re-sided.

BR's second homestead north of the first one was proofed up in 1889 and BR was again the Howbert postmaster. Unfortunately, the 1890 census papers burned up in a fire, so there is no information about the family.

In March of 1892, the *Flume* reports that BR has returned from New Mexico and in May and November is a notice of default on two loans, one for \$1,500 and the other for \$2,000, by BR and Mary. The loans are on the two 160-acre home-

steads and payable to the Mortgage Trust Company in Pennsylvania and up for sale at public auction with all water rights. Dell had the first water rights on Currant Creek. The Dells defaulted on a December 1889 promissory note and there would be a trustee sale with Biddle Reeves as the trustee.

Either the homesteads didn't sell and reverted back to the Dells or they refinanced another loan and re-bought the property, as the ranch didn't sell until 1909.

...to be continued

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Panning for Good Exploring Yaks at the Double Eagle Ranch

by Dr. Bec

About five years ago while driving on Highway 24 near Divide, I glanced at a herd of what I thought were cows on the rolling hills of the Double Eagle Ranch, but noticed the animals had long hair and big horns. Entranced, and thinking I might have been transported to the Himalayas, I slowed down and pulled off to the side of the road. I took pictures of the yaks and quickly sent them to family with excited commentary about this new and novel addition to my daily commute. Each day I hoped I would catch a glimpse of them, and when I did, those days were touched with a kind of wild wonder so needed in my overscheduled world. Over the years, it was magical to witness the growth of the herd from seven original yaks to 48 strong.

At the ranch

Jessica and Bob Burton welcomed me to the Double Eagle Ranch on a typical winter day in Divide, Colorado. Cold, windy, with intense blue skies, the chilly snow-covered grasslands felt perfectly balanced by the camaraderie within the yak and cattle herds and the Burton's kindness and warmth.

Jessica Burton is an unusual and exceptional young person. Strong, intelligent and engaging, Jessy's eyes light up with enthusiasm for all things ranching and she radiates a genuine love for yaks and cattle including the Angus, Saler and Hereford breeds found on the ranch. Jessy graduated from Texas A&M University in Animal Science and Agricultural Business. She is passionate about fixing a common disconnect most people tolerate, which is not knowing where their food comes from. She wants to eliminate that lack of transparency that leaves most of us in the dark about what we are really eating.

Jessy shared that a package of ground beef can actually come from as many as 30 different cows. I tried not to vomit. Jessy is incredibly knowledgeable about the health benefits of yaks and cattle fed with high altitude grass. For instance, did you know the white fat you see on meat is typically from grain-fed animals, but yellow fat is from grass-fed animals? It's the beta-carotene in the grass that changes the color of the fat. Other fascinating information she and her dad Bob shared included:

- Yaks eat 1/3 as much as cattle.
- Yaks are bred for high altitudes (above 5 or 6 thousand feet). Their lungs and other organs are significantly bigger than cows resulting in more oxygen in their blood so more nutrients can get to the meat.
- Yak meat is low in cholesterol, saturated fat and calories.
- Yak meat is high in protein, zinc, niacin and B-vitamins. It also has very high amounts of omega-3s, mono-

unsaturated fats and linolenic acid which lowers LDL cholesterol levels and improves insulin sensitivity.

- Yaks live for 20-25 years; cattle typically live for 10-15 years.
- Brown meat in a grocery store does not usually mean it is rotten, it means it is oxidized, but is still ok.
- Yaks eat weeds — they like Arizona Fescue Grass. Cattle want to eat the fresh green stuff, they are pickier, but by having the yak, the fields get cleaned up and better grass grows.

Humane practices matter

The Burtons are dedicated to making sure their animals are treated well while they are in their care. Along with the high-altitude grass and relative freedom the cattle and yaks have on the expansive ranch, the daily operations of the ranch include a focus on humane practices. Dr. Temple Grandin, currently a professor at Colorado State University, is a scientist and animal behaviorist who has used her experiences with autism to design new, more humane ways to handle livestock. The Burtons use her curved pen design which provides



Jessica Burton and Pumpkin

cattle with space to be together similar to their normal herding patterns while slowly being moved into areas for medical treatment or to be transported. When the animals experience less stress in their lives, both animal and employee safety and satisfaction along with meat quality are positively impacted.

Recent ranch history and information

The Double Eagle Ranch belongs to the



Curved pens designed for humane handling of cattle



Jessica and dad, Bob Burton with their Yaks

Bertel Family and its guest houses and facilities are managed by PB&J Cattle (Phyllis, Bob, & Jessica Burton). The Bertel family owns half the cattle herd and the Burtons the other half. The yaks belong to the Burtons. There are three herds, the spring and fall cattle herds (named for when they have calves — hopefully within a 3-week period of time) consisting of about 100 cows with each cow having

friend and, honestly, I kind of felt like that before taking a bite of the yak I had probably seen on my way to work every day for years. But I am a typical human, an omnivore, and I have to admit that not knowing where my meat actually came from has made a difficult reality easier to deal with. Unfortunately, animals die so I can eat, rethinking... but am I going to quit eating meat? Maybe I should, but no. In my mind I am processing, "Yak is healthier than the meat I've been eating, I know the ranch is a safe place to get meat, I'm going to do it." So, I took a risk and tried it. I was pleasantly surprised. I think I expected it to taste exotic, but it tasted like hamburger, maybe a little sweeter, savory, not gamey... good, just as Jessy had described it. In that moment, I remembered the rugged majesty I witnessed when I was with the yak herd and felt connected and grateful one of them had contributed to my survival.

At the end of my visit, as the sun began to set, showcasing picturesque, red-roofed white buildings and blue-snowcapped mountain peaks, I asked Jessy if it was difficult to send the yaks and cattle to processing plants. She said, "I sometimes get teary, especially with the moms I've known and worked with for years, but my dad told me that when I stop getting sad at the death of an animal whether it's by a predator, weather, for meat, or some other reason, then it's time to stop doing this work. It helps me to know that I have worked to give them the best possible life."

Jokes

(from jokesus.com):

Q: What do you call a yak that is full of himself?

A: An egomani-yak!

Q: How did the yak almost die?

A: Cardi-yak-arrest.

Quote:

"We've got to give those animals a decent life and we've got to give them a painless death. We owe the animal respect."

— Temple Grandin

Challenge:

If you are up for it, pick a type of food you like and see if you can find out where it comes from. Awareness is enlightening!

Rebecca Frazier, PhD is an author and educational consultant. Her years as a classroom teacher, instructional coach, leader of coaching programs and principal helped her understand the need to provide positive support to educators and to encourage people in general. She believes noticing and focusing on what is positive creates the energy and hope critical to innovatively solving challenging problems. She can be found on twitter @coach_happy, or contacted through her website at coachhappy.com

I ate yak

I don't eat wild game. Seriously, ever since seeing a dead deer lying with its tongue out bleeding all over our back porch when I was four, I have avoided it. Then, when my Dad wanted me to just try to eat our pet rabbit Fluffy (I don't know what its name really was, we had about 30 of them being raised in our backyard for meat), I felt like I was killing my

~OUT AND ABOUT~

Check out these activities going on right here in this area. If you know of an activity we should include, please call us at 719-686-7587 or email us at utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com.

AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY

1 Crossroads of Parenting & Divorce 4:30-8:30 p.m. via zoom. Teller County Court approved co-parenting class. Registration fee required. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

3 Circle of Parents 5-6 p.m. via zoom. Are you raising your grandchildren or kin? Do you feel like you are raising them alone? A place where you can find and share support. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

3 Park County Democrats Virtual Caucus 7 p.m. Join us to participate in democracy and meet your like-minded neighbors. To participate go to ParkDems.org and click "register here." FMI chair@parkdems.org.

March 3-April 21 NAMI Chaffee County offers a FRE Family-to-Family program for families and friends of adults with mental health conditions 6:30-9 p.m. Thurs evenings. Participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and gain insight, hope and confidence in caring for a family member with a mental health condition. NAMI programs change lives and help families understand that mental illness is a biological brain disorder — an illness like any other. Classes are led by trained family members who understand the challenges of supporting a loved one with a mental health condition. To register or FMI info@namichaffee.org or 970-823-4751 or https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82zqqZuVMOOn8L.

10 Conscious Discipline Parent Night Class 7-8 p.m. FREE! This session's focus: Set Your Family Mission on Upgrade! What are the values you want your children to imbed in their own lives? How are they represented in everyday moments? Learn to set limits respectfully and build a mission statement worthy of your children's future. We realize it can be a difficult time to commit to, but please know this is a relaxed, kid-friendly open-forum training. It's not unusual for attendees to have babies in their laps, toddlers putting their favorite toys in front of the camera, or teachers preparing their rooms for the next day! Some find it easier to attend knowing they can still go about their nightly routines. Please register at your earliest convenience no later than March 8 using link https://forms.gle/mE1WhAm3xu7NSrj6. FMI kvalett@ceccc.org.

• NAMI Colorado: http://www.namicolorado.org/

• Suicide prevention: https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/ or 1-800-273-8255

BUENA VISTA

5 UAS Club Central Colorado

9-10:30 a.m. at Central Colorado Regional Airport. FMI: 719-581-2010 or ceuascub@gmail.com. Meets every first Saturday, usually at Central Colorado Regional Airport.

19 BV HOPE meeting 3 p.m. FMI BVHOPE.org.

CAÑON CITY

26 Music by the Masters scholarship benefit concert by the Royal Gorge Philharmonic at 4 p.m. at Steeple Events Center 701 Macon Ave. Free to the public; a donation envelope available in the program and donation opportunities on the website www.royalgorgephilharmonic.com. All proceeds benefit the Mount Moriah Masonic Lodge Scholarship fund. Featuring San Francisco's cello soloist Mathew Linaman, the orchestra will be playing works of Mozart, Hayden, Beethoven and Sousa. Each of these composers were members of the Masonic Lodges in Europe and the United States. Conductor Gerald Willis has enlisted the talents of professional musicians from the Pikes Peak Musician's Union, the Pueblo Symphony and the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. The professional musicians will be performing this free event with a partial grant from the Music Performance Trust Fund in New York.

LIBRARY

2 Read Across America to celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday 3 p.m.

2 FREE Legal Clinic 2-5 p.m. call 719-269-9020 for appointments.

• **B.O.O.K.** Babies on our Knees Monday 10:30 a.m.

• **Break out box** 2nd Friday each month 3-4 p.m.

• **Chess Club** Wednesday 2 p.m.

• **Cribbage Club** Fridays 10 a.m. All ages welcome!

• **Filler Friday** (different activity each month) 3rd Friday each month 3-4

• **Fremont Brain Injury Support** 1st Tuesday 12:30 p.m.

• **Lego Club** 1st Friday each month 3-4 p.m.

• **Metaphysical Group** 2nd and 4th Saturday 10:30 a.m.

• **New Neighbors Genealogy** 1st Friday 1 p.m.

• **Story Swap Book Club** 1st and 3rd Tuesday 3-4 p.m.

• **Story time and craft** Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m.

• **United Health Care** 2nd and 4th Thursday 9:30 a.m.

• **Virtual story time** Wednesday 10:30 a.m.

All at 516 Macon Ave. FMI 719-269-9020.

COLORADO SPRINGS

BROADMOOR WORLD ARENA

11 Harlem Globetrotters — Spread Game Tour 7 p.m.

24 Disney on Ice — Into the Magic 7 p.m.

25 Disney on Ice — Into the Magic 7 p.m.

26 Disney on Ice — Into the

then finishes along Baldwin. All area groups, organizations, clubs and businesses are invited to have a float, classic car, walking or riding group participation. The Pub/Food Crawl also begins after the parade. Crawl cards are \$5 and they are filled with discounts from favorite area eateries. We are still accepting vendors. The Crawl Card deals are good starting the 12th at 1 p.m. through March 17. Cards can be purchased ahead of time starting March 5 and are available at Rhapsody and McGinty's. Card will be for sale before and after the parade. FMI https://www.mountaineire.org/wp-st-patricks-day-parade.html or email Mickie Richardson at mountaineire@yahoo.com.

19 Woodland Park Senior Center 10th Annual Chili Cook-off 11-1 p.m. Chili cooks can register to submit their best chili by dropping by the Senior Center any week day before 1 p.m. Come early — we have room for only 12 entries. Registration is \$20. Cash prizes (\$30, \$20, \$10) for the top three chili recipes! Tasting is open to everyone, \$5 for all the chili and cornbread you can eat plus a voting ballot. This is a WP Senior Center fundraiser — bring your family and friends!

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

20 Seed Starting with John Schwabe 1-3 p.m. at Community Partnership Family Resource Center. Harvest Center's monthly educational high-altitude gardening series. Free for Harvest Center members, \$5 for non-members. FMI https://wpharvestcenter.org/tellerparkcd@gmail.com or 719-472-3671.

Through April 11 Active Parenting of Teens 5-7 p.m. at Mountain View United Methodist Church. For parents of preteens and teens. Yes, it's possible to parent your teenager and still get along with them! Learn how to turn challenges into opportunities. Meal and childcare provided. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

• GED classes 5-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

• Playgroup Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m. at The Resource Exchange 509 Scott Ave., Suite 203B. Parent or caregiver with children ages 5 and under. Older siblings welcome. FMI Jackie@cpteller.org or 79-686-0705.

• Ute Pass Historical Society and Gift Shop is located at 231 E. Henrietta Ave., next to the library. Hours are 10-noon, Wed., Thurs., and Friday. The Gift Shop has the 2022 14-month Pictorial Calendars available for \$14. We also have a great selection of historical books, cookbooks, Indian art, jewelry and gifts. FMI 719-686-7512.

Mueller State Park

Winter fun is on the schedule for March at Mueller State Park! Guided hikes in the snowy landscape are great for relaxing and enjoying the peacefulness of the forest. On your own, hike, snowshoe, ski or sled-ding are all great activities at Mueller! Guided hikes scheduled for March range from 2-4 miles and from moderate to more challenging in duration. Hikers should check snow conditions before venturing out to determine if snowshoes or spikes are necessary. Trail conditions in winter can range from dry to 2 feet of snow, to snow packed and icy! Snowshoes or microspikes and poles are usually recommended. You can check for conditions at www.cpw.state.co.us/placetogo/parks/Mueller or call 719-687-2366. Take care with extra precautions when playing outside in winter. Here's a few safety tips for enjoying winter activities. Dress in layers so you don't overheat when active and then bundle up when resting. Bring water and snacks: we spend a lot of water and energy hiking through snow or climbing the sledding hills! Always carry a trail map; the trails are less obvious with a blanket of snow. Check conditions ahead of time. Warm days and freezing nights can create some icy



FLORISSANT

4 Night Sky Program at Florissant Fossil Beds 7-9 p.m. Join park staff and members of the Colorado Springs Astronomical Society to gaze at the dark skies above in search of planets, galaxies, nebulae and more. Meet on the front patio of the visitor center. The only fee is the \$10 per adult (15 and younger are free) which is valid for 7 days. FMI 719-748-3253 or nps.gov/flfo.

Magic 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.
27 Disney on Ice — Into the Magic 11 a.m., 3 p.m.

Last name beginning with:
A-H 3:30-4:30 p.m.
I-Q 4:30-5:30 p.m.
R-Z 5:30-6:30 p.m.

PIKES PEAK CENTER

22 The British Invasion
23 Blippi's Musical
25 The Russian Ballet Theatre is pleased to present a breathtaking new production of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* at the Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts.

CRIPPLE CREEK

3 American Legion Post 171 meets the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 400 Carr St., Food and refreshments at 5 p.m.

5 Pearl's Follies at Victor Elks Lodge.

13 Visits with History 2 p.m. at Cripple Creek Heritage Center see page 8.

• GED Classes 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

ASPEN MINE CENTER

25 Commodities distribution (drive up basis) 9-2 p.m.

• Tuesdays BINGO 10:30 a.m.

• Tuesdays board games 1 p.m.

• Wednesdays Luncheon 11:30-1 p.m. upstairs dining room, every Wed, FREE!

• Thursdays Mexican Train 10:30 p.m.

FMI 719-689-3584 x124.

DIVIDE

• FREE Yoga with Leah 10-11 a.m. Mondays at Pikes Peak Community Center. Limited class size — first come, first served — doors lock at 10 a.m. Bring your own mat and props. All levels welcome. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

LITTLE CHAPEL FOOD PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

14, 28 This is a drive-up distribution, and to make sure to avoid traffic issues our distribution times are:

All are welcome to join.

30 Rocky Mountain Rural Health Outreach 11-2 p.m. Weather permitting, RMRH representatives will be offering free health screenings, sound financial medical advice, free clothing and much more!

FMI 719-689-9280 or Guffey-lib@parkco.us.

HARTSEL

• Country Church of Hartsel meets at the Hartsel Community Center 80 Valley View Drive 10 a.m. Sundays. Everyone is welcome! FMI call Jimmy Anderson 719-358-1100.

LAKE GEORGE

12 Things Left Behind: An intimate time with Spencer and Julie Penrose 10 a.m. at Lake George Charter School see page 5.

MANITOU SPRINGS

10 Wine Walk in downtown Manitou Springs 5-9 p.m. FMI https://manitoumade.com/shop/experiences/events/wine-walk-2022/

SALIDA

9 Free Legal Clinic 2-5 p.m. at Salida Library. Call 719-539-4826 to sign-up.

VICTOR

• Victor Lowell Thomas Museum is open Saturdays 10-5 p.m.

WOODLAND PARK

10 Free Legal Clinic 2-5 p.m. at Woodland Park Library. Call 719-748-3939 to sign-up.

12 The 3rd Annual (minus 2 covid years) Woodland Park Saint Patrick's Day Parade and Pub/Food Crawl at noon. The parade starts at Memorial Park, goes in front of the Ute Pass Cultural Center,

conditions. Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back! Have fun safely!

4 Hike: Elk Meadow* to Murphy's Cut meet 8 a.m.
5 Hike: Preacher's Hollow* meet 11 a.m.
5 Nature Crafts meet 2 p.m. Visitor Center
11 Hike: Cahill Cabin and Cahill Pond meet 8 a.m. Black Bear TH
12 Hike: Black Bear* Loop meet 11 a.m.
18 Hike: Outlook Ridge* Trail meet 8 a.m.
19 Hike: Elk Meadow* meet 9 a.m.

*Indicates to meet at the trailhead (TH) of the same name.

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