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Vol. 7, No. 9

## Welcome to Ute Country

"The only way of catching a train  
I have ever discovered  
is to miss the train before."

Gilbert K. Chesterton

### PEEK INSIDE...



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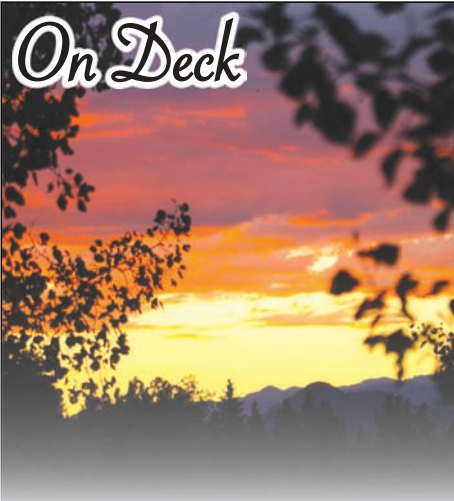
One Nation Walking Together



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Healing and transitioning





This month's cover photo is of the Silver-ton-Durango train; a trip we had taken several years ago in September. We decided since the Utes traveled all over the state we would include photos from all over the state.

This photo represents admiration for the people who built the infrastructure for transportation back in the day. The Silver-ton-Durango train is a wonderful way to step back into time and imagine what it must have been like to build the infrastructure we so often take for granted. The ability to imagine days past is easier for some than others. It is so important for the stories of those early pioneers to be shared.

Jeff and I continue to feel blessed and proud of our writers. We have two historical authors from our pool of talent who took a look at Hartsel Hot Springs. Each has sprung a very unique perspective on the topic, focusing on different facts and finds. We found by reading each, our base of Hartsel history has become a firmer foundation. Please see pages 4 and 5 to learn more about the pioneers who once called Hartsel Hot Springs home.

Our Mr. Spaz is struggling; some days are better than others. We seek something each day to encourage a purr. Sometimes it's a walk on the deck, sometimes it's pawing through pics of critters he has not yet had a chance to meet. Please send Mr. Spaz a reason to purr!

We welcome your comments, feedback, stories of interest, critter pics, as well as criticisms. Please send to [utecountrynews-paper@gmail.com](mailto:utecountrynews-paper@gmail.com) or call 719-686-7393. We love to hear from you!

Thank you,  
— Kathy & Jeff Hansen

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

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## Go fund me

by Flip Boettcher  
photo by Flip Boettcher

Guffey resident Bill Betz has been involved in many community projects and organized many community meetings. Betz' latest endeavor is a "Go Fund Me" project to benefit the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Foundation of Guffey.

The RMWF is located on top of Gold Hill several miles north of Guffey. RMWF is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation owned by Mark "Wolf" Johnson who started the RMWF in February, 2001. The foundation is "Committed to the caring for, and survival of wolves in as natural an environment as possible," says the foundation's website. RMWF rescues abused and abandoned wolves and wolf-dogs. The foundation also educates people about wolves.

Johnson encourages people to visit the foundation and charges no admission for a tour. Tours are available winter and summer. Plan on at least two to three hours for a tour and wear outdoor clothes as the pups are very rowdy if one chooses to go into the pen with them. Bring your camera, and take as many photos, with no restrictions, as you like. Mind your straps and water bottles though, as wolves just love them!

On the tour you may visit several different wolves in several different pens. It is quite the experience.



Mark "Wolf" Johnson in the pen having fun with Lakota, Cherokee and Apache, three of the four wolf pups born at the foundation in 2009. They are not so little anymore.

RMWF is supported and funded by donations and volunteer work. For more information visit their website: [www.rmwf.org](http://www.rmwf.org).

Currently, RMWF is in need of an on-site water well and water system, in addition to a commercial 4X4 tractor/backhoe. This is where Go Fund Me comes in. Go Fund Me is the world's number one personal, on-line fundraising website, according to the Go Fund Me website.

Go Fund Me was started in San Diego, CA, in 2010, and since then "100's of thousands of people have raised over \$1.3

billion from 16M donors for things that matter the most to them", according to their website. Almost \$4M is raised by users per day.

Hauling water from outside by bucket for the wolves is an arduous and time consuming daily task. Having a well, cisterns, and piping would be a huge help. The well and addition costs for the system will total about \$20,000.

The 4X4 heated cab tractor comes at an estimated cost of \$66,000. The tractor will allow the 7/10 of a mile road to the foundation to be plowed in cold winters so people can visit the wolves. The wolves love the snow and the winter and their coats are beautiful. The tractor can be used year round.

Go to <http://www.gofundme.com/wzjc7fk> to see the RMWF page, find out more about the RMWF, find out more about Go Fund Me and to donate. The goal is \$86,000 and as of this writing \$140 has been donated.

## Meet TCRAS' new Volunteer Coordinator

by Kathy Hansen  
photo by Jeff Hansen

Jodi Waters is the new Volunteer Coordinator for Teller County Regional Animal Shelter (TCRAS), the no-kill animal shelter in Divide. A native of Colorado Springs and 15 year resident of Woodland Park, Jodi brings an abundance of energy to the position, coupled with her genuine concern for the animals balanced by her love of people.

Mary Steinbeiser, Director of Operations and Development for TCRAS over the past nine years knew Jodi would be a good fit when she read the opening line of Jodi's letter of interest, "I was so excited to see this ad." Mary went on to say, "I can teach skills; I cannot teach excitement, that has to come from within."

Jodi is clearly excited to move into her new position. Currently, TCRAS has about 87 active volunteers; Jodi's goal is to triple that number inside of two years. She's seeking people who are committed to the animals, even if they are not hands on. After the orientation which includes the history of TCRAS, volunteers can choose whether they would like to begin with cats, dogs, or in the office, and then further training ensues depending on the choice. Trainings are centered around safety for people, the animals, and the community.

Many people think because they grew up with animals and have had pets all of their lives that they can walk right in and make a bond. These well-intentioned folks may not have considered that each animal has their own history; a history that cannot be verbalized, a history that may have been traumatic in some way. The animal may be recovering from an injury, grieving a loss, or just plain scared of the new surroundings. The training TCRAS provides will help each volunteer better understand the animals' behavior from the animals' perspective. As Mary said, "The animals are our guests. This is a temporary stay until they can find their forever homes."

Jodi looks forward to being very interactive with the volunteers. She uses surveys as a way to see what's working, as well as what can be improved, valuing the feedback provided. Jodi wants to meet as a group for brainstorming sessions where she hopes to encourage the creative flow of ideas. After all, it takes quite a bit of planning to transform an idea into a fully implemented program.

Jodi really looks forward to incorporating people of all age groups. While the programs were not ready to be announced at the time of our interview, Jodi has some great ideas



Jodi Waters is excited to be the new Volunteer Coordinator at TCRAS.

for children, youth, and seniors. We hope Jodi will keep us posted so we can keep you informed as these programs come to life.

Speaking of programs, did you know about "Geri's Great Fix"? This began as a program to help those who qualify receive a certificate to spay/neuter their pet at a significantly reduced price, making this service affordable for those on a fixed or low income. It was originally called "Feline Friends". To learn more about this program and its stipulations please contact TCRAS at 719-686-7707.

"Trap, Neuter, Return" is another valuable program TCRAS offers for the community to keep the population of feral cats down. Have you ever seen a little kitty in your neighborhood who looked hungry and was crying for food? How simple it could be to place a little dish out for kitty, yet how can you assure this little abandoned kitty will be the only diner? The simple answer is you cannot because it is just not possible. Did you know that 50 feral cats can copulate to produce 150 feral cats within one year? This is referred to as a "colony". Now the well-intended person who simply didn't want kitty to starve has contributed to a serious problem, and has unwittingly

become a "colony manager". It is better to call TCRAS, who can provide a live-trap to capture kitty, perform the appropriate procedure along with rabies and distemper vaccinations, and then return kitty.

Mary said most feral cats come from situations where the people had abandoned the animals. Often times they needed to relocate very quickly and may not have been aware of a shelter to take their animals to, if they couldn't take them along. Perhaps the animal escapes during the packing and loading process, only to return after the truck moved onward.

Mary went on to say it is not that people are mean-spirited. Most people do the best they can with the information and resources they have; just like animals do. TCRAS is dedicated to developing educational programs for the community, along with their volunteer opportunities, as they continue to seek forever homes for their guests ready for adoption.

One more interesting tidbit we'd like to share. Both Mary and Jodi have spouses at home who have set limits going into this about how many animals they are allowed to adopt. Both of these women appreciate this boundary as they have such love for animals they would have a hard time to impose a reasonable limit.

*Are you a person who wants to make a difference to an animal and your community? Do you have a support person who will help set limits as to how many animals you can adopt? Can you feel your own excitement when you are with animals? Do you verbally "ooh" and "awe" when you see animals? If you have answered "yes" to at least one of these questions, calling Jodi at TCRAS to learn more about volunteering is strongly suggested. There is a risk involved we need to share: Your heart may grow, you smile may become wider and more frequent, and your quality of life just might improve. What are you waiting for? TCRAS is located at 308 Weaverville Road in Divide, CO 80814, the phone is 719-686-7707, and website is [www.tcrascolorado.org](http://www.tcrascolorado.org)*

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## Local firefighters assist in California

by Coalition for the Upper South Platte

While we have not had a very active fire season this year in Colorado, other western states have been battling huge infernos. Over 65 active large fires are burning. Over 7 million acres have burned in the U.S. so far in 2015. That is more than if the whole state of Vermont was on fire. It is also much greater than the 10-year average of 5.3 million acres burned per year, and more land has been burned this year than any other year in the last decade. All this and summer, let alone fire season, isn't even over.

The West Coast and Northwest have borne the brunt of this brutal fire season. Drought paired with high temperatures has fueled fires from Alaska to Idaho to California. These fires have sent smoke our way, creating hazy conditions and contributing to poor air quality.

Our comparatively quiet wildfire year means Colorado firefighters are more available to help fight out-of-state blazes. In early August, two of the Coalition for the Upper South Platte's (CUSP) red-carded firefighters were deployed to California to help with ongoing suppression efforts.

In working to protect the Upper South Platte Watershed, a largely forested watershed stretching from the Continental Divide to the Front Range in central Colorado, CUSP has robust programs related to forest health and wildfire. Understanding that healthy forests contribute to high quality water, and wildfires impact both forest health and waterways, CUSP has grown both our wildfire mitigation and wildfire response capabilities over the years. CUSP has invested in training staff to become red-carded firefighters. The CUSP fire suppression team works with local fire agencies to fight fires as well as perform forest management and wildfire mitigation activities such as slash pile burns and prescribed fire management. In addition to being a local resource, CUSP's firefighters completed higher-level training last year, and are now qualified for deployment outside of our watershed service area. This higher-level certification enabled two CUSP firefighters to be called out to assist the U.S. Forest Service

with large fires on the West Coast.

Jeff Tienken, CUSP's Deputy Operations Director, was called out first to assist with the River Complex Fire in northern California. As an experienced sawyer, Jeff was enlisted to fell trees to assist with wildfire suppression efforts. His first assignment was working to clear miles of contingency fire line ahead of a bulldozer and masticator. Jeff then moved on to the front lines to fell hazard trees to keep the roads clear for fire equipment. With trees as large as six feet in diameter and well over 150 feet tall, the Shasta-Trinity National Forest presents a very different challenge than Colorado's forests. Intense fire conditions persist on this fire, which has already burned over 57,500 acres. Jeff got a taste of just how intense, when he and his partner had to use their escape route to safely avoid being cut off by the fire.

Beth Nielsen, CUSP's Monitoring Coordinator, was called out within days of Jeff's deployment. Along with several other local firefighters from the Divide Fire Protection District and Colorado State Forest Service, Beth was sent to the Route Complex Fire in the Six Rivers National Forest in northern California. After two days of driving the Divide Fire Engine 4, the group arrived at Incident Command in Mad River on August 12. At the time of their arrival, the Route Complex had 840 dedicated personnel and was 25,788 acres. The fire has now grown to over 35,000 acres (at the time of this writing).

The Divide crew has moved between several of the Route Complex camps as they are deployed to where they are needed most. The crew has been inundated with smoke in the deep valleys, and has climbed steep mountainsides daily. Their work has included pumping water to hand crews creating fire lines (including hauling up to 600 feet of hose and equipment up steep hillslopes to reach the other crews), mopping up hot spots, and taking down hazard trees as necessary.

In a pleasant turn of events demonstrating what a small world it is, Beth and the Divide crew were switched once again to a



Beth Nielsen and Stan Lovan at the Route Complex Fire.

new post on the fire. The division supervisor for the new post turned out to be none other than Stan Lovan, a wonderful volunteer who had come out to Colorado from Ava, Missouri just months prior to assist with CUSP-led watershed projects in our neck of the woods. In addition to the serendipity, the meeting demonstrated once again the kind of dedication those fighting these fires have to our natural resources across the country, during their time on and off the fire line.

While West Coast fires will continue to burn in the coming months, the efforts of committed individuals on the ground are making significant positive strides for the affected forests and communities.

In addition to meeting a desperate need on the West Coast, the heroic efforts by CUSP's and other local firefighters will also bring benefits back home. Participating firefighters will gain valuable experience and earn increased levels of certification. This expertise will improve local response when the next wildfire ignites near our communities. Thank you to our brave and selfless men and women serving on the fire line!

## American Legion Post 1980 dedicates flags to schools

by Kathy Hansen

Patriotism is defined by dictionary.reference.com as "devoted love, support, and defense of one's country, national loyalty". It is an important word for our students to understand, especially in these days of terrorist threats. The American Legion Post 1980 of Woodland Park is doing their part to help inform students of six schools in the area what patriotism means and what our flag represents.

Larry Ingram, Legion member, took the lead on this project. Their mission: "Provide American flags for the five public schools & one Christian school in the Woodland Park region. Perform a short 5 minute presentation ceremony which will explain the design of the flag, give a bit of the history of our flag, and why we honor our flag. The ceremony ends with asking the staff and students to join us in the pledge of Allegiance."

This year, three of the schools received the dedication: Summit Elementary, Colum-

bine, and Gateway Elementary.

Ingram provided this history of our flag at each ceremony. "On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Resolution establishing a specific design for our American Flag. Today the flag consists of 13 horizontal stripes of red and white, with a blue rectangle in the top corner bearing 50 small, white, five-pointed stars. The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states of the United States of America and the 13 stripes represent the 13 British colonies that declared independence from Great Britain and became the first states in the Union.

"When Colorado joined the union in 1876 as the 38th state, 38 stars were shown in the field of blue. The Nickname of our flag is "Old Glory" because of its history of flying during many events of our glorious past. Old Glory flew when George Washington accepted the British surrender at Yorktown. Old Glory flew when Teddy Roosevelt and

the Rough Riders charged up San Juan Hill. Old Glory flew when the Marines took Mt. Surabachi on Iwo Jima during World War II. The civil rights protesters who marched from Selma carried Old Glory with them. Old Glory is not just the country's flag, but it represents both the freedoms you and I enjoy and those who died to protect those freedoms."

The flag was then dedicated to the school and the students and staff were thanked for their patriotism.

The order was given, "Stand by to hoist the colors. Execute." Legion members, teachers, and students stood by watching our flag of these United States of America rise up the pole military style, with a bugle call. Ingram continued, "Now for the Pledge of Allegiance: If you are wearing a hat it is proper to, take it off and hold it over your heart. If you are not wearing a hat, place your right hand over your heart and with me, recite the Pledge of Allegiance."

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## Hartsel "The Heart of Colorado"

### Sam Hartsel, his ranch, his town, a frontier spa

by David Martinek

Out in the middle of a high mountain valley called South Park, the hot waters bubble out of the ground near the banks of the South Platte River an acre or so south of the old red-weathered Colorado Midland railroad depot and the little town of Hartsel, Colorado. Known to the Ute Indians for ages, "nature's curative waters" eased the pain of those suffering from arthritis and rheumatism, cleansed the skin and pores and caused the flabby to lose weight. They were also said to be kind of a cure for alcoholism, but that may be conjecture. The waters and their mysterious healing qualities made the town of Hartsel a frontier spa, and reinforced the already legendary history of Sam Hartsel and his Hartsel Springs Ranch and hotel.

Samuel Hartsel arrived in South Park in the mid-1860s after a bit of mining in the Tarryall area. He was the first rancher to settle in the valley, the traditional hunting grounds of the Ute and other plains Indians. He was an early entrepreneur.

Sam was born in Pennsylvania and by age 15 was driving cattle between New York and Ohio for \$6 a month. He walked the entire way. From the experience he gained, he decided to start his own cattle business. He spent some time in Iowa but found the winters too harsh. For a short time he worked for Russell, Major & Waddell, the largest freight company on the plains, who had government contracts to carry supplies from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to forts in the far west. But by 1860, he and some friends left Kansas to stake their claim in the gold diggings of Tarryall, Colorado. When their mine was exhausted, their gold fever quenched, Hartsel moved on to what he knew best — herding cattle.

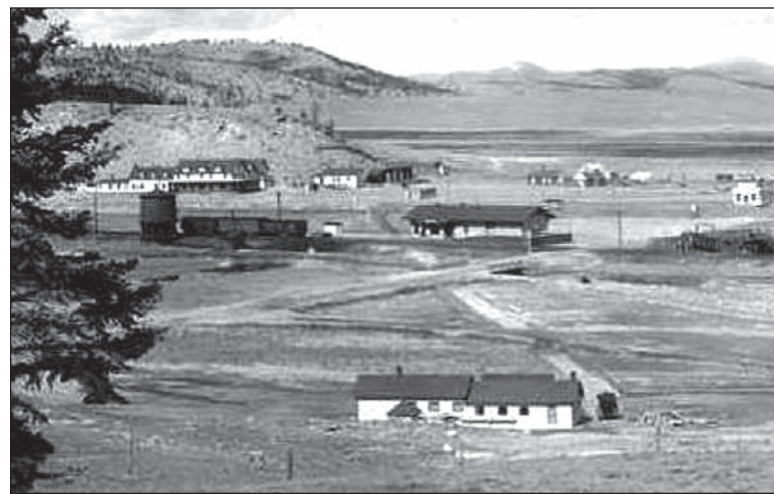
At first, he managed the cattle herds of Bowers & Warren, the original discoverers of the Tarryall gold region, but soon after began homesteading a small ranch about three miles west, starting with a few head of oxen. In 1862, he moved farther west and established a ranch at the forks of the South Platte River in South Park.

His ranching business was good and grew into a spread totaling (by one account) nearly 285,000 acres at its largest (other accounts limit his acreage to around 10,000). He initially bought cheap cattle and oxen worn out from hauling wagon loads of goods, supplies, and people from the east. He fattened them up on the plentiful grasses that grew in South Park and sold them to a hungry beef market. Later he diversified his herd with short-horned Herford cattle from the east and Longhorns from Texas. He also raised pigs and sheep and grew acres of wheat, barley, rye, and hay.

Around 1865 Hartsel's ranch had grown so huge that he needed to establish a trading post in the center to supply his operation and trade with the Indians. In addition to the trading post and a store, Sam built a blacksmith and wagon shop, and a sawmill, and began to develop a means for running waters from the natural hot springs using hollowed out logs. The trading post evolved into the town of Hartsel, called the "Heart of Colorado" because it is in the exact center of the state.

Eventually old Sam built a hotel in Hartsel to accommodate wagon travelers. He piped the hot waters from the hot springs south of the river into his ranch and into the hotel, giving both the name of Hartsel Springs Ranch and Hartsel Springs Hotel. When the Colorado Midland Railway laid tracks through South Park in 1887, the hotel's business blossomed into a full-fledged spa.

The Indians called the natural hot springs south of the river the "Fountain of Youth." Once the white man intruded upon their South Park hunting grounds and discovered the flowing mineral waters, people began coming from all over seeking a little "youth" for themselves. They would take the Colorado Midland railroad from Colorado Springs up Ute Pass, through Eleven Mile Canyon and follow the river across the South Park plains to Hartsel and the Hartsel Springs Hotel and Mineral Hot Baths — where they would soak in the hot pools, drink the hot mineral water or lie around caked with hot mud packs. In the



Hartsel, Colorado (between 1907-1910) a bird's eye view looking northeast across the South Platte River and the old hot springs (white) bath house. Hartsel was reached via the Midland Railway. In view are the town, the Hartsel Springs Hotel (center left), the Colorado Midland depot, water tower and freight cars (center).

Photo by Louis Charles McClure - Denver Public Library

ing," remembered Kleinknecht. "You couldn't stay in more than 10 minutes the first time. Depending on the individual, some with arthritis and some with rheumatism seemed, at first, to get worse and crippled. Then, they began to get better again with each bath."

According to Kleinknecht, the mineral waters coming out of the ground were a steaming 140 degrees, too hot for bathing. The water had to be cooled first. Often it was pumped into barrels at night for use the next day. A mineral bath cost 50 cents, but "for a dollar you could get a sweat bath." After the customers spent time in the bath, they were wrapped in blankets and given hot mineral water to drink.

"You'd sweat for an hour," laughed Kleinknecht.

Mud packs and cold cream were made from the mineral waters. The mud packs cost \$1 and were found to be helpful in reducing weight. The cold cream was put in little jars, labeled and packed into cartons for shipment elsewhere.

What caused the mysterious waters to have such miraculous healing qualities? A chemist from Denver University named Dr. Engle once analyzed the mineral waters to discover what made them so potent. He found that besides a slight amount of organic solids, the water contained large quantities of sodium chloride (salt), sodium sulphate, calcium sulphate, magnesium carbonate, small traces of potassium sulphate, iron and aluminum oxides, silica and free ammonia.

But perhaps the biggest discovery, according to Kleinknecht, was that the hot minerals waters bubbling out of the ground south of the South Platte River contained the highest concentration of radium of anywhere in the United States!

Advancing in age and with the death of his son, Sam Hartsel sold his ranch and left his beloved South Park valley in 1908. He died in Denver 10 years later leaving a rich legacy for Colorado history. He had lived a remarkable life, homesteaded and developed the largest ranch in central Colorado, founded a town and a spa, and experienced a host of Wild West adventures. While he had many run-ins with the Indians, his relationship with them, and their respect for him, became local legend. He was a true pioneer.

The mineral baths in Hartsel continued until the 1950s, ceasing operations perhaps because of the revelation about the high radium content in the water. The Hartsel Springs Hotel stayed open under a variety of owners until the 1970s when it burned to the ground. A smaller Hartsel Springs Ranch is still in existence. As for the "Fountain of Youth," a six inch stream of hot water from the spring still flows into the South Platte. Steam can often be seen lifting gently into the winter air near the banks of the trickling river just north of the old spring house.

Reference Sources: Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph, July 11, 1971 edition, story by Dorothy Aldridge; Wikipedia and the websites of the Hartsel Springs Ranch and the Town of Hartsel, Colorado; Denver Public Library.

## Hartsel Hot Springs

by Linda Bjorklund

Before gold was discovered in the mountains of Colorado the Ute Indians roamed around amidst the rocks and hills. They did not set up housekeeping in any certain place, but moved as the weather dictated. One of their favorite campsites was near the warm waters that bubbled up out of the ground close to what we now call the South Fork of the South Platte River.

In 1859, a fellow from Pennsylvania named Samuel Hartsel felt the tug of promised wealth and came looking for gold. He and his fellow travelers ran out of money in a matter of weeks without striking it rich. Hartsel began to look around for other opportunities. He worked a ranch for a few years near the Tarryall River. Then he found the land he had been looking for. Near the spot where the South Fork and the Middle Fork of the South Platte River flow together, Sam Hartsel filed his claim for a homestead. He watched as other would be fortune seekers arrived with their worn out oxen that they sold in order to buy mining equipment. Hartsel bought up the oxen, then put them on his range to fatten up. He was then able to sell the meat back to the miners for food.

He started a town two miles from his ranch headquarters, setting up a trading post and a stage stop. The trading post was used by the Utes as they returned to their favorite "spa" and basked in the warm waters. Hartsel wisely allowed them to continue using their old campsite nearby, thus stayed on a friendly basis with them.

By about 1870 Hartsel had built a hotel in the town that bore his name. The hot springs were located on the opposite side of the river from town. A bath house was built next to the hot springs to accommodate those who came to be cured of their maladies, particularly rheumatism, which was prevalent then as it is now.

The first bath house was a long wooden structure with wooden tubs and wooden troughs that carried the water to them. The hotel proprietor would haul people back and forth across the bridge with his horse and buggy.

In 1887 the Colorado Midland Railroad completed laying track originating in Colorado Springs, through Manitou, Hartsel, Trout Creek Pass (then called Hilltop), to Buena Vista, on its way to Leadville, where the mining activity was centered. Now potential customers could get to the hot springs in Hartsel by train.

In 1902 porcelain tubs were installed to take place of the wooden ones. Any patron could rent a room and take the baths for the grand sum of \$12 a week.

Then in April of 1904 the hotel was completely destroyed. It was reported that, "A small fire was kindled in the store-room stove, which had not been in use for some time, and the roof was discovered to be on fire shortly afterwards. A strong wind was blowing at the time, and this combined with lack of water, made all the efforts to check the flame fruitless."

Soon thereafter the barn was fitted up for a post office and store, and business resumed. Construction on a new hotel was almost immediately started. The new hotel was open for business on September 16. Mr. G. A. Henderson was hired to manage the hotel and hot springs. He was quoted in the newspaper saying, "the bath business is so good he will have to have an assistant to take in the cash and carry towels."

Meanwhile Hartsel sold his ranch holdings in 1907 so he could move to Denver where the rest of his family had already gone. In 1908 he also sold the townsite and the hot springs to James D. Husted, of the

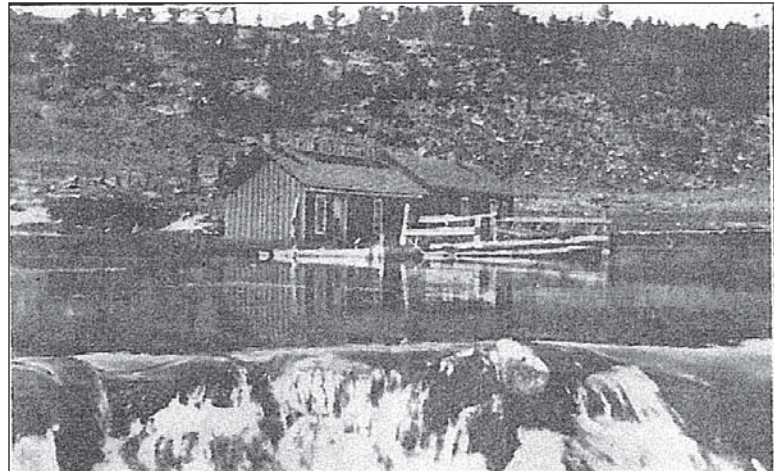
South Park Land and Livestock Company, who had bought his ranch the previous year.

Husted was also President of The Equitable Finance and Development Company. The development company immediately began to lay out a plat of the town of Hartsel Springs and offer lots for sale within the townsite. Elaborate plans were made to build a large hotel in back of the bath house that would feature a swimming pool and a connection to the bath house by an arched pathway. There were also to be bridle paths, golf courses, polo grounds and arrangements for other outdoor sports. A 10 page brochure was developed and distributed, advertising the virtues of Hartsel Springs.

One small statement on page nine, however, may have led to the demise of the development: "All deeds contain a clause prohibiting, absolutely and forever, the sale of liquor within the corporate limits."

Reports throughout 1909 told of the construction of a grand new hotel that was completed in October. The new bath house was to be constructed the next year.

It was announced in September of 1910 that W. R. Swope, then a County Commissioner, had leased and would open the



Old Bath House taken from 1908 sales brochure.

care of Dr. Mize, but some reflect that much of the acclaim was due to his presence as a physician. He often made house calls to care for those in the neighborhood.

In February of 1916 the "old bath house" was torn down. In October of that year Dr. Mize and his wife left to return to Chicago.

In 1918 the townsite of Hartsel, its hot mineral springs, the Harrington ranch and the Spiney ranch, along with numerous heads of sheep, cattle and horses, were sold to W. H. Mason of Chicago, for a consideration of \$500,000.

In the 1920s and 1930s the hotel became known as the Hartsel Hot Springs Hotel. Again, managers of the hotel and hot springs changed frequently. In the late 1940s the hotel was purchased by W. H. Gaddis of Colorado Springs and again remodeled and renamed the "Holiday Inn." In 1949 the Hartsel Hot Springs was operated separately by Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Martin, who then instituted a program of Scientific Physical Education. Combined with the Hydrotherapy of the hot springs, the program

was designed to aid in restoration to health. The Martins left after the 1951 summer season. Although the mineral hot springs continued to be used by locals, no one was in charge of bath house maintenance. People continued to use the baths, but were on the honor system. The procedure was to enter the little shed floating above the hot springs, mix hot water into the tub and cold water from a bucket to your taste, then indulge in a bath. When you finished, you were to dip the bucket into the water a final time and leave it full to cool for use by the next person.

Portions of the old Hartsel Ranch were sold in 1942 and again in 1944. The small piece of land that comprised the mineral hot springs was part of a parcel that had grown to a holding of about 200,000 acres. In 1960, a Hawaii-based corporation, Estates of the World, Inc., purchased the land, intending to subdivide it into five-acre residential lots.

The subdivision was named Estates of Colorado. A local sales office was needed, so the old Hartsel Hot Springs Bath House was renovated again. The roof of the bath house was painted a bright turquoise. A few lots were sold and developed, but most of the five-acre lots in the Estates of Colorado remain isolated in the rural Rocky Mountains.

Today a dilapidated structure can be seen across the river from Hartsel where the hot mineral waters still bubble up from the ground.



Hartsel Hot Springs late 1930s. Source: Georgia Daines

Hartsel Hotel that had been closed for over a year. This was the same hotel that had been rebuilt in 1904.

The hotel and bath house changed managers several times, but was still under control of the South Park Land and Livestock Company. All the properties, including the Hartsel ranch and the townsite were managed by H. R. Mills, who decided in 1915 that the townsite properties needed to be improved.

\$10,000 was spent on the hotel and bath house. A new pumping plant was built at the bath house. Hot and cold water was now available at every tub. Private dressing rooms, rest rooms, and sun porches were installed all around the building. Interior walls were plastered. At the hotel, new gas lights were installed and new wallpaper was hung.

Dr. Harlan E. Mize of Chicago, who was a specialist on rheumatism and stomach trouble was brought to Hartsel and put in charge of the hotel and bath house. Dr. Mize encouraged his patients to control their weight by means of mud baths. A hot mud pack cost \$1. Similarly a sweat bath, which consisted of a hot bath in the mineral water and getting wrapped in a towel while consuming a glass of hot mineral water, then left to sweat, was also \$1. Dr. Mize was often employed in the hotel kitchen mixing up a batch of "cold cream" in a big wash tub; the product was then packed in little jars to sell.

The hotel prospered under



Bath House circa 1930s. Source: Mills family from Margaret (Mills) Payne

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## One Nation Walking Together

by Kelsey Comfort

When you think of Third World conditions, you tend to think of far off places in other countries, but Third World conditions exist here in America — on Native American reservations.

Native Americans are the most impoverished group in our country, and in Indian Country, the situation is dire.

As of 2007, the unemployment rate on the Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D., is between 80 percent and 90 percent, according to the non-profit organization, Re-Member.

Suicide rates on reservations are more than double the national average, according to the Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute. Native teens, according to the Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute, experience the highest rate of suicide of any population group in the United States.

Some reports state that the average life expectancy on the Pine Ridge Reservation is 45 years old, while others state it is 48 years old for men and 52 years old for women, according to the American Indian Humanitarian Foundation. For either reported numbers, this is the shortest life expectancy for any community in the Western Hemisphere excluding Haiti, according to the American Indian Humanitarian Foundation.

But a Colorado Springs-based non-profit, One Nation Walking Together (ONWT), is trying to do something about it. One Nation Walking Together is an organization about People helping People — not a cause. ONWT uplifts the lives of Native people by providing hope and services to between 30,000 to 40,000 Native Americans in Colorado and six other surrounding states. Their various programs prevent Natives from starving, freezing, and committing suicide.

One Nation strives to make a difference by loading 53-foot semi-trucks that deliver up to \$2 million worth of donated goods to reservations annually. These items can include: food, hygiene items, education and medical supplies, clothing, building materials, and furniture. Donated vehicles are also accepted. Trucks are loaded to meet the requests compiled by the organization's contact on the reservation, because ONWT is not a "dump and run" charity. Only goods that are needed by the communities are sent out.

In addition to providing necessary items to 11 reservations in seven states, One Nation is also developing a food sustainability program. This program provides Native families on and off the reservations with chickens, coops, feed, and direct support to create a continued source of food and potential income. This program could also have therapeutic value by giving American Indians a chance to work with animals and the land.



ONWT strives to meet the needs of the community; only goods that are needed are sent.



This is one of the dwellings on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

ONWT also has an important partnership with Red Wind Consulting, a Colorado Springs-based non-profit that strengthens tribal programs and Native organizations' local responses to domestic violence and sexual assault. This collaboration created the local Native women's talking circle group, Haseya. Haseya is Navajo for "She Rises," and the group helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in a Native-specific manner for women. This is an important Native issue, because according to the U.S. Department of Justice, more than one in three American Indian/Alaska Native women will become victims of sexual assault in her lifetime.



One Nation Walking Together is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of Native American Indians living on reservations as well as providing programs for urban Indians.

Another important aspect of One Nation's mission is to educate the public on the plight of the Native people. ONWT gives 35 to 40 cultural presentations at schools, churches, businesses, and organizations every year. These presentations inform the public about ONWT's programs, the trauma the Native people have experienced, but also highlights the beauty and resiliency of their culture.

One Nation also hosts cultural events such as the Annual Colorado Springs Native American Intertribal Festival and Traditional Powwow. A powwow is a Native ceremony that helps build community through singing and dancing. In partnership with the Palmer Lake Historical Society, One Nation's powwow also includes vendors selling Native

food, pottery, jewelry and paintings. The birth of the One Nation Film Festival has also allowed ONWT to educate the public through Native film screenings as well as an Indigenous and Native American film festival coming in spring 2016.

ONWT is incredibly excited for its new partnership with Ute Country News. Every month, the Ute Country News will feature an article by One Nation to help educate the public on the plight of Native Americans. Future articles may include: in-depth interviews with local American Indians, coverage of local or national Native events and news, spotlighting programs directed toward Native youth, and much more.

American Indians experience poverty, the highest rate of unemployment, hopelessness, lack of adequate medical care, domestic violence, and historical trauma. Though One Nation and Ute Country News are dedicated to bringing awareness to these issues, they also want to emphasize the beauty of Native culture while inspiring you to help make a difference.

Throughout the month of September, you can make a difference by helping One Nation collect school supplies. When children's basic needs are not met, the possibility of them succeeding in school becomes incredibly slim. Please help ONWT send a truck full of essential items to help Native children start the school year off right. Some needed items include: backpacks, spiral notebooks, pencils, feminine hygiene products, and more. If you don't have time to shop, you may consider purchasing a Walmart or Target gift card and One Nation will do the shopping for you.

With your cash, check, credit card or in-kind donation (e.g. food, hygiene products, medical supplies, housewares, building materials, appliances, furniture) you help provide Native families with the very basic necessities of life, fund the food sustainability program and assist One Nation in providing cultural education to the public.

K.C. Willis, the executive director of the organization Light Shine Pine Ridge said, "One Nation Walking Together builds relationships; non-Native to Native, Native to non-Native; the exchange is physical, emotional and spiritual within the family of humanity."

For more information on how you can help or if your business, church, youth group or organization is interested in hosting an event or having ONWT give a cultural presentation, visit [www.onenationwt.org](http://www.onenationwt.org), email [office@onenationwt.org](mailto:office@onenationwt.org) or call 719-329-0251.



## 10 more foods that may prevent or alter cancer

by Carol Grieve

**Publisher's note:** We know many of our reader cut and save the articles they find informative in a book for future reference. For those of you who saved Carol Grieve's article "The better nutrition prescription; Healthy food is the best medicine to lower risk of cancer and heart disease" as found on pages 26 and 27 of our July 2015 issue, get your scissors.

Nutrition can be a key strategy in preventing or altering cancer cells. Not all foods are created the same when it comes to cancer. The produce with some of the greatest anti-cancer effects are the cruciferous vegetables, which include kale, Brussel sprouts, and cauliflower (Broccoli and cabbage were covered in July).

Let's discuss some of the superstars in cancer prevention listed above and some others that show great potential in altering or preventing cancer.

### Apples:

Apples are high in Vitamin C, beta-carotene, lutein & zeaxanthin, promote lung health and are associated with a reduced risk of developing lung cancer. Apples also contain quercetin. This flavonoid can have numerous effects on the cells, both on normal cells and cancer cells. For normal cells they provide powerful protection against free radicals. For cancer cells they promote cell death (apoptosis).

### Avocados:

They prevent the occurrence of cancer in the mouth, skin and prostate glands. In healthy cells, avocados work to inflammatory and oxidative stress levels. In cancer cells, avocados work to increase oxidative stress and shift the cancer cells over into a programmed cell death, lessening the cancer cell numbers.

### Bell Peppers:

Bell peppers have an enzyme called systeine s-conjugate beta-lyases and a pathway called the thiomethyl shunt. These enzymes and this pathway may be involved in some of the anti-cancer benefits to reduce risks of gastric cancer and esophageal cancer.

### Blueberries:

Research has found that blueberries could play a part in undoing a tough-to-treat type of breast cancer. One study indicates that blueberries may help halt the growth and spread of triple-negative breast cancer. This form of the disease is particularly aggressive and resistant to therapy. In City of Hope labs, blueberry juice held back the migration of cancer cells, while blueberry extract shrank tumors, stopped cancer cells from multiplying, and even triggered their destruction.

### Brussels sprouts:

Brussels sprouts have sulfur-containing compounds called glucosinolates, which the body uses to make isothiocyanates, which activate cancer-fighting enzyme systems in the body. Indole-3-carbinol is one glucosinolate breakdown product that halts the cell cycle in breast cancer cells without actually killing the cells.

### Cauliflower:

There are several dozen studies linking cauliflower-containing diets to cancer prevention, particularly with respect to the following types of cancer: bladder cancer, breast cancer, colon cancer, prostate cancer, and ovarian cancer. This connection between cauliflower and cancer prevention should not be surprising, since cauliflower provides special nutrient support for three body systems

that are closely connected with cancer development as well as cancer prevention. These three systems are (1) the body's detox system, (2) its antioxidant system, and (3) its inflammatory/anti-inflammatory system. Chronic imbalances in any of these three systems can increase risk of cancer, and when imbalances in all three systems occur simultaneously, the risk of cancer increases significantly.

### Eggplant:

Eggplant contains chlorogenic acid, which protects DNA from mutations and has anti-cancer properties. It is shown to be beneficial in reducing risk of colon and skin cancers.

### Grapes:

Grape seed extract is a component of red wine and grape juice that also can be found concentrated as a dietary supplement. Researchers at City of Hope have discovered two ways grape seed extract could play a role in clobbering cancer. Like mushrooms and pomegranates, grape seed extract inhibits aromataes and it does its hormone-suppressing work without affecting healthy tissue. Grape seed extract also blocks the action of a protein that helps cancer grow and spread. It has the potential to starve tumors by suppressing their blood supply.

### Kale:

Kale's risk-lowering benefits for cancer have recently been extended to at least five different types of cancer. These types include cancer of the bladder, breast, colon, ovary, and prostate. Isothiocyanates (ITCs) made from glucosinolates in kale play a primary role in achieving these risk-lowering benefits.

### Pomegranate:

Recently, City of Hope researchers identified six chemicals in the pomegranate that suppress aromataes, a substance in the body that helps produce estrogen. About 70 percent of breast cancers need estrogen



to grow, so pomegranate is a prime candidate as a breast-cancer-blocking super food. Other scientists have detected two substances in the fruit with potential to fight both colon cancer and diabetes.

There is a serious question as to whether cancer cells are ever completely eradicated. If they are not, then sticking to a healthy diet is most important, since dormant cancer cells can be reactivated by a bad diet.

It is important to only eat organic vegetables and fruit, especially if you want to prevent or alter existing cancer cells. Many of our fruits and vegetables are sprayed with toxic herbicides and insecticides that can promote or even cause cancer. Cancer is a complicated disease and there are many other factors involved in the prevention and healing of cancer. Giving your body the best nutrition and having a healthy immune system is certainly one of the best things you can do for yourself to either prevent or alter cancer growth. There are some wonderful books available for you to learn about cancer prevention and healing cancer. Two books that I recommend are "Natural Strategies for Cancer Patients" by Russell L. Blaylock, M.D. and "Anti-Cancer, A New Way of Life" by David Servan-Schreiber, M.D., PhD. For those interested in exploring a great website try [http://nationalevents.cityofhope.org/site/PageNavigator/walk\\_super\\_foods](http://nationalevents.cityofhope.org/site/PageNavigator/walk_super_foods) Be well.

Carol Grieve is a Certified Life Coach and Wellness Coach, the host of the widely-acclaimed talk radio show, Food Integrity Now ([www.foodintegritynow.org](http://www.foodintegritynow.org)), a speaker, and a writer. For more information on health and wellness coaching contact Carol at [carol@foodintegritynow.org](mailto:carol@foodintegritynow.org) or call 415-302-7100. Phone or Skype sessions are available.

See the list of classes Carol offers on page 16.

## The Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Co.: 2015 Accomplishments...And We Aren't Done Yet!

Gold Mine to Host Open House & Community Update Presentations

**Saturday, September 26th • 10am - 2pm**  
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In a continuing effort to keep the community informed about its on-going operations, the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V) invites you to an open house.

Throughout the day, CC&V personnel will be available to review these details and answer your questions using exhibit materials. Then, at 11:00 a.m. and again at 1:00 p.m., CC&V Community Affairs Manager, Jane Mannon, will make presentations that will review CC&V's ambitious 2015.

For more information prior to the event, please contact:

**Brad Poulson, Communications Specialist**  
**Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company**  
**719-689-4052 | [Brad.Poulson@Newmont.com](mailto:Brad.Poulson@Newmont.com)**  
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## Victor Race Day September 12

In Victor, Colorado, the words 'stubborn' and 'ornery' have been used to describe two things: its population, and its burros. So when the idea of creating a quirky event to draw visitors to its city limits, the thought of pitting an irresistible force against an immovable object in a timed speed event seemed like a no-brainer. In this moment of inspiration, the City of Victor's Race Day was born.

On Saturday, September 12th, the City of Victor and Roscoe's Coffee House invites participants and spectators alike to come and enjoy a day of racing unlike any other in the area.

The day starts off with a bicycle race sponsored by the Penguin Cycling Club. Participants of all ages will race a challenging 8.19 mile course and compete for the first place prize of ... a rock. Yes, a rock.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the race itself beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m., the weigh-in for the Pack Burro race begins, with a noon start time scheduled for a scenic (and likely hilarious) 10.75 mile race for the coveted gold pan trophy.

"Race Days is a fun and unique way to bring people together," says City of Victor Administrator, Debra Downs. "It is an event we look forward to each year to introduce our town to other area communities, and we get to use the word 'ass' without appearing vulgar. That's always a bonus."

The proceeds from Race Day will benefit the City of Victor's Trail Fund. For additional event information please visit [www.victorcolorado.com](http://www.victorcolorado.com).

## CCM Scavenger Hunt

Chaffee County Mentors (CCM) will hold a fun and interactive scavenger hunt on September 14th at various locations in Buena Vista, and September 15th in Salida.

Follow the clues to find the CCM program staff and discover the fantastic journey of mentoring. Prizes will be awarded at each location and a grand prize will be awarded for the first person to complete all clues and find CCM program staff. You can find complete details and download a clue list at our website [chaffeeentors.org](http://chaffeeentors.org). Chaffee County Mentors Program Manager and current mentors will be available to provide information on becoming a mentor to a youth in Chaffee County at each hidden location. This event is free and open to the public.

Chaffee County Mentors Program is

committed to strengthening our community by connecting our young people to purpose and self-worth through positive one on one mentoring relationships.

Chaffee County Mentors Program is modeled after Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.

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

Please visit us at <http://chaffeeentors.org> or call 719-530-2582 to learn more.

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*Lovell Gulch gets a little tender loving care from a volunteer steward.*

## Colorado Mountain Club needs extra hands

Colorado Mountain Club's hard-working volunteers built a good chunk of re-aligned trail in Lovell Gulch near Woodland Park, and there is a lot left to do! Please sign up for the remaining workdays on September 19 and October 17 at [cmc.org/stewardship](http://cmc.org/stewardship). No experience is needed — we will provide all the tools and training you will need. Non-CMC members are welcome. Contact Tom Mowle at [tommowle@yahoo.com](mailto:tommowle@yahoo.com) or 719-216-3932 if you have any questions.

Colorado Mountain Club is also continuing its project to mitigate damage to habitat

and other natural resources from the growing network of user created routes in Badger Flats, near Lake George. We will be inventorying and closing non-system roads and trails. Work is suitable for all abilities and will include GPSing, photographing resource damage, installing signs, constructing natural barriers and fences, re-seeding and transplanting vegetation. Work will be over full weekends, with camping available and CMC-provided food; you can also work only one day. The final project weekend is Sept 12 and 13; sign up at [cmc.org/stewardship](http://cmc.org/stewardship).

## Three newly updated county maps available

MacVan Map Company of Colorado Springs announces the release of three newly updated paper-fold maps: El Paso County, Park County and Teller County, CO. These MacVan maps are full color and measure 26 7/8" x 39.5" flat, folded to 4" x 9 7/9".

Along with detail inset maps for towns and areas, each map includes a street index, and shows highways, streets, railroad lines, schools, hospitals, airports, police and fire stations. Features include zip codes, city limits, township, range and section, plus subdivision names. The El Paso County map does not show street detail within Colorado Springs city limits.

Maps also feature Military land, airports, lakes, rivers, parks, National Forest, Wilderness Areas, National Parks, and Bureau of Land Management boundaries, plus campgrounds, picnic areas, and US Park Ranger Offices located in these counties. Major trail heads are marked with icons.

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*Pictured at a dress rehearsal, from left to right are the cast: Meadow Spencer, Emily Newton, Aidan Hoel, Kaysha Gleghorn, Josiah Newton, Ciar Owen, Carson Jobe, Anje Sorensen, Megan Joyner, Kira Valimaki, and Cruz Gleghorn. photo by Jeff Hansen*

## Another 'Cowgirl Cookie' caper

"Cowgirl Cookie and the Ghost of the Grange" was performed on August 22nd by the Florissant Grange Players, a youth drama club. Local children's playwright, Alexi Alfieri, wrote and directed the old-fashioned western melodrama and comedy, and both a matinee and an evening dinner show received rave reviews from their packed audiences at the Florissant Grange Hall.

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## The Thymekeeper Thyme for change of season

by Mari Marques  
photos by Mari Marques

Our mornings have been feeling a lot like fall since August this year. Yes, season change is right around the corner if it isn't already here. This is the perfect time for your herbalist to suggest an immune boost. As I've said over and over, season change is an open door for illness. Children returning to school gives us another good reason to consider it. Teachers and parents take heed. They're baaaack, and in my estimation kids are some of the germiest critters on the planet. When they gather in numbers inside enclosed buildings the chances of them transmitting a contagious illness skyrockets. So what can we do?

### Boost your immune

The first line of defense hands down should start with the diet. Cut back on sugary foods as sugar is an immune suppressor. Just one soda can lower the immune by 40 percent for up to four hours. Although most of the juice drinks in the grocery store seem like a healthy choice, they aren't. They are loaded up with sugar. To be clear, I am not advocating artificial sweeteners in any way. I personally use stevia in the purest form possible. Starwest Botanicals has a standardized extract that is 90 percent pure stevia. Although it may seem expensive to buy, you will use far less of it being at least 40 times sweeter than sugar. Many of the stevia products on the grocery store shelf are loaded with fillers and if you do the math, they are more expensive than you would think. Most people are unaware that stevia is a plant and the most inexpensive form you can get is the pure stevia powdered leaf; also available from Starwest Botanicals. <http://www.starwest-botanicals.com/catalogsearch/result/?order=relevance&dir=desc&q=stevia>

Many of the herbs you have in your kitchen have immune boosting properties. Some of them include sage, oregano, basil, and thyme. Onion and garlic also assist in

boosting the immune. Although it sounds as if I'm saying eat more pizza, I'm not. Fall is the perfect time for hearty soups that you can flavor with immune boosting spices. The more nutrient dense the diet, the stronger the immune. Choose foods for their nutrition content as opposed to processed foods for convenience. Many of the nutrient dense "weeds" I've written about this summer can be frozen for use in the fall and winter, dandelion and purslane to name two.

Like our wise old elders knew, elderberry syrup is a delicious way to boost the immune. The syrup can be taken by the spoonful, spread on pancakes or mixed with sparkling water to make a refreshing drink. It can also be frozen in ice cube trays for later use. To make elderberry syrup simply use one heaping teaspoon of berries per cup of water. Boil the water, remove from heat and steep elderberries for 15 minutes. Much longer and the berries will become somewhat bitter. Strain. Add equal parts of the elderberry liquid with local honey. Voila.

Elderberries are rich in vitamin C, not too sweet, and historically have been used to make jams and pies when mixed with other berries. They can be baked into muffins and who hasn't heard of elderberry wine? Although when boosting the immune, wine may not be the best choice; it is somewhat like an herbal tincture!

### Restore and maintain

Work on restoring and maintaining your gut flora. Antibiotics which are prescribed for every little thing can literally destroy your gut flora which is extremely important for maintaining a healthy immune. Eighty percent of your immune system is located in your gut. Probiotics can help and so can eating fermented foods such as sauerkraut and pickles. Water kefir is a very tasty and easy to prepare fermented drink that in my experience even the pickiest children will drink.

Being a bit fizzy it is an excellent alternative to soda. For more on water kefir see: <http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-Authentic-Water-Kefir/>

Kombucha is another fermented drink you can purchase from most health food stores and comes in a variety of flavors.

### Keep it clean

Once the weather begins to cool, we as humans pretty much go on lockdown and don't open our windows as much thus trapping more germs inside. One ancient technique for keeping the air clear of germs is smudging with herbs like sage. However to avoid any unnecessary interaction with the local fire department, sage or lavender essential oils can be mixed

with water and made into a room spray to achieve the same result without setting off the smoke alarm. Many essential oils have antibacterial and antiviral properties in addition to making a stuffy room smell more like grandma's kitchen when she's baking and can be used to clean surfaces without harmful chemicals.

Mari Marques is a Certified Herbalist and owner of The Thymekeeper. For questions or more information contact: Mari at [mugsys-pad@aol.com](mailto:mugsys-pad@aol.com) or 719-439-7303.

Mari is available for private consultation or private classes. The Thymekeeper's DIY immune boost blend and spray mists are available at Mountain Naturals in Woodland Park, CO.

### Everybody has a story.

Whether it be funny, sad, inspiring, mysterious, educational, everybody has one. It's the time of year for harvesting and processing plants. That's my story. I would like to invite anyone who wants to process with me to come and share your story or stories. I find the act of processing the herbs to be very therapeutic whether it be pressing and bottling tinctures or simply stripping leaves from a stem. Come and learn about the herbs and share your story September 13th and 14th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at The Thymekeeper 1870 CR 31 Florissant. Samples will be available for you to take home. Pre-registration is required as space is limited.

## Hillside, Colorado

By Charlotte Burrous

As a child, he enjoyed visiting his grandparents on their ranch in Hillside, which is nestled in the Wet Mountain Valley a few miles north of Westcliffe.

About 30 years ago, Chris Seegers and his family moved to the Wet Mountain Valley, where he graduated from Custer County High School.

As an adult, he has worked for an energy company in Midland, Texas. As part of his duties, he visits agricultural clients all over the Midwest, where he notices towns being abandoned by their residents. He didn't want it to happen to Hillside. So when the town came up for sale in January, Seegers vowed he would bring it back to life.

"We fell in love with the beauty of the area, and the incredible people that call it their home," he said. "Some say this is inevitable, but I do not believe that to be the case and I did not want that to happen to Hillside. I was constantly saddened by how many small towns were abandoned or falling apart as residents moved to other places with more dynamic job markets."

At that point, he and his wife, Tara, spent several months researching the idea and decided to buy the whole town, which consists of a post office, a general store, and several cottages along with other structures.

In conjunction, Chris said the town would be ideal to expand its lodging; an industry with which he and his wife are familiar. As a result of his business model, he said Hillside would grow and flourish for many years and "not dry up and blow away like so many other towns in the U.S."

In addition, he and Tara are working to build a coalition of small business owners, farmers and ranchers, who live in Hillside.

When they purchased the town in January of 2015, it was in need of some renovation work. Chris continued, "We are a young couple with energy and a willingness to listen to what the community wanted out of their town. The previous owners had done a great job of keeping the town going for many years and have been some of our biggest advocates."

Along with his work in the energy field, Chris and Tara, a financial analyst, also own Lamp Post Lodge, a bed and breakfast in Westcliffe.

But the couple said they also have big plans for Hillside, in which they would offer outdoor concerts, farmers markets, plays, and much more.

"There is a sense of community out here — second to none, and we want to provide fun events for all of us to spend time with our neighbors, enjoying music and the fresh mountain air," Chris said.

The view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains alone will bring people to the area to enjoy the outdoor activities, such as fishing, hiking, bicycling and more, he said.

"It is an incredible place, and people just naturally gravitate to the area," he said. "We are hoping to create a positive relationship between visitors and residents, so they can both benefit from the interaction."

The couple also hopes to build a coalition of small business owners, farmers and ranchers in the Hillside area to create positive growth to sustain the current businesses, which in turn will provide a healthier middle class.

Chris also pointed out that Hillside is full of talented, educated people that connect and ask each other how to collaborate and make everyone's business thrive, as well as create a better quality of life for all the residents.

According to Chris, he and his wife have worked to restore each building in Hillside to provide more value for local residents and tourists passing through town. He also noted that the general manager, Barb Koch has worked hard to provide local goods and art to sell in the General Store, as well as quality items for the guests visiting the area for the first time. The couple also plans to expand the lodging in Hillside for tourists driving through the valley.

But wherever he travels, it's Hillside that he misses.

"I love this valley more than anywhere in the world," he said.



A newly renovated cottage stands in Hillside, ready for tourists to lease.



With the Sangre de Cristo Mountains looming in the background, horses graze in a pasture near Hillside.



A grove of trees stands near the post office and general store in Hillside.



The Town of Hillside belongs to Chris and Tara Seegers, who recently purchased the whole community.

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## Nature Speaks The great shutdown

by Dee DeJong

Every year, as fall approaches, nature starts to shut down. The length of daylight becomes shorter, temperatures decrease, and noticeable changes occur.

In order to survive such harsh conditions that take place in winter many of the creatures, including humans, have to adapt. Certain behaviors begin to take place as temperatures decrease coupled with lack of food and water.

One of the first signs I notice are changes in feeding habits. Birds flock to my feeders and increase the intake of seeds, while hummingbirds empty my nectar on a daily basis. The squirrels are hiding seeds and nuts in the trees and ground. Even my appetite increases as I "fatten" up for winter.

Additional signs that I see are the lack of insects that tormented me this summer during a dinner on the patio; the leaves of the deciduous trees are starting to change, most notably the aspen; and the wildflowers that were so showy all season have gone to seed.

Eventually I know what is coming and prepare myself for the migrating of the birds to their winter feeding grounds; the disappearance of hibernating animals such as ground squirrels and bears; and the onset of cooler temperatures.



Human behavior changes as well. We pull out our winter clothes; we consider winterizing our homes and cars; we store food and chop wood. Some humans even migrate to warmer climes only to return with the spring and summer season. We also notice our pets growing a thicker coat which will require intense grooming in the spring.

As you get ready for the great shutdown, enjoy the remaining wildflowers, the chipmunks scurrying to find food, the smell of pines warmed by the sun and being in the great outdoors.

For more nature information please call 720-838-3277 or visit our website at [www.guides-to-go.com](http://www.guides-to-go.com).



## Archery elk hunting

by Jeff Tacey

Bow hunting for elk and deer started on August 29th and runs through September 27th. Most of the area in the Pikes Peak region is over the counter either sex or antlerless elk tags. Check the 2015 Colorado big game brochure for all rules and regulations.

If you didn't draw a deer tag, you probably will not be deer hunting as it's all draw. Most archery bear tags are also draw.

With all the snow in the spring and the rain this summer there will be some huge deer and elk racks for the trophy hunter. But now that it's dried out some, focus on watering holes at first and last light. The elk will be rutting as it is mating season. There's nothing like the bugle of a bull elk in the woods. During bow hunting season elk are more likely to come to

a cow call than the bull's bugle. The bugle is a good locator call; then use the cow call to get in closer for your shot.

Some areas to try are the old Hayman burn area north of Woodland Park on Highway 67. Look for the green (unburned) islands in the burnt area.

The dark timber areas on Pikes Peak will hold elk as there's not many roads up there. Still hunt and cow call through this thick forest.

Elk will also be tree line nearer bighorn sheep habitat. The scrub oak areas off of Rampart Range Road will also hold elk. Hunt the inter-mixed scrub oak and pine areas.

Check your Pike National forest and BLM maps for public land unless you have access to private land.

## Spotlight on the Divide Chamber

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## The diverse genus Penstemon

by Ciena Higginbotham

Penstemon is a large genus of North American and East Asian flowering plants. It is the largest plant genus in North America, spanning 271 species. It is distributed from Alaska to Guatemala and from coast to coast. Even though this genus is so expansive, scientists propose that Penstemon originated in the central Rocky Mountains.

Because so many species are abundant in the wild and are so versatile, they are very cold hardy and tolerant of dry conditions. From the cool mountain foot of Pikes Peak to the torrid climate of Canyon City, Penstemon can be found in nearly all regions of Colorado, especially nestled in the pink granite throughout Teller County.

The entire plant is tall and dominant, a subshrub perennial with pairs of opposite semi-evergreen leaves, meaning that the plant lasts well into the season. Though, some species are entirely evergreen and will hold their color throughout the winter. Penstemons have showy spikes of unique flowers, occurring in blues, reds, and whites. Hybrids even produce bi-colors.

The most distinctive feature of the genus in the prominent staminode; an infertile stamen. This staminode takes a variety of forms in the different species, but it is typically a long straight filament extending out. These anomalously shaped flowers have two lips with three fused petals on the bottom lip and two fused petals on the upper lip. Along with the staminode, this gives the appearance of an open mouth with a tongue protruding which inspired the common name, "Beardstongue". For the genus, Penstemons are so named because one of their infertile stamens. "Paene" is Latin for "nearly" and "stemon" is Greek for "thread". So the name means "Nearly a thread," or "Nearly a stamen." This name was given by the plant collector, Dr. John Mitchell, in 1748.

With such a long blooming time, from early to mid-summer, Penstemon is a terrific plant to garden. It is grown as a border, in a rock garden, or for roadside planting. They need little watering and are best planted in well-drained fertile soil in full sun. With plenty of room, they will naturally spread, and with frequent deadheading, they will last for an even longer season, making them a perfect candidate for a lovely garden wildflower.

Native Americans long used Penstemons as medicinal remedies for both humans and animals. Foxglove Beardstongue, Penstemon digitalis, was said to have helped treat chills and fever, while the roots were chewed to ease toothache. Penstemon fruticosus was made into a tea to treat colds and flu, headaches, and internal disorders. A decoction of leaves was made into a wash for sore, red eyes and was also made into a strong drink to treat ulcers. Sand Penstemon was used for fast recovery on open wounds, burns and scrapes. It was also used to treat wounds and broken bones on animals. It was also supposed to prolong livestock growth for survival. Though, such use is no longer encouraged.

Out of all the species, *Penstemon virens* and *Penstemon strictus* are two of the more common Penstemon in this area of the countryside.

## Monetary exchange Family Dollar WP becomes Dollar Tree

by Kathy Hansen

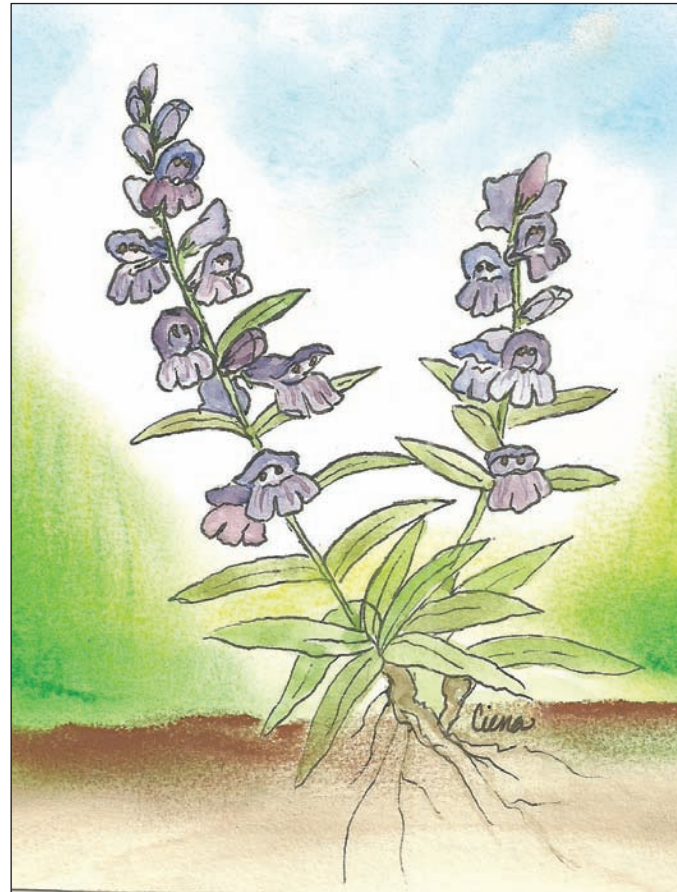
The residents of Woodland Park have been heard! Store manager, Ken Hurley had been the manager of Family Dollar for several years. He had listened to Woodland Park residents come to the store to tell him the prices were too high, and predicting the store would not survive. Several years later, Dollar Tree comes to the rescue! They hired Ken as store manager given he had already established a relationship with his customers.

"Everything in the store is \$1, except maybe some candy bars that may sell at 89 cents. It is what the public wanted," stated Ken only days into the transition.

Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Low Penstemon: *Penstemon virens*

This species forms in dense clumps and grows to 10 inches high. The stems are very slender and erect and very hairy. The flowers grow to ¾ of an inch long and while the upper lip has a pinkish tone to it, the lower lip is bright blue. In contrast to other species, the flowers are arranged on all sides of the stem. Its leaves are light green with a shiny surface though very hairy. The basal leaves are stalked, but the upper leaves clasp around the stem. It is common in gravelly areas such



Artwork of Penstemon

as road banks and hillsides, common in the foothills and mountains. This particular species blooms from June to August.

## Rocky Mountain Penstemon: *Penstemon strictus*


The Rocky Mountain Penstemon is one of the most common and conspicuous Penstemon in Colorado. It grows in large colonies in evergreen forests and lower montane elevations. It reaches up to three feet tall with few narrow leaves and numerous stems with numerous flowers are set on one side of the stem. The flowers range from an intense purple to a more subdued pale lavender. "Strictus" is Latin for "straight" which may refer to the leaves, or even the very straight stems — which often, however, actually lean.

## About the author

Ciena Higginbotham has had a fascination with plants since elementary school, when her teacher first introduced her to edible plants. Since then, she has intensely studied the biology and history of plant life, specializing in Colorado native flora. She has been writing since before she could print letters, telling stories in drawings, and has long continued since then. She is 17 years old and lives in the Rocky Mountains of Teller County. She is a high school-college student working towards a dream job of freelance writing and selling her artwork. She currently has original hand-painted watercolor greeting cards available at the Costello Street Coffee House in Florissant.

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A large crowd listens as Bob Schoppe, president of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Historical Society, MC's the Como Depot dedication.

## Hundreds witness Depot dedication Eager historians crowd sites at 20th Boreas Pass Railroad Day

by Laura Van Dusen  
photos by Laura Van Dusen

Over 500 visitors arrived early and stayed late to see historic railroading sites at the 20th Annual Boreas Pass Railroad Day on Aug. 22, 2015, in Como. Early attendees were eager to see inside the Como roundhouse. It is one of few surviving narrow gauge roundhouses in Colorado and is typically open only once a year, on Railroad Day. While renovation of the structure is far from complete, enough of the original interior remains for visitors to imagine crews of men working day and night to keep locomotive steam engines ready to tackle the tracks in all kinds of weather.

The highlight of this year's event was a Dedication Ceremony for the newly renovated Como Railroad Depot. Saving the building from near collapse began in 2006 when it was listed as one of Colorado's Most Endangered Places; renovations were completed in October 2014.

Master of Ceremonies at the dedication was Bob Schoppe, president of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Historical Society. The group was heavily involved in the depot renovation and, through a lease from the depot's owners, will run a museum inside the renovated depot. Schoppe said the original depot was built in about June 1879, shortly before tracks were completed over Kenosha Pass to Como, and indicated this was not the first depot dedication.

"Como has some unique traditions. It seems that every 136 years, or so, the town of Como celebrates the grand opening of their railroad depot," Schoppe said.

### Roundhouse

Dr. Chuck Brantigan and his wife, Kathy Brantigan, owners of the roundhouse, were on hand to give brief lessons in roundhouse history. The Brantigans eventually want to utilize the six bays of the structure as a museum of "big things that move," said the doctor. It's off to a good start with a boxcar and part of an 1880s passenger car.

Another bay will demonstrate how early day newspapers were printed. Inside the roundhouse are 19th-century printing presses that were used by the "Fairplay Flume" newspaper until digital printing took over. The presses were moved here when the paper relocated to Bailey in the 1990s. On Railroad Day a demonstration and talk on the history of printing by Tom Van Dusen, Como area resident and retired printer, drew crowds all day.



Tom Van Dusen (right) talks printing with Rick Clapham, who is related to an early Como resident.



Como resident Margaret Barnes, schoolmarm re-enactor at the Como High School, uses a chair to reach the top of the blackboard.

### In Como

Visitors had a chance to see how the railroaders lived when they toured three homes open to the public on Railroad Day. The homes, all currently owned by Carle Zimmerman and his wife Rita DerJue, have furnishings reminiscent of how early residents of Como would have lived; modern comforts of electricity, heat and water have been added.

The historic Como schools were open for the day. In the former Como Elementary, demonstrations of quilting, butter churning, and how to use a spinning wheel attracted interest, as did a model train set-up that took up half of the room.

The Como High School, a one room school that closed after the 1940 term with all books, desks, and final science experiments inside, was also open. Visitors had looks of awe and amazement as they stepped through the door into a classroom of the post-depression, pre-World War II era.

### Section House

Arriving at 8:30 a.m. the volunteer crew members manning the Section House on top of Boreas Pass were met by hungry historians ready for their free pancake breakfast. Donna Starkey, summer resident of the Lake George area and volunteer with the South Park Ranger District in Fairplay, said guests were lined up before 9 a.m. to get their fill. Also at the Section House, railroad historian and author Tom Klinger, told guests about train travel on Boreas Pass.

### Other sites

If you missed Railroad Day, you also missed hand car rides on restored track in front of the depot, Dutch oven cooking, and ice cream churning — with generous samples — at Roberts Cabin, a walk along a section of restored track at picturesque Rocky Point, an interpretive talk at Baker Tank, and a visit to Highline Railroad Park in Breckenridge to see the historic, cosmetically restored Engine No. 9. It pulled passenger and freight trains over Boreas Pass for over 50 years.

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# Guffey’s Rita Mick is reading and running

by Flip Boettcher

The Guffey community library has a new librarian, local resident Rita Mick. When the library position became available, Mick said, it was at a good time for her. The days and hours fit right into her schedule and it was like a dream job opening for Mick.

Although Mick has never worked in a library before, she said that growing up, the local library was her home away from home. Mick loves the library and what she is doing. It’s a great new chapter in her life, she added.

Mick spent two and a half days of intensive training with head Fairplay librarian, Nancy Wood and alternate librarian, Jo Beckwith, which has been very helpful she



Rita Mick on left, making the turn from CO Highway 9 onto County Road 102, after running 26 miles from Hartsel. courtesy photo

said. The biggest learning curve for Mick is using Windows versus Mac.

The cataloging is easy, said Mick, with the fiction arranged alphabetically in sections, while the Dewey Decimal System is used for non-fiction.

The Guffey library has a special Colorado section with lots of books on South Park. Library patrons can order books from throughout the state with inter-library book loans, stated Mick.

When Mick moved to Guffey she remembers the library was housed in a small add-on behind the Guffey School and the head librarian was Naomi Weedon. The spacious, new library was the result of a library committee that was formed solely to seek grants and funding to get a new library built, spearheaded by then local resident, Jean Cloyd. The property on which the community building and the library sits was donated by then resident, Judy Robbins. The library and community building are county buildings now.

In 2009, a new addition to the library was made possible by the donation of two lots adjacent to the existing library and community center, a grant from the Park County Conservation Trust Fund, and monies from the Kay Vail estate, which were apportioned among four libraries.

Like many in Guffey, Mick has several small jobs. That’s because jobs in Guffey are hard to find, she said. Besides working at the library, Mick teaches the Zumba dance class,



New librarian Rita Mick on the left and library patron Lani Gossett on the deck in front of the Guffey library. photo by Flip Boettcher

does various cleaning jobs, and is working to get her Arabic Interpretation and ESL (English as a Second Language) certificates. Mick would like to spend some time in a refugee camp where she can teach English and really learn the Arabic language and customs. Mick has also been an avid runner her



## Growing Ideas Ahhh, September!

by Karen Anderson T he Plant Lady

Autumnal greetings to my Gardening Friends!

This is my absolute favorite time of year for many reasons. It has its very own style of beauty. The pleasantries of cooler weather and the slightly more prominent rustling of the aspen leaves bring the seasonal sensations of inevitable change.

It is the time for harvesting the bounty of our efforts with gratitude and appreciation for the uncommonly moist summer months. Mornings are crisper and the sweatshirts and stocking caps are readily available. There is already a bit of fall color in the Gardens now.

It is a transitional period for the mountain gardener; an ‘in-between’ stage. Seed pods are starting to dry and open up for their ultimate purpose, which is to keep its species going for future generations. Sunflowers are starting to pop out for our enjoyment and food for the birds. Many of the sunflowers growing here are planted by the squirrels, birds, and other critters who reside in the sanctuary of my Gardens. I allow them to dry on the vine (if I can keep the deer at bay) for a tasty, natural, organic and healthy treat for those Winged Ones who need the energy to migrate or for those who are winter residents. I tend to cut all the sunflowers I can for indoor arrangements before the freezing begins. The hardy perennials will hang in there even after the early frosts.

Be prepared for the beginning of light frosts just about every morning around mid-September. In my years of experience here in the Rockies, they will generally not be killer frosts, but I recommend that you keep the floating row cover handy if you wish to extend the life and beauty of your annuals for a little bit longer. I will also transport many of my potted arrangements into the greenhouse to stay warm and cozy. Other tender plants will get bitten and will start to look sad. It’s OK. It’s time. It’s never easy to say goodbye to the beautiful colors that have given me so much pleasure over the summer, but this is the way of Mother Nature and I accept that as part of the process. Besides, I don’t know about you gardeners out there, but I am tiring out and I am looking forward to slower times and a few less chores during the winter months. However, the work to put the Gardens to bed is fairly extensive and will take time and effort. My goal is always to have everything accomplished by Oct. 31. I will share more about fall clean-up next month.

The experience of digging for root crops is very similar to going on a treasure hunt for me. I never know quite what I’m going to find under the earth. As I carefully shovel into the potato patch to see what happened over the summer months, the discoveries are rarely disappointing. Big or small, red, white, yellow or blue, many or not so many, it is always gratifying to witness the miracle of nature providing us with healthy homegrown organic food. Egyptian onions, carrots, beets, turnips and the last outdoor plantings of radishes are ready to harvest in September as well.

The abundance of snow and snap peas gives me an ample supply to share with visitors to the Gardens.

Cut herbs such as oregano, sweet marjoram, thyme, basil, and chamomile are drying in bowls, baskets and screens in cool, dry and darker areas of the kitchen.

A late hail storm wiped out many of the brassicas so the supply of broccoli, cauliflower, Kohlrabi and Brussel sprouts was damaged beyond recovery, but even at that, I was granted a few little side shoots that get tossed in the soup — and the cold weather crop season is not over quite yet.

Stop deadheading all perennials at this time to allow seed pods to form if you wish to collect or replant them.

September is an ideal time to divide your overcrowded perennials. There is plenty of time during this month to transplant and get those root systems established in new territory before the really cold weather sets in. Use your root stimulator and bone meal when you do this. It is an important part of the procedure. The bone meal is high in phosphorus, which is the one of the primary amendments used for blooming. I always recommend adding bone meal when you plant or transplant. Best results for bone meal are obtained when used in conjunction with other organic materials. This method aids to ‘break it down’ for plant uptake more quickly.

Root Stimulator is a liquid concentrate

which aids in stronger and quicker root development.

It helps to reduce transplant shock quite effectively. The analysis is 4-10-3 and it is always a staple in my garden pantry. If I was to go down to the creek-side and cut a bundle of green willow branches and soak them in a barrel of water for a week or so, I would have the basic ingredients for root stimulator. But you can also purchase it at the store. The brand I normally buy is Root & Grow and most garden supply outlets should have it on the shelves — even at the end of the season.

Always, always mulch to conserve the moisture and to protect the earth from freezing and thawing during the winter months. This is called ‘heaving’ and will push root systems right out of the ground. Not Good!

Start pulling in any houseplants you may have outside, but be sure to check for bugs first and treat accordingly. Because they have been exposed to the outside world during the summer months,



Love your garden and it will love you back!

aphids, which normally will be present on the newer more tender growth of the plant. I recommend a treatment of Safer Soap and a nice warm shower before you bring them back indoors.

Indian Summer is right around the corner, usually after a super cold spell and the weather warms up again for a short period of time. The Aspens will be blessing us with their magical colors and carpeting the Earth Mother with nature’s intended mulch. Some will be raked up and incorporated into the compost piles; some will be left in the garden beds to add organic matter to the soil. There is much to do before the snow flies. But for the time being, enjoy the process of harvesting your crops, preparing wonderful meals for you and your families with home grown veggies and herbs, and the beauty of this Fall Season. Many Blessings and Happy Gardening!

The Plant Lady is available to visit your garden for a private and personal consultation on your ‘slope of the hill’ and to learn more about other services offered please call 719-748-3521 or E-mail plantladyspeaks@gmail.com.

many houseplants may have been visited by insects that may have laid eggs in the soil or on the foliage. I would suggest a thorough check of the stems, leaves and soil to see if there is any unusual webbing or perhaps

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# Healing and transitioning Nighthawk Ranch and Justin Dunn Mustang Horsemanship

by Kathy Hansen  
photos by Jeff Hansen

We humans often consider ourselves “above” animals; superior in some way. When it comes right down to it, we likely have more in common than we prefer to imagine. Healing and transitioning are common processes we share; the varied expression is defined primarily by our physical differences. Let’s learn more about the similarities of the process.

## Nighthawk Ranch

Our readers may be familiar with Nighthawk Ranch; it is a non-profit camp for children who are recovering from cancer or serious illness. It’s a place where kids can be kids, with a focus on engaging with the horses as opposed to the illness. Tom and Dorothy Evans, founders and owners of Nighthawk provide the structure, plentiful staff, and outdoor environment that will invite the inner explorer to emerge.

Socially the playing field is leveled. They all have gone through medical trauma, and they all have wondered why their friends had abandoned them, even though cancer is not contagious. Each camper’s family had grappled with the enormity of a potentially terminal illness robbing them of the expectation of a healthy childhood. The gamut of emotions has been well-played-out.

Tom and Dorothy understand this process well. It is their acknowledgement that the difficult journey ends, that life DOES go on and then somehow transitions into a new chapter that becomes a theme at camp. A little help redefining “self” in that transition can be necessary. This often involved communication; the ability of one person to express their thoughts and feelings as another person acknowledges without judgement what has been presented, as they mutually accept the exchange.

The camp is packed full of activities, most are outside and probably have something to do with a horse. Each camper is assigned a horse for the week that needs to be groomed, fed, and cleaned up after. All campers are expected to drive cattle by the end of the week. Excuses are met with a compassionate ear wise enough to acknowledge what could be a “cop-out” and supportive enough to take that next step.

That next step could be different for each camper. Sometimes a specific instruction like “put your foot here” is needed and other times recognizing a glitch is not the end of the world is all the perspective needed. There is no question each camper makes a transition over the week. The fact that most want to come back, either as campers or junior counselors (to later be considered as a counselor) may be the best evidence the camp lends a positive experience.

We came for a visit just as the morning trail ride was coming to a close. This was the fourth and final camp for the season, and it happened to be a girls’ camp. It was a Thursday, only one day before their cattle drive. Justin Dunn led the campers to the corral, as the volunteer RNs drive the ATV, wagon in tow just in case there

is a life-threatening medical situation. After they had removed the saddles from the horses, they gathered to meet us.

At first, they were all pretty shy, a little reserved, and unsure as to why newspaper people wanted to talk to them. Their ages ranged from 10 to 16, and most had been at Nighthawk before. Eventually the floodgates opened and they were willing to share their experiences at camp. Words like “super-fun”, “awesome”, and “easy-going” were readily forthcoming, along with “we’re all equal here” and “nobody cares about age here”.

Raleigh had been here before and was glad to be accepted again this year. She appreciated the variety of activities. One of her favorites this year was talking with “Rob” about Native American Culture, as he shared much history about his eastern tribe. She was most impressed with the important roles women could play and how they were honored. Raleigh likes hanging out with new people and folks she’d never met before. She would like to be a junior counse-

OK to be who you are, where you are at, feeling what you are feeling.

All the while we are chatting with the girls their horses are in the corral providing great entertainment. It seemed as though the horses and girls created a game of “Who’s gonna roll?”



Campers take a break to chat with us. Front row: Amy, Daphne, and Madysen. Back row: Danielle, Kaymen, and Raleigh.

where the girls watch the horses and guess by subtle body movements which is next to roll on the ground for a back-scratch. Jeff and I thought the horses won because they were able to draw the girls’ attention to the corral. The girls were more than eager to provide us with clues, like a shoulder or knee going down. There was most definitely a connection between these girls and the horses.

The campers pay nothing to camp there. Tom and Dorothy work to raise the funds needed each summer to afford three to four camps at a cost of about \$10,000 each. If you would like to donate, please visit [nighthawkranchcolorado.org](http://nighthawkranchcolorado.org) or call 719-689-5634 or email [info@nighthawkranchcolorado.org](mailto:info@nighthawkranchcolorado.org). This is the same contact if you are seeking more information or to sign up for next year. All four of 2015 camps were filled to capacity with registrants by early February 2015.

The camper’s safety is assured through their medical director, Dr. Malyszek. Dr. DeWall is in charge of all EMS services for Teller and Park Counties.

## Justin Dunn Mustang Horsemanship

Wild horses and burros have been protected under the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, “declaring wild horses and burros as living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West. Under the Act, wild horses and burros must be treated as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands.” Then, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) estimated the population of wild horses (mustangs) to be approximately 28,000. Those numbers have almost doubled to about 52,000 today. The problem is the population is depleting resources, over-breeding, and destroying the environment resulting in malnutrition. The BLM is tasked with the problem, so they create holding facilities at a financial burden on tax payers of at least \$4 per mustang, per day. This becomes expensive and unsustainable.

The Mustang Heritage Foundation was founded in 2001. It is a non-profit whose mission is “to help promote the Bureau of Land Management’s National Wild Horse and Burro Program and increase the number of successful adoptions.”

The problem is these horses are difficult to catch. They were born in the wild and their survival skills have been dominated by first determining if something poses a threat. A human being is unusual and likely to be perceived as a possible menace, especially if they are wielding a whip, sporting spurs, or lunging toward the horse with the intent of capture.

Justin Dunn, the same wrangler who works with Nighthawk Ranch, has a better way. He has been recognized as a National Horse Trainer/Clinician. Justin recognizes any horse that can be given the skills sufficient enough for adoption can live a productive life, and Justin has the eye to select good candidates. It is simply a matter of making that transition,



Daphne and Piper enjoy the camp.

step-by-step. Developing a relationship with the horse will be helpful to convince the horse to come along with him. You see, Justin understands communication is an exchange between himself and the horse. He knows to consider from the horse’s perspective and how human advances could be perceived. Justin considers pressure to be the question; the horse’s release is the answer. He does not use spurs, whips, and in fact, has developed a bit-less bridle.

“Think about it this way: Take a paperclip, open it up and connect a rubber band to each end. Put the paperclip in your mouth and place the rubber band around your head to hold the clip in place. Now go out and mow the lawn,” stated Justin as he shared his analogy. Most people laugh about now, but do you really think you could mow the entire lawn without that paperclip becoming cumbersome? It is the same discomfort the bit in the bridle is for the horse; it creates a distraction and lack of focus on the task at hand. Justin has significantly better results with his bit-less bridle, which is now being manufactured by Weaver Leather and available at most Big R stores (or [www.bigronline.com](http://www.bigronline.com)), which also sells a Justin Dunn Saddle made by Cactus Saddlery. A portion of the proceeds of the bit-less bridle go to Nighthawk Ranch.

Justin said he has been able to pick horses and train several of them, three of which are now adopted by Nighthawk Ranch, namely Harley, Cinnamon, and Remington. He said it takes about 90 days of consistently work-



All of the campers have chores. Cleaning the corral is one task they do as a team.

ing with the horse to develop a respectful relationship with the horse, relying on positive feedback and never pain or fear tactics, or medication to restrain.

Horses are smart animals, strong, and ready to serve when they understand the task. We could see first-hand how the horses and girls played the “Who’s gonna roll?” game. The affection the girls had for their horses was unmistakable. In fact, as we approached Daphne as she stood next to her horse, Piper, we could see Piper’s eye widen as though Piper was prepared to protect Daphne, who immediately soothed Piper before she turned to talk with us.

We can see the process of transition is similar for human and horse; both require honest communication including willingness to listen, mutual respect for each other, encouragement, and a dab of direction.

To learn more about Justin Dunn’s techniques consider attending Justin Dunn Mustang Horsemanship Clinics. The next opportunity is Saturday, September 26, with the clinic going from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., followed by BBQ and live music by Cowboy Dave Band from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, September 27 the clinic runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. followed by a Q&A from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The clinics include topics such as Horse Psychology, Ground Work, Saddle Work, and Problem Solving. The clinics cost \$150 per day; auditors welcome at \$30 per day; concert and BBQ is \$25. All proceeds go to Zuma’s Rescue Ranch in Littleton Colorado. Register by calling 719-479-4009 or emailing [Justin@DunnsHighCountry.com](mailto:Justin@DunnsHighCountry.com).

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Reese, all comfy in the sink - Janet Waldron, Divide, CO (Reese was adopted from TCRAS.)

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# Aftermath

by Danielle Dellinger

The forest was quiet, unmoving. The air was stagnant. The scales had been tipped, but not in a good way.

"Is it okay?" Summer Girl asked softly, looking down at the unconscious forest spirit lying in front of her from where she knelt.

"I don't know," Spring Maiden muttered breathlessly. Her heart was racing.

Summer Girl looked up at her, and they exchanged worried looks. Mother Nature had just taken away the forest spirit's powers. No one knew what that meant for it, for them, and for everything else. Spring Maiden felt like they were being watched, and she spotted Autumn Boy and Winter Child off in the distance, walking toward them. She could tell they were approaching with caution. She could also see animals gathering at the edges of the clearing, but staying mostly concealed by the trees.

"What happened?" Winter Child asked, when they reached the small group.

"Nothing good, that's for sure," Summer Girl sarcastically remarked.

Spring Maiden glanced at her before turning to answer Winter Child. "Mother Nature took away the forest spirit's powers. It hasn't woken up since then, but it's still alive."

Autumn Boy frowned, squeezing Winter Child's hand. "What now?" he asked, looking from Winter Child to Spring Maiden, who shrugged.

"I don't know," she answered. "This hasn't ever happened before. But I guess all we can do is wait for the spirit to wake up, then go from there. We don't know the extent of the damage that's been done to it, if any."

Autumn Boy nodded, lifting his eyes to look across the clearing to the trees. "There are so many creatures watching us right now," he noted.

Spring Maiden slowly nodded. "Yeah. They know." She frowned a moment as she thought. "Wait, how did you guys know to come here?" She looked up at them.

"We felt the ground pulse once, then heard a scream in our heads," Winter Child replied, his eyes on the forest spirit. "That happened to me, too," Summer Girl said, looking between the other three.

Winter Child nodded solemnly, feeling at a loss of what to do. "This still air is making me claustrophobic," he said after a few minutes, trying to take in a deep breath.

Autumn Boy exhaled softly, and nodded in agreement, along with the girls.

The four of them didn't move from their spots, even as the sun set and threw the world into darkness.

As the sun rose above the trees the next morning, the forest spirit began to take deeper breaths and stir somewhat. The four guardians watched in hopeful anticipation, waiting for the spirit to open its eyes. Finally, its eyes slid open, and everyone breathed a sigh of relief. The forest spirit sat up with its four legs folded underneath.

It, appearing to be disoriented and groggy. Spring Maiden crawled around until she was in front of it.

"Are you okay?" she asked gently, reaching out and lightly resting a hand on its arm. "How do you feel?"

The spirit looked down at her, confused. It recognized her, but had no idea what had transpired. It held up its other hand to show how shaky it was.

Spring Maiden nodded, understanding. "Just stay here in the sun. It'll help you to feel better." She glanced at her fellow guardians, not sure what else to do.

Summer Girl knelt beside Spring Maiden, looking up at the majestic spirit. "Do you remember what happened?"

The spirit slowly shook its head. The girls glanced nervously between each other. Spring Maiden looked down and rubbed her face with her free hand, working up the courage to tell the forest spirit everything. Finally, she felt she could look it in the eyes.

"Mother Nature took your powers," she said carefully.

Instantly a look of rage flashed across the forest spirit's face, and then it went to get up.

"Wait, wait!" pleaded Spring Maiden. "Stay where you are. Gather your strength. Let me explain. She was upset that you were helping Summer Girl and me to defeat that dragon. She said that it was specifically our problem to take care of, not one else's."

The forest spirit glared, angrily shaking its head. Spring Maiden sighed. "I know, I know. I'm just as upset as you. But yeah, your powers are gone. None of us knows what that means for you, or what you are actually capable of now."

The forest spirit turned its head and looked off in the distance, thinking. Then without warning it got to its feet, staggering some from being so weak. The two girls quickly stood up, looking up at the spirit and watching as it looked down at its hands, studying them. It then looked straight ahead and clapped them together.

It sounded like a regular clap, with no delay in the sound, which would've usually happened. Spring Maiden's heart broke when she saw the hurt and panic in the forest spirit's eyes. The two of them made eye contact, holding it for a long time. She then walked forward and put a hand on the spirit's side.

"We'll figure this out, together. We'll get your powers back," she assured, still maintaining eye contact with it. It slowly nodded in response, then looked around at the other three, who all nodded as well. Seeing all the support it had caused a little smile to form on its lips. It knelt down on its two front legs and pulled everyone in for a big, firm hug. When everyone stepped back after an acceptable amount of time, the forest spirit pointed toward Guffey. The four guardians looked where it was pointing, but before they could say anything it walked past them, heading for Guffey.

Spring Maiden was about to object, but the spirit seemed to be on a mission, so she followed along. The guardians' animal companions were left behind since it wasn't necessary for

them to come. They all remained silent as they walked, feeling as if it would be inappropriate to speak. They walked for hours, until finally they entered the area of Guffey. Once they did, they could all feel a strange energetic charge in the air. The charge was so strong that it made all the guardians feel uncomfortable.

Soon they stopped in a secluded part of the wooded area that enveloped Guffey. Summer Girl stood there, gazing around as she attempted to figure out why they were there. She then gasped, startling the others, except for the forest spirit.

"I know what this area is, and why there's some sort of energetic charge in the air!" she said excitedly. "Guffey sits almost directly in the center of what's called the Guffey Volcanic Center, which is a series of now-extinct volcanoes in the area. The frequent eruption of the volcanoes caused lahars, or mudflows, and started the Florissant Formation by damming bodies of water, which sediments were then deposited into. That created the perfect conditions for the preservation of fossils. Giant redwoods and other trees were buried by one of these mudflows and became petrified. This all happened roughly 35 million years ago." She looked to the spirit for confirmation.

It nodded, gazing steadily and unwaveringly at her.

"You're hoping to use the residual energy from those eruptions to jumpstart your powers, or form new ones, aren't you?" she asked.

The forest spirit slowly nodded after a moment. She grinned, glancing at her fellow guardians. "That's so brilliant!" she exclaimed, blushing when she realized just how excited she was acting. She cleared her throat and looked down. "Sorry. It really is a great plan."

Spring Maiden came up to her and kissed her, feeling the Guardian Flower react positively in her hands. "You're right, it is," she said, pulling back. The two smiled at each other briefly, before looking at the forest spirit to see what it was going to do next.

The spirit smiled and then started walking away. Everyone followed it, recognizing quickly that it knew where to go. After a while, they came across a sign for the humans that read Thirty-nine Mile Mountain, a peak composed of volcanic rocks. The air felt as though it were alive when they got closer.

The spirit smiled and then started walking away. Everyone followed it, recognizing quickly that it knew where to go. After a while, they came across a sign for the humans that read Thirty-nine Mile Mountain, a peak composed of volcanic rocks. The air felt as though it were alive when they got closer.

Spring Maiden jogged up to the spirit. "You were around for all of the volcanic activity, weren't you?" she asked quietly. The spirit looked down at her somberly, and nodded. She could see a deep pain in its eyes.

"It was a scary time, huh?" she said, putting her hand on its hand. Again, the spirit nodded, lifting its head to look up at the peak. Spring Maiden knew that those significant and powerful events were traumatic for the forest spirit because it had had no control over it, and had had very little power to save the plantlife. Not much survived after large-scale eruptions. She wondered if Mother Nature caused events like that just to watch the forest spirit suffer, along with every other living thing.

The spirit very gently squeezed her hand, pulling her out of her thoughts. She looked up at it, and they smiled at each other. It then stopped once they were in the thick of the volcanic rocks. The spirit leaned down and touched a rock, but there was a sudden spark, and it quickly drew back its hand, while disconnecting from

Spring Maiden so she wouldn't get hurt. She moved to stand with Summer Girl.

All of the guardians watched with bated breath while the forest spirit reached down and again attempted to touch the rock. It sparked again, crackling this time. The forest spirit shook its hand from being shocked. It frowned in concentration, working out a way to safely grab the rock. After a minute, it put its palm out face-down and flat, and placed it on the rock without it sparking.

Spring Maiden looked on with narrowed eyes. She thought she could see the spirit's arm shaking, like the rock it had its hand on was vibrating. No one moved as they waited for something to happen, and even the forest spirit seemed uncertain of what to do next. Suddenly, Spring Maiden gasped sharply, quickly putting a hand over her mouth in shock.

"What? What is it?" Summer Girl mumbled, leaning in toward her.

"Look at the spirit's hand," Spring Maiden whispered, pointing.

Summer Girl blinked, and looked where Spring Maiden was pointing. When she saw what Spring Maiden was talking about she gasped as well. "Its hand is turning pitch black," she breathed.

The boys moved in closer behind the girls to get a better view. "Wow," Autumn Boy muttered.

"Is that a good thing?" Winter Child asked lowly. "Should we intervene?"

Spring Maiden quickly shook her head. "No. This needs to happen."

The blackness went up the forest spirit's arm, then spread out across the rest of its body, resembling water pooling into a contained, dry area. By now, all of its body was shaking. When everything was finished, the forest spirit no longer looked like an elk centaur, complete with fur and antlers. Its fur and antlers were now as black as the darkest of nights. Its silver eyes shone brightly against the black. The spirit straightened up, leaving the rock on the ground. It examined its hands closely, pulling back the fur to see if the skin was a different color. It wasn't.

No one spoke right away. But then Spring Maiden spoke up, "Do you have any powers?"

The spirit glanced at her, then focused on a spot a few feet away. It stared at it momentarily, then clapped its hands together. This time, there was a crackling sound instead of a clapping sound. It then thrust its hands open, toward the spot it was staring at, and a tuft of black grass sprouted.

Everyone frowned, including the forest spirit, not too pleased with that result.

"Is it just a matter of relearning your powers?" Summer Girl asked, raising her eyes to the spirit.

The forest spirit shrugged, obviously frustrated.

"Let's see what happens when you go into a healthier, grassier area," suggested Spring Maiden.

Reluctantly, the spirit headed away from the peak, the grass getting taller until it was at its knees. It stopped near a bush and clapped its hands again, thrusting them open toward the bush. Tall, black grass sprang up, nearly blocking the bush from view. They all watched a moment, wondering if something else would happen. Soon, Autumn Boy noticed that the bush seemed to be growing in size, while also turning black.

"Guys, look at how it's changing," he said. The girls nodded.

"I'm not so sure that's a good thing," Winter Child commented.

Summer Girl glanced back at him, then looked at Spring Maiden. "Maybe you should go touch it to see what your powers can do," she said.

Spring Maiden looked at her, incredulous. "Are you sure that's a good idea?" Summer Girl shrugged. "No, I'm not. But it's obvious that you two had shared similar powers and fed off of each other. I think that you guys can still do great things together."

"Sometimes your optimism is annoying," Spring Maiden said, sighing.

Summer Girl chuckled. "Yeah, I know. Here, give me the Guardian Flower before you go over there," she said, holding out her hand for the flower.

Spring Maiden handed it over after some hesitation. "If something bad happens to me, I'm blaming you," she said, walking toward the still-growing bush. "This thing better not eat me."

"You'll be fine," Summer Girl called to her. "You have three other guardians here who have your back in case things go wrong."

Spring Maiden sighed, shaking her head as she looked at the bush that was at eye level now. She studied the bush, gathering her courage to touch it. Finally, she reached out and touched the grass first. Nothing happened. She then touched a leaf on the bush, which sparked. She yanked her hand back, hissing. Then she had an idea. She simultaneously and firmly grabbed a branch of the bush and a handful of the grass.

She focused her energy on the two spots she was

holding, starting with surprise as white spread out from her hands and out over the grass and the bush. When both were completely white, like a blank page, vibrant green began to appear, making its way back toward Spring Maiden's hands. When it got to her hands, there was a soft pop, and the bush went completely back to its original coloring and size.

She stepped back to look at what she'd done. The others cheered and rushed over to her. The forest spirit came up behind her, resting its hands on her shoulders and smiling proudly down at her.

Things didn't seem so hopeless anymore.

As they were celebrating, there came a sudden snapping sound from nearby. The forest spirit looked over, and was surprised to see the spirit guardian, Skylar, who had a centaur form like the forest spirit, but the lower half was part white horse while the upper torso was part humanoid wolf.

"Forest spirit," Skylar spoke telepathically, coming toward them. "I need your help again."

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## Ancient wisdom in contemporary times

by Patricia J. Turner

Twenty-five years ago I returned to college at The University of California to study Marine Science. I had two small children and had just gone through some terrible times during a difficult divorce. My husband had clinical depression and refused any help for it. One of my sons had what is known as bi-polar disorder and also had gone through having seven vertebrae fused due to a genetic malformation known as congenital kyphosis. I felt as though I was hanging on by my fingernails trying to juggle two jobs, returning to school, and still remaining completely present for my wonderful children.

### The greatest distance in the existence of man is from his head to his heart.

Angaangaq, Kallallit Eskimo Shaman of Greenland

While studying marine science I also took many anthropology courses and found myself fascinated with ancient cultures of the world. I had an opportunity to spend one week per year with the Huichol people of Mexico. They are the only indigenous people of Mexico that were never conquered by the Spaniards. They only ventured out of the Sierra Madres about 40 years ago so their culture is very much intact. I found these beautiful people with so much joy in their hearts. They have no running water, no amenities that we enjoy in western culture. They have something much more valuable, they have a deep connection to the earth, to circular rather than linear thinking. They are one with all that is.

Those of us who grew up in this culture of consumption, taking what we really don't even need (For example: The United States has around 5 percent of the World's Population and yet we use around 25 percent of the World's fossil fuels.) are burdened with stress, disconnection, and often depression.

After working for more than 15 years as a marine scientist, I realized that science, while useful, was really not the answer to

our plague of depression, helping to heal our planet, and our souls. I began a non-profit dedicated to the conservation of indigenous cultures, protection of their territories, and preservation of their wisdom. Through this work I have found incredible joy, peace in my heart and also watched people in my own culture who are suffering emotionally and spiritually find such vast relief.

One of the elders I have worked with is a Kallallit Eskimo Shaman of Greenland named Angaangaq.

Angaangaq's greatest goal today is what he calls melting the ice in the heart of man. He teaches, "The greatest distance in the existence of man is not from here to there, nor there to here. The greatest distance in the existence of man is from his head to his heart. Until we learn to bridge that distance we will never know how to soar as the eagle and know our own immensity within."

Since retiring from Marine Science, I have experienced the most profound and healing connections. I had a man whom I had known 40 years ago in school and hadn't seen in years. He was suffering deeply from the trauma of having his only child die from suicide. He was angry, disconnected and unable to sit through a conversation. I shared a ceremony taught to me by one of my indigenous teachers. It was all about shedding our grief, our resentments and our regrets. When he returned to Texas where he lives, I had friends of his whom I had never met calling to ask what I did to help him. He now adds ceremony to his life and is joyful again. When we return to creating ceremonies for the earth, life, and ourselves, we begin to regain our joy, our connection, and our realization that we are one with all that is. This is not an intellectual realization but one that touches our emotions and our very souls.

The Sacred Earth Foundation offers opportunities to return to Mother Earth through ceremonies with indigenous elders, through sweat lodges, programs of initiations and so much more. We welcome you to give it a try and melt the ice in your heart. [www.sacredearthfound.org](http://www.sacredearthfound.org)

See ad on page 31 for more info about the Music & Magic in the Mountains event.

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Remnants of mining remind us of Colorado's rich mining heritage and its impact on the building of a nation. Original watercolor by Steven W. Veatch.

## Colorado mountain memories

by Steven Wade Veatch

While headed for the California Gold Rush of 1849, George Giggey (who was my great-great-grandfather) first made his way through the mountainous and untamed wilderness of what would later become Colorado. He was among a group of young men who were determined to make a new life, fortune, and future in the American West. After working in the California gold-fields he turned his attention to Colorado, where he prospected for gold for a while and then returned to the East.

In 1865 George Giggey returned to Colorado with his family of 10 children and built a homestead in the wilderness near what would become, in just a few years, the town of Caribou. The town developed around the Caribou silver mine that was discovered by Sam Conger in 1868. George Lytle, one of Conger's partners, was from British Columbia and named the mine after his caribou hunting trips in Canada. By 1870 the Caribou Mine was in full production and was shipping ore down Coon Trail to the nearby settlement of Nederland for processing.

By 1872 the frontier town of Caribou built a much needed schoolhouse. Three of George Giggey's boys attended Caribou's first school session: They were George Leon (my great-grandfather) who was 14 years old; Adelbert, age 7; and Charley who was only 6 years old. I can feel the boy's excitement when they took their seats in the one-room schoolhouse with new furniture, blackboards, maps, globes, and a new teacher — Miss Hannah Spaulding.

During the winter of that first school year in 1872, Caribou's children braved fierce winter storms going to school. Brutal winter blizzards and high snowdrifts made this the first and last winter session of school in Caribou. From that time forward, school was held only in the summer months. A miner once told Miss Spaulding that he did not know how long winter lasts in Caribou because he had only been there three years!

To help the schoolhouse resist the powerful winds that constantly blew at Caribou's high elevation, an entire year's supply of fire wood was stacked neatly against the east side of the building, with long poles propped up against the same end for added support. Although this worked against the angry Caribou winds, the town did not plan for a range bull that wandered over one summer day to the school and knocked down a support pole while scratching its back. Without the pole supporting the schoolhouse, a violent gust of wind raised and violently turned the school on its foundation.

This was not the only strange occurrence that happened at the school. Several cows wandered into town one day looking for salt to lick; instead of salt they found some untended dynamite and ate that — it must have tasted really good. Unfortunately, the cows then wandered over by the schoolhouse where they bloated up and died — scaring the students. I can imagine the Giggey brothers looking out of the schoolhouse window at this sight.

George Leon Giggey finished what he thought was enough school, and decided to remain in this beautiful land of dark pines and blue sky. In 1881 he married Nancy Chambers, who grew up in the nearby Gold Hill Mining District. She was one of the first children born

in Gold Hill. Life was not easy in the mining camps, and mortality was high. Nancy died in 1894. Soon George Leon Giggey fell in love with and married Mary Nelson. He started a second family at the old Giggey ranch near Caribou that included my grandfather, Roland, his brother George, a sister, Mary, and another sister Alice who died at birth.

George Leon Giggey moved his second family from the old Giggey ranch to Nederland in 1908 so that my grandfather and his brother and sister could attend school. George Leon Giggey built the family house in Nederland, hauling the large timbers down from the mountains with his draft horses. He built a large barn behind the house where he kept horses, a cow, and my grandfather's burrow, Becky. He also built several other out buildings.

By this point in time, Nederland was a thriving trading town for many of the area mines. Nederland's name came from Dutch investors that at one time owned the Caribou Mine and organized the "Mining Company Nederland of the Hague." The Dutch owners built a large mill in Nederland, which treated silver ore hauled in from Caribou. Nederland was also on the edge of a tungsten deposit. Sam Conger, the same prospector who had earlier discovered the Caribou silver mine, developed the tungsten district.

Tungsten, with the highest melting point of all metals, is an important industrial element. Ferberite is the chief tungsten ore mineral of the Nederland tungsten district, and ranges from massive deposits to well-developed, jet-black crystals in veins that follow area faults.

The veins lie in a narrow zone that begins about four miles west of Boulder and extends west-southwest for 10 miles to Nederland. The tungsten belt grades into gold telluride deposits. Nederland also marks the north end of the Colorado Mineral Belt, a 50-mile wide zone that extends to the southwestern part of the state. This mineral belt contains most of the precious metal deposits in Colorado.

Nederland experienced quite a boom when the price of tungsten soared in 1900 and had another boom during World War I because of the greater demand for tungsten steels. Tungsten was now vital to the country. The Primos Mining and Milling Company and the Wolf Tongue Mining Company became the two major tungsten mining companies in the area. The Wolf Tongue Mining Company consolidated many of the mines around Nederland and also bought the old Caribou Mill in Nederland. The name, Wolf Tongue, came from the modified and abbreviated spelling of wolframite (a tungsten mineral) and tungsten.

My grandfather, Roland, grew up in Nederland during these boom times and watched the town grow from 300 to over 3,000 people. He saw the start of the construction of the Barker Dam and Reservoir in 1907 and the completion of the project in 1910. The Central Colorado Power Company constructed the dam to power a hydroelectric plant. In the winter, my grandfather and his friends would play on the solid ice that covered the reservoir. Several times they rigged a sail on their sled that would catch the howling winter winds that moved them

continued on next page

over the wind-swept ice.

My grandfather and his brother had many adventures in the early days of Nederland. In the summer and fall my grandfather and his brother would take off into the woods to cut aspen trees and haul them into town where they sold them as firewood. A local bakery preferred to burn aspen logs in the ovens and remained a steady customer for the two boys. One day, the boys had to look inside, and were duty-bound to grab a stick of dynamite from the shed and then set it off in a clearing. A loud blast knocked over several trees and left a ringing in their ears. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

The two brothers also liked to take turns riding "Becky" the burrow as they explored the area mining camps. My grandfather used to tell the story of visiting an English prospector who lived in a tent with a wooden floor. The tent was well furnished and was heated with a pot-bellied stove in the winter. The Englishman, always neatly dressed, enjoyed visiting with my grandfather in those early days. The English prospect told my grandfather about England and other exotic places. The Englishman had a number of books on history, literature, and other subjects. He took time to tell my grandfather about the books and how important they were — that they could truly be transformative. I believe this was the point in time that sparked my grandfather's quest of life-long learning.

Although many things have changed, some things remain the same.

My grandfather and his friends liked to spend a lot of time at the Tanner Brother's grocery store looking everything over. One day in 1910, while at the grocery store, they heard a large commotion in the street. When they ran outside to investigate they saw a Stanley Steamer coming up Main Street. Nothing like this had ever been seen before: It was an automobile that ran on steam.

Prosperity in Nederland brought the extraordinary Fatty Mills movie theater to Nederland. N.M. "Fatty" Mills left the mining town of Eldora after the gold ore began to play out and came to Nederland in 1909. Fatty started his theater in a white frame building on Main Street. Beautiful mountain scenes were painted on the walls on either side of the sloping floor. At the end of each show a painted curtain slowly lowered over the screen. The theater was a busy place; Fatty ran two shows each night and two matinees each week. Fatty Mills, who weighed 300 pounds and smoked a corncob pipe, was very popular with the kids of Nederland. My grandfather turned the crank on the projector and received five cents for each performance, so he got to see the movies for free and make some valuable money at the time. Mills remained in business until his death 20 years later.

The deadly flu epidemic gripped Nederland in 1917. My grandfather's brother George came home from work not feeling well and made it as far as the couch. He died that night. The mountain winds wept that night, as did my grandfather. George never had a chance to make it to Nederland's Antlers Hotel, which had been converted to a hospital to help the stricken citizens of Nederland recover. George died with seven dollars in his wallet. My grandfather carried them in his wallet for the rest of his life.

In 1919 Mary Nelson Giggey and her two children moved to Boulder where my grandfather went to the Boulder Business College. His father, George Leon Giggey, remained for a while in Nederland as a teamster and played the fiddle on Saturday nights at the local dances. Now these dances were big affairs, and brought men and women from not only the town but surrounding mining camps, ranches, and homesteads. George Leon Giggey later left Nederland and went to Dove Creek, Colorado where he took up ranching and started another family.

My grandfather later moved to Colorado Springs, at the foot of Pikes Peak, and worked for Spencer Penrose at the Broadmoor Hotel as his private secretary, and remained working at the hotel until he retired in 1965. Spencer Penrose made his first fortune in Cripple Creek's gold and then another fabulous fortune from Bingham Canyon's copper. My grandfather often said he had the best job in the United States. My grandfather lived an epic life and moved in rarefied circles.

In the seasons that followed my grandfather returned to Nederland many times to see how the town had changed from his boyhood days. He first brought my mother to Nederland several times, sharing his many memories with her. When my mother went to Nederland as a young girl she enjoyed the Sunday horse shows at the Lazy VV cattle ranch. She would sit in the bleachers and watch Zarife, a purebred Arabian horse from Egypt perform. The Lazy W Cattle ranch held these entertaining horse shows for a long time.

In his later years my grandfather passed down his Nederland memories to his two grandchildren Steven and Greg Veatch. On each trip through Boulder Canyon on the way to Nederland he always pointed out the "Perfect Tree" to his grandchildren. The "Perfect Tree" was an 80-foot tall blue spruce that had perfect symmetry. My grandfather had watched the tree since he was a boy, and seeing the tree each time brought back many memories of his early days in the mountains and the town of Nederland. Today the "Perfect Tree" is gone, but I still remember it clearly and the warm, untroubled trips with my grandfather.

Today, only an old cabin and two stone foundations remain at the Caribou town site where the first generation of Colorado Giggey children went to school. One foundation is the Donnelly general store. The other stone foundation is Werley's saloon that was once complete with pool tables, beer, and fights. Although many things have changed, some things remain the same.

Mining and exploratory work continues at Caribou just as it did over 130 years ago. In fact, Tom Hendricks, who has been working the Caribou property, has sold out to Calais Resources, a gold and silver mining firm headquartered in British Columbia.

In Nederland, there is an empty spot on the street today where my grandfather's home once stood. It burned down in a fire a few years ago. Fortunately, one of my great-grandfather's buildings was removed in the early 1940s. It was moved near Divide, Colorado to a fishing club called Ute Lakes. Over the years other rooms were added to it. Today this old out building has been remodeled and is the kitchen to my cabin.

But there is more going on in Nederland than just reminiscing. The town is once again starting to bustle because of tourism and people moving into the area that desire to live in a small mountain community. Although my family is gone from this area, I think they can be proud of the part they played in the settlement of the American West.

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# Dancing in the wind

## The 2015 Great Divide Kite Flight

by David Martinek  
photos by Jeff Hansen

Go fly a kite and tie your troubles to the tail  
They'll be blown away by a merry gale,  
Go fly a kite and toss your worries to the wind  
And they won't come back, they'll be too chagrined.

**"Go Fly a Kite" is a song by Johnny Burke, sung by Bing Crosby in the 1939 movie "The Star Maker"**



Paisley rainbows of red, green, and blue, a butterfly, an eagle, a shark, the space shuttle, an airplane with long streamers all dipping and dancing in the morning wind tethered by a thin string grasped tightly by the little hands of a smiling child. That's the image and the joy the Great Divide Kite Flight is meant to create as children and parents gather each year on the hill by the Hayden Divide Loop Trail in Divide to do a simple but fun thing — go fly a kite.

The wind was blowing strong on Saturday, August 22nd, when the 2015 version of the Great Divide Kite Flight, sponsored by the Divide Chamber of Commerce, took to the air again from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the end of the day, over 125 kites were given out to children ages three to teenagers. In addition, some families brought their own kites (the butterflies, eagles and sharks, for example) and other folks just came to watch. At times the wind was too blustery, and other times it would die down. But for the most part of the day, the air blew just right and the sky was full of colorful sails.

Divide Chamber members, Lee Taylor of Edward Jones, Tod Tobiasson with Creative Edge Building Consultants, and Dave Martinek with Flood Realty, tended the booth, gave out kites, fixed them when they broke, and chased them down when they crashed. The kites were donated by Edward Jones, as they have been each year for over 11 flights. Snacks, drinks and a warm, friendly smile were available for all the kids.

This year, the Kite Flight was again held in conjunction with the Divide-Wide Yard sale which took place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. over in the parking lot of the Summit Elementary School. TCRAS, the no-kill dog shelter in Divide, held two events the same morning; a 5K race along the Hayden Divide trail, and later a dog walk around Meadow Park. (See sidebar for winners.) Dan Heimerdinger introduced Boy Scout Troop 230 Color Guard and Sheriff Ensinger



Dave Martinek tends the tent while Lee Taylor "jump-starts" a kite for a young participant.



TCRAS volunteers at the Divide-Wide Yard Sale.

signaled the start of the race and Marci Nickelburg sang the National Anthem.

In earlier years, the Great Divide Kite Flight was held in March as part of a county celebration of trails day. But the event was often marred by cold weather, a spring snow storm. So it was moved to the first Saturday after school starts in August to capitalize on the good weather and hopefully a strong wind.

All of that came together on Saturday morning, August 22. The Great Divide Kite Flight is a free event for elementary school-aged children, a celebration at the end of summer — the chamber's way of giving something back to the Divide Community — a time for dancing in the wind.

5K Run Winners by age group:		
<b>Male Age Group 1-14</b> David Pedroza, First Place David Cotton, Second Place Colton Hudson, Third Place	Nick Moscoso, Second Place	
<b>Female Age Group 20-29</b> Amy Pendergraft, First Place Catherine Schulz, Second Place Katie L. Gilfoil, Third Place	<b>Female Age Group 30-39</b> Kimberly Porter, First Place Erin Snyder, Second Place	
	<b>Male Age Group 40-49</b> Richard Kenyon, First Place	
<b>Male Age Group 30-39</b> Patrick Perry, First Place	<b>Female Age Group 40-49</b> Genna Cohen, First Place Beatrice Givens, Second Place	<b>Male Age Group 50-59</b> Dennis Lefevre, First Place Matthew Archuleta, Second Place
	<b>Female Age Group 50-59</b> Jen Lefevre, First Place Amy McManigle, Second Place	
	<b>Female Age Group 60-69</b> Linda Gardner, First Place	

## No secrets to investment success

Many people look for the "secrets" to investment success. Is it timing the market just right? Is it finding those hot stocks or getting in on the "ground floor" of the next big thing? Actually, these types of moves have little relevance to the vast majority of investors — even the most successful ones. So let's take a look at some steps you can take that can be effective in helping you work toward your financial goals.

### It's time in the market, not market timing.

Some investors think they can succeed at "market timing" meaning buying when the price is low and selling when the price is high. This would indeed be a good strategy if they could predict highs and lows. No one can accurately forecast these peaks and valleys, though. So, instead of ducking in and out of the market in a vain attempt to catch the highs and lows, simply stay invested. The more time you spend in the market, the lesser the impact you're likely to feel from short-term price swings. If you're always invested, you'll always be in a position to benefit from the next market rally.

### It's "buy and hold", not "buy and sell."

Even if you aren't trying to time the market, you may be tempted to buy and sell frequently as you look for new and better opportunities. Yet, this constant buying and selling can be costly. Frequent trading, with all the additions and subtractions from your portfolio, can make it hard for you to follow a consistent, unified investment strategy. You're better off purchasing quality investments and holding them for the long term, until either your needs change or the investments themselves no longer possess the same attributes they did when you purchased them.

### It's building a strong foundation, not getting in on the "ground floor."

Many people regret not being one of the initial investors of a company that has done spectacularly well. But most new companies don't achieve anywhere near that level of success. So, instead of looking for the next big thing on the "ground floor," try to build a strong "foundation" consisting of a mix of quality investments suitable for your risk tolerance, goals and time horizon. This type of investing may not sound glamorous, but a strong foundation is better equipped than a possibly shaky ground floor to withstand the shifting winds of market forces.

### It's cool-headed thinking, not chasing "hot stocks".

If you browse the internet or watch one of the investment shows on cable television, you are bound to read or hear about "hot" stocks. But by the time the news reaches you, these stocks may already be cooling off. Even more importantly, they might not be right for your needs in the first place. Instead of chasing after hot stocks, which, by their nature, carry a strong emotional component (namely, the desire for quick, big gains), try to coolly and dispassionately analyze your situation to determine which investments are really most appropriate for your goals.

There really aren't any shortcuts to reaching your desired financial destination. But by taking the slow and steady path, you can work toward getting there.

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

## Archery camp thank you

by Kirk and Betty Crawford

We have successfully completed five archery events this summer for the kids and families in Teller County and neighbors. A total of 75 participants enjoyed the 12th annual Archery Camp for Kids in July and 45 people attended the Family Day in August. In addition, we held a family reunion day for a local family as well as two events for Wounded Warriors — the Operation TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) Freedom group.

We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their many ways of making these events enjoyed by all.

- **For monetary donations:** Elks National Foundation, CC&V Gold Mine, Victor Elks 367, Joe & Margie Stevens, the Miles Family, Sam's Club.
- **For food donations:** Sue's Fortune Club, Victor Hotel Restaurant (Matt Wilson and Grace), Gold Camp Bakery.
- **For other donations:** G&S Sports — gift certificate, Claim Jumper — ice, neighbors John & Lisa DeClet, Dave Ysebaert, and Dave Crawford — grasslands for archery golf course, Western Archery (Pagosa Springs) and Ragim Archery — discount on equipment, SoTel EMS — on standby, Cripple Creek Waste Transfer — free bags of trash from camp, Mike Miller — archery

instruction, Bella Skottegaard and her mom Victoria, Tanya Copley, and Mike Miller — helping with registration at four events, parents and grandparents who attended — helping with all the kids.

- **Publicity:** Ute Country News, Pikes Peak Courier, The Mountain Jackpot.
- **Work Parties:** Bruce and Jean Beckman, Tanya Copley, William Snare, Cody Hardt, Judy Brennan, David Wuellner, Sarah Wuellner, Steve Wuellner, Mike Miller.
- **Junior Leaders** (the teenagers who have attended in prior years and now come back to help with the little kids): Jalia Ball, Hunter Copley, Cody Hardt, Brennan Jones, Connor Refka, Sam Skottegaard, Bella Skottegaard, William Snare, David Wuellner.
- **Overall Sponsors and Organizers:** Betty and Kirk Crawford, Tanya and Ralph Copley (also the photographer), Victor Elks 367.

Many of the kids say this is the "best event of the summer" or "the most fun I have had in my whole life" or "I can't wait until next year". We love this feedback, and as you can see — we couldn't do it without all the help mentioned above.

## Children need volunteers to create safe havens

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region is in need of volunteers to facilitate the Supervised Exchange and Parenting Time (SEPT) Program in Divide and Cripple Creek.

The SEPT Program provides an environment that supports safety, accountability and healthy relationships between children and their parents in conflictive custody or domestic violence cases. It is a service that protects children from witnessing parental disputes and keeps them out of the middle of the conflict. Trained volunteers (or facilitators) oversee the transfer of children from one parent to another and supervise visits between children and parents.

Unless special circumstances exist, children generally fare best when they have the emotional support and ongoing involvement of both parents. Ongoing parental involvement fosters positive parent-child relationships and healthy emotional and social development.

Supervised visitation programs keep adult victims of domestic violence safe as well. SEPT is a family-focused service that provides a safe place for parents and children to build positive relationships.

SEPT services in Teller are offered in two locations: Community Partnership Family Resource Center in Divide, and the Aspen Mine Center in Cripple Creek. No special experience is necessary to be a volunteer, all training is provided. Applicants are carefully screened and must be at least 18 with no felony convictions. The SEPT Program provides an excellent opportunity for those who have busy lives but are committed to making a difference in our community.

For more information on becoming a SEPT volunteer visit [casapp.org](http://casapp.org) or call Kelly Peterschmidt at 447-9898 x1033.

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## Rock talk

### The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club's Pebble Pups to speak at Denver show

by Steven Wade Veatch

Nathan and Jerrod Gallup, long-time members of the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club's Pebble Pup program, are slated to speak at the 2015 Denver Gem and Mineral Show. During their presentation, the twin brothers will present their field trip research in a master presentation with the title "After the Eruptions: Mt. St. Helens and Crater Lake (Mt. Mazama)." Their presentation is Saturday, September 18, 2015, at noon. The Gallup brothers will present their work in the speaker's room at the Denver Merchandise Mart as part of the show's educational programming.

This will be the third year that the Pebble Pups will speak at this internationally famous gem and mineral show. The Pebble Pups have created a loyal following, and each year the people attending their presentations have grown to a packed, standing-room-only speaker's room at the show.

Nathan Gallup is 11 years old and is a 5th Grader at Columbine Elementary in Woodland Park. Nathan is an active Pebble Pup with the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club and was recognized as the Rocky Mountain Junior AFMS Rockhound of the Year in 2014. Nathan's articles on minerals are published by "Deposits" magazine and "Ute Country News". Besides rock hounding, Nathan loves video games, reading, and playing piano and bass.

Jerrod Gallup is 11 years old and is a 5th grader at Columbine Elementary in Woodland Park. Jerrod is an active Pebble Pup with the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club and was also recognized as the Rocky Mountain Junior AFMS Rockhound of the Year in 2014. Jerrod's articles on minerals are published by "Deposits" magazine and "Ute Country News". In addition to rock hounding and trail running, Jerrod loves cooking, art, and playing piano and violin.

Be sure to follow the Pebble Pup program on the Web at <http://pebblepups.blogspot.com/>



Nathan Gallup, junior member of the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club and Pebble Pup.



Jerrod Gallup, junior member of the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club and Pebble Pup.



## The Psychic Corner

### Third Eye: chakra for extrasensory perception

by Claudia Brownlie

Many people want to know how to "open" or activate their sixth chakra (the Ajna), which is also referred to as the "Third Eye." In the chakra system, the Third Eye is associated with the color indigo or purple and is often referred to as the avenue to wisdom. The Third Eye — the spiritual eye, the psychic chakra, the chakra of "seeing," the gateway to higher consciousness — is located in the middle of the forehead, a little above and between the eyebrows. This chakra is associated with clairvoyance, out-of-body experiences, visions, and precognition.

Due to its location the sixth chakra is closely associated with the pineal gland; however, as is true for many people, the pineal gland sits there in dormancy and so, then also does one's Third Eye perception abilities.

On a scientific level, this tiny pinecone shaped gland habitually secretes the neurohormone melatonin while we sleep at night.

Many schools of thought believe the pineal gland is a vestigial leftover from a lower evolutionary state. The current scientific understanding is that the pineal gland probably started out as an eye, and that it receives signals from light and our retinas. Different schools of thought differ as to whether it was our only eye which, over time, eventually shrunk into the brain once its perceptive tasks were taken care of by our new set of two eyes, or whether it was a true third eye located in the back of our head which had a unique physical and spiritual connection to previous spiritual and evolutionary states, or both.

Scientific speculation about the pineal gland has been going on for centuries and still continues. Ancient cultural histories are filled with folklore featuring both one-eyed and three-eyed beings of great power, such as Shiva — one of whose main iconographical attributes is a third eye on his forehead — to the savage one-eyed giants known as Cyclops. Theosophists claim that the pineal gland is an ancient clue to spiritual man and is the spiritual engine of our evolution into "embryo gods, beings of consciousness and matter."

French Philosopher Rene Descartes believed the pineal gland to be "the seat of the soul" where mind and body meet. Great yogis and other highly evolved individuals also have direct knowledge of the "power" sitting within the sixth chakra.

We can look to Christian beliefs regarding this chakra, as Jesus also spoke of the spiritual eye: "... when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light... Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness" (Luke 11:34-35). "If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light" (Matthew 6:22).

In Ezekiel 43:1-2: "Afterwards he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh towards the east; and behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east; and His voice was like the noise of many waters; and the earth shined with His glory." Paramahansa Yogananda explained this

passage by writing: "Through the divine eye in the forehead ('the east'), the yogi sails his consciousness into omnipresence, hearing the word or Aum, the divine sound of 'many waters:' the vibrations of light that constitute the sole reality of creation."

So, with all this being said, we could then say that the Third Eye offers us the ability to see what might be, to see potential.

### Working with the sixth chakra to tap into your intuition

As previously stated, the Third Eye is a natural part of every person; it is a very amazing bit of natural evolution that gives us the ability to see the patterns in our life. Here we can tap into our own inner wisdom and help to put our own learning experiences

into perspective. It is through this open-brow chakra that we develop our intuition and receive visual images. This wonderful energy sitting up there between our eyebrows

can be used in many different ways. As example: Seers tap into the energy of their Third Eye to understand hidden connections and answer questions, and Energy workers access it to "feel" the energies around them and can consciously manipulate that energy. For many of us, when we feel empathy for another, we are using our Third Eye to touch and feel the emotions of others. We may not even be aware we are tapping into the power and energy of this chakra, but we are.

### Seeing through your Third Eye – Let the energy flow

Activating the Third Eye can be accomplished through meditation. Mastering the art of meditation will help to activate the pineal gland as well as teaching you how to relax, still all thoughts, and open your mind to all possibilities. Once this is accomplished, clairvoyance can be reached. If you are looking to open and clear your sixth chakra you must clean up the heart as most of the energy moving through the Third Eye comes from the heart. Practicing chakra meditations will help you to open and clear all chakras allowing the energy to flow.

Next month I'll discuss a few techniques you can use to open and develop your extrasensory perception skills using the sixth chakra. See you next month; with love, light, and blessings.

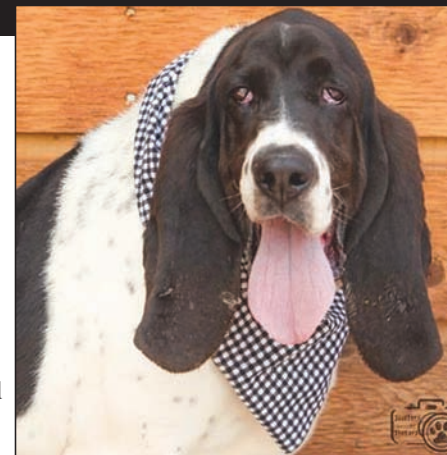
Claudia Brownlie is a Woodland Park, Colorado-based Professional Psychic Intuitive Consultant and certified Life Coach, serving clients locally and world-wide. In-person, telephone, and Skype video chat appointments are available. Claudia also provides classes and lectures, and offers psychic reading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

## Adopt Me

### by Angie Davis of TCRAS

Howdy. I'm Bruno. I'm a 6 year old, neutered Basset Hound mix. I'm a big 'ol boy that would love a nice home to live. I spend a lot of my time with my friend Roxy. I can be a little nervous in my kennel so please give me some time to warm up to you so that we can be friends. I really need a place to call home...maybe you could help me out with that?

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# Birds of the Ute Country

## Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*

by Mary Menz

*Birds that frequent Chaffee, Fremont, Park, and Teller Counties love the variety of scrub oak, pinyon juniper, coniferous forest, and riparian areas found in this part of Colorado. In this column, you'll learn about the common — and not so common — birds of the Ute Country.*

The Steller's Jay is named for zoologist Georg Wilhelm Steller, a German explorer of the Northwest coast. The Latin name *Cyanocitta* refers to the brilliant blue feathers that lay in subtle contrast next to the jay's black feathers. Like the more recognizable species, the Blue Jay, found primarily east of the Rockies, the Steller's Jay has a distinctive crest of feathers on its head that — coupled with its occasional aggressive screams — make the bird appear more fierce than it really is.

It belongs to the Corvidae family, which includes jays, crows, ravens, magpies, and the Clark's Nutcracker. Like other corvids, the Steller's Jay is omnivorous and opportunistic. It will eat berries, nuts, seeds, eggs and nestlings of other birds, and the leftover lunches of hikers or campers.

This relatively tame bird is a feeder favorite in Ute Country. It appears to have an insatiable appetite for nuts, especially peanuts. The Steller's Jay has a thick black bill

that comes in handy cracking nuts from their shells, after which it will cache much of the food to eat months later. Like other corvids, they have great memories and can find up to 85 percent of the caches they've stored, though small mammals may have found them first, or the seeds and nuts may have germinated and are no longer a viable food source.

### A cult of personalities

Many birds can be said to have aggressive personalities. The Steller's Jay uses its coloration, its mob mentality, and its raucous calls to instill fear in other birds.

There are about 18 different subspecies of Steller's Jays throughout their range. Some have lighter, or grayer, plumage. Others have blue streaks on their foreheads. The Steller's Jays that live in the Rockies, however, have unique tiny white feathers above their eyes. Like the "eyespots" on some insects and fish that draw attention away from vulnerable body parts, these little white eyebrows might serve a more important purpose; perhaps to make the Steller's Jay appear more ferocious than it really is. That's not to say that the Steller's Jay is not intimidating.

Steller's Jays will band together in flocks outside of the breeding season and are commonly seen trying to scare off and scold



*The Steller's Jay of the Ute Country (classified as "Adult Interior West" subspecies) sports white forehead marks that mimic furrowed brows and create a fierce looking expression. photo by Mary Menz*

other birds. They will gang up on predators, such as the Cooper's Hawk, to protect their young, yet the Steller's Jay falls prey to the same activity by smaller birds trying to protect their nests from the sometimes belligerent and hungry jay.

In late summer and early fall, the tell-tale "shik, shik, shik" call of mature birds fills the empty spaces of mornings and evenings. The loud and various practice tones and off-key vocalizations of hatch year birds are

practice for them as they learn to mimic the sounds of other animals, including the Red-tailed Hawk, dogs, and even chickens!

### Local banding study confirms published findings

The Steller's Jay has habitat that ranges from Southern Alaska to Central America, but while other birds are migrating north and south during spring and fall, the Steller's Jay simply travels to a lower or higher altitude *IF* it travels anywhere at all.

There is evidence that most groups of Steller's Jays do not migrate with the change of seasons. A study being conducted in the Woodland Park area indicates that at least one of its local populations remains in the area year-round and has an established hierarchical structure to it.



*Steller's Jays love a party at the feeder. photo by Dennis Maloney*

"Steller's Jays are feeder-friendly and habituate to people easily. I've been able to band a good number of birds in the local population — each with a different color band or combinations of colored bands — so that I can tell them apart," said Dave, a master birder and a licensed bird bander with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services. Dave bands Steller's Jays on his property as part of a citizen science project. He also bands migratory birds at spring and fall migration stations in the Colorado Springs area. "Individuals of this species can have unique personalities that become evident after observing them for a while. For example, I know that the bird with a gold band nests closest to my feeders. He and his mate have first priority at the feeder, and the other birds know it. The bonded pair with the next closest nest has second priority at the feeder and so on. This behavior correlates to data found in other studies."

Dave acknowledges that there can be exceptions to this finding, however. "While these populations — and most populations — rarely migrate per se, irruptions can occur. If a food source is missing, flocks may move out of a known territory in search of food."

### A note about bird banding

The U.S. Geological Survey (which oversees the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services) and the Canadian Wildlife Service, along with banding operations in Central America, all share the same database. The process is invaluable for gauging survival and behavior of migratory birds. Whenever a bird is banded or recaptured, it is weighed, measured, sexed, and aged. The oldest known Song Sparrow to be recaptured was more than 11 years old. The oldest known Canada Goose to be recaptured was more than 30 years old.

*Mary Menz is a naturalist and master birder who lives in Ute Country at 9,000'. She first became enamored with nature as a child living in Idaho, where she studied the expedition of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark at an early age. You can reach her at SnowberryBlossom@gmail.com.*

# 6th Annual South Park Plein Air Arts Celebration

by Flip Boettcher

Once again, the Town of Fairplay is hosting the 6th Annual South Park Plein Air Arts Celebration, September 8 to 12, to promote the arts in the community, according to the 2015 celebration prospectus.

Plein-air is a style of painting developed mainly in France in the mid-19th century.

It is characterized by the effects of natural, outdoor daylight and atmosphere in painting a landscape or object in front of the artist in contrast to artificial studio lighting for painting.

Fairplay, established as a mining town in 1859, sits at 10,000 feet in the picturesque Colorado Rocky Mountains. The mountains, the clear air,

remnants and treasurers of the mining and ranching eras, and golden autumn aspen offer the perfect combination of art, lighting, and history for the Plein Air Celebration.

According to Julie Bullock, Special Events and Business Development Coordinator for the Town of Fairplay, 38 artists attended the open air celebration last year and she hopes there will be more artists this year.

Friday night, September 11, is the Artist Reception and Sale with live music by harpist, Maryanne Rozzi at the newly completed Colorado East Bank & Trust on Main Street in Fairplay beginning at 6:30 p.m. The first public viewing and sales of work completed during the week are available for sale.

Saturday, September 12, is the Quick Draw Paint-Out along historic Front Street

and South Park City from 10 a.m. to noon with a live auction, awards ceremony and reception following at 1 p.m. The public is encouraged to watch the artists in action. All artwork from the event will be for sale and on display at the reception until 4 p.m.

The Town of Fairplay retains a small commission on art sales to fund next year's



*Best of Show 2014 by Lorie Merfeld-Baston "Fisherman's Heaven". courtesy Julie Bullock*

event and the rest is given to the artists. Awards given out are: Best of Show, from Town of Fairplay; Award of Excellence, from Plein Air Magazine; Best Overall Artist (as chosen by fellow artists) \$200; Best of Day, \$200; People's Choice, \$250; Quick Draw, \$100, Business Choice Awards, and Patron Awards, according to the prospectus.

A big thank you to all the sponsors: Bartle Lakes, Coyote Creek Studio Arts, Town of Fairplay, Bristlecone View Ranch, and Colorado East Bank & Trust.

For more information and to register, visit the Town of Fairplay website [www.SouthParkArtsCelebration.com](http://www.SouthParkArtsCelebration.com), or contact them at [info@fairplayco.us](mailto:info@fairplayco.us). For more information on Plein Air visit [www.pleinairmagazine.com](http://www.pleinairmagazine.com).



*Pictured at the bike rack location are some of the Monday Night Mountain Bike Riders.*

# MTCC donates bike rack

by Deb Maresca

The Mountain Top Cycling Club was asked to support the City of Woodland Park by buying a bike rack. To commemorate the release of the Woodland Park Non-motorized Plan for public comment, in conjunction with the PPAACG (Pikes Peak Area City Government) Plan, and to show good faith in moving forward with that plan, Mountain Top Cycling Club purchased one bike rack. The city approved the purchase of another bike rack. These racks are more like the preferred style of "High Quality On Street Bicycle Parking Racks" as discussed in the plan.

The bike rack location was approved by Mr. Bill Page of Page Properties. The location was chosen because it is close to the movie theater and Mountain Scoops Ice Cream Parlor. Mountain Top Cycling Club wanted to put it where we had hoped people would ride their bikes to for fun. William Alspach from the City of Woodland Park wanted to get these two new racks installed sooner rather than later so they can be available now for

folks to use. Memorial Park completion date was in the future as is the Aquatic Center. Mountain Top Cycling Club was happy to reply to the City's request for support.

The double loop bike rack is located between Super Shears and Sudsey Puppy in the Golden Hill Square Shopping Center.

*Mountain Top Cycling Club is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to encourage bicycling for health, recreation, sport and transportation; provide bicycle safety; improve bicycle facilities, bicycle-friendly road design and paths; support individuals, organizations and other entities which, in turn, support cycling. If you have any bicycles, (in good condition) bike pumps or cycling equipment that you would like to donate to the club, we currently are assisting students in the Cripple Creek & Victor High School Mountain bike team. Visit [www.mountain-topcyclingclub.com](http://www.mountain-topcyclingclub.com) for more information or call Debbie 719-689-3435.*

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September 19 from 11:00am to 8:00 pm at The Sacred Earth Sanctuary  
633 Valley Rd. Florissant, Co 80816 \$30

Website and Tickets: <http://www.sacredearthfound.org/festival/c21yi>  
Contact: [pati@sacredearthfound.org](mailto:pati@sacredearthfound.org)

# You are invited to attend!

## 3rd Annual Community Health Fair

### Saturday, October 10, 2015 8:30 a.m. – noon

#### A partial list of the free or discounted services being offered include:

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\*Call Teller County Public Health to see if you qualify for a free clinical breast exam and mammogram: **719-687-6416**.

\*For blood testing, remember to fast 12 hours before having blood drawn. (Includes Cholesterol, Triglycerides, HDL/LDL, PSA, TSH (Thyroid))

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## A Mountain Seed: The quiet one

by Jessica Kerr

A phrase often heard in my small town is, “You will see more wildlife here in town than you will outside of it.” This is a fair statement, as I have seen more deer, bears, foxes, raccoons, turkey vultures, skunks, and snakes in town than I ever have on the outskirts or in the wilderness. I have seen many herds of elk near town but more often in the high mountain plains between here and Denver. In fact, the animals in town are so familiar that one could give them names.

There are two main families of deer nearby my house. One lives towards the south and the most notable member is an aggressive old aunt that jumps from behind bushes as a joke to set your heart racing. She has a strong face, much like a buck but softer. Yes, the deer in town hang around enough to become familiar on sight.

The second family of deer is much quieter. They prefer to lounge in the shadow of the trees, sip the cool lake water, and step gracefully. So do most of the deer that call Buena Vista home. The deer in town are comfortable enough with humans to stand not two feet away, stripping a tree of its leaves or stand and watch as children play on the playground. They walk the crosswalks as we would, just not as often. Right now, soft velvet covers both the antlers of bucks and fur just as soft covers the little ones. In Buena Vista, the deer might as well be our neighbors.

Bears are also neighbors. Quite honestly I can say that I have never seen a bear “in the wild”, or outside of town. They remain wild, but they do visit us within the city limits. My high school music teacher had one in his tree once, and I heard it calling for mom. Months later, another ambled down the street at night as I walked my dog. Yet another came calling outside my garden gate last fall, as large as any black bear I’d ever seen. Still another, a cub this time, ran through the RV Park I work at in broad daylight.

Other creatures frequent my small mountain town just as much. Foxes run down my alley. In the morning, vultures gather in a

dead tree a block away from my house, then fly away to find their food. Skunks leave their lovely odor for us to enjoy (and yes, it is a skunk!); raccoons waddle past my car, and garter snakes hide in the rocks of my friend’s driveway.

One might ask me if I just never leave town and that’s why I never see any wildlife outside of town. They might also ask if I’m just too loud or unobservant to notice. I would disagree with all of these arguments. Growing up in these mysterious Rockies, I have learned to respect the stillness, and observe just as I am observed. The only thing is, I am a lot worse at watching than the creatures who inhabit the woods, fields, and rocks are. But there is one who is the greatest at stealth and watching.

There is only one who dwells at high elevation whom I have never seen in town. He has come, she has prowled, but I have not seen them. This animal runs gracefully, never stumbling. A long, elegant tail helps him to balance. Orbs of blueish green adorn her face, focused and intelligent. These creatures call the rocks home, and the quiet washes are their hunting grounds. Cattle, deer, rabbits...all quietly disappear to feed this animal. She is beautiful, yet hauntingly dangerous. His claws and teeth are as sharp as knives, and his fur is his sandstone and granite camouflage. What is this creature, as mysterious as el chupacabra but 50 times as real? We call them mountain lions.

Sleeping Indian is the mountain to the east of Buena Vista that looks like the profile view of someone laying down, asleep. It is a part of the Mosquito Range, made dry by the rain shadow that covers this part of the Arkansas Valley, made rocky by erosion and volcanic activity. It’s a favorite hiking place for locals and tourists alike. It is decorated with many trails. The Barbara Whipple trail runs along here, as do the Broken Boyfriend, and the Spaghetti Loop trails. There are plenty of animals on this side of the valley, including raccoons, owls, hawks, ground squirrels,



deer, and some snakes. It is a very nice place to get some exercise, breathe some fresh air, see some animals, and enjoy the good view. I love going up on Sleeping Indian.

Last summer, a friend and I wanted to take a hike and see some old, familiar spots on this mountain. There was one spot in particular that Zakk wanted to show me, a spot he and his childhood best friend had discovered years ago. We climbed, and we ran, and we climbed again, taking the mountain one switchback at a time. We veered off the beaten path onto one less trod, and continued our ascent.

Soon came the time to disembark from the trail and head up the rocks towards Zakk’s childhood fort. The ground was slippery, covered in loose shale and sandstone, all jagged pieces no bigger than half a slice of toast. The trees that grew sparsely on the rocks were all low pinon pines, and their number decreased as we climbed to an outcrop of rock. In the lead, I wanted to be sure we wouldn’t be some animal’s surprise guest before we surmounted the boulders. As a rocky mountain native, I have learned that it is wise to show caution.

I paused. Up ahead, 10 or 15 feet ahead of me, was the top of the outcropping. Large rocks of sandstone, smoothed by the caress of the wind, littered the top. One overshadowed half of the lower ones, creating a nice

shady spot. At the top, on one of the nearer rocks, sat a cute little ground squirrel; his right side facing me. Suddenly, his head jerked unnaturally to the right. It was then that I realized that this cute little ground squirrel was not a cute little ground squirrel. I was staring at the back of a mountain lion’s head.

The cat’s ear had twitched — it wasn’t a ground squirrel. Attached to that black-tipped ear were a tawny head, tawny shoulders, and a tawny tail, with a black tip on it, too. In her lazy afternoon napping, she must not have heard us coming.

“Turn around, and get back to the trail as quickly as you can. Do not run! Be quiet.” I’m surprised I even got that much of a whisper out of my panicking lungs. Zakk turned in front of me and began sliding down the hill. I followed, slipping on the loose ground. Down the hill we plunged, ever so loudly. So much for being quiet.

Back on the trail, I glanced behind my shoulder. I did not see any tawny face or green eyes peering at me from the trees. But I’m sure she was watching us, and I’m sure she would return to her nap soon. Though it makes a good story and grants me laughs now, I don’t think I had ever been that scared. It will be a long time before I let my guard down like that again.

## 2015 shooting range grant awardees

Colorado Parks and Wildlife announces more than \$440,000 in shooting and archery range grants to 14 ranges across Colorado. The grants help develop new ranges, upgrade existing ones, greatly expanded recreational shooting opportunities, and open up new facilities for youth education and shooting competitions.

Among the awardees announced by CPW’s Director, Bob Broscheid, are projects to start the design and engineering of a new range on Forest Service land near Idaho Springs, continued development of a major range close to Sterling, and expansion of the Conejos County Shooting Range, near Alamosa, to include an archery facility.

“Colorado’s Shooting Range Grant Program is one of the largest in the country,” said Broscheid. “Almost every range awarded funding has a major youth education component to it, which is an important priority for CPW. Our safe range program represents a significant investment of agency resources into the future of recreational shooting, education and hunting in the state.”

Partners in the projects include local gun clubs, county and town governments, private landowners, and federal agencies.

Overall, local funding and volunteer work from project partners leverages CPW funds and covers approximately 35 percent of project costs.

CPW’s Northeast Region Manager, Steve Yamashita, emphasized that “starting work at the Devil’s Nose site near Idaho Springs is a major step forward to address conflicts and safety concerns on public lands near the Denver metro area

and the Front Range. We need more sites like Devil’s Nose, a safe and organized option for recreational shooters.

Shooting Range Grant Program Coordinator at CPW, Jim Guthrie, noted that the projects awarded funding this year expand shooting opportunities in several ways. “New ranges are obviously what get the most attention, but that’s not the only way projects build range capacity in the state. The Grand Junction Trap Club project, for example, will realign its trap fields to allow more usage, and the Rio Grande Shooting Range project will rebuild berms so the handgun and rifle ranges can be used safely at the same time.”

Since 2009, the Shooting Range Grant Program has awarded more than \$2.8 million to nearly 70 ranges across Colorado. Combined with local matching funds, that represents more than \$4 million invested in shooting range over that time.

Funding for the competitive grant program comes from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Hunter Education and Wildlife Restoration Programs, and from Colorado Parks and Wildlife’s hunting and fishing license revenue. The program helps pay for berms, backstops, fencing, shooting benches and covers for firing lines, and other range components.

### 2015 Shooting Range Grants Funding Awards

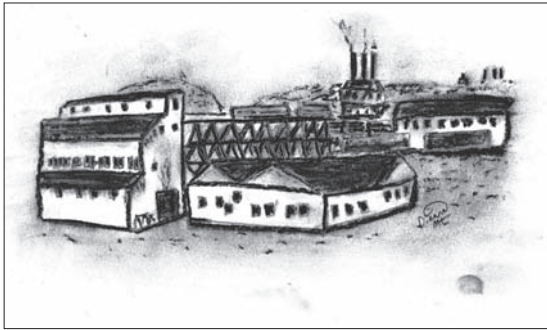
- Columbine Bowmen, Salida, — Archery targets, storage shed - \$12,500
- Conejos County Shooting Range — New archery range - \$28,400
- Devils Nose, Clear Creek County — Planning, design, access road for new

- range - \$30,000
- Gold Camp Shooting Sports Center, Teller County — Cover for 100-yard range firing line - \$35,000
- Grand Junction Trap Club — Realign three trap/skeet fields - \$60,000
- Julesburg Shooting Range - New berms, shooting benches, shade shelters - \$7,100
- Lake County Shooting Range, Leadville - Shooting benches, shelters, parking, access road - \$38,000
- Logan County Shooting Range, Sterling - New rifle, handgun, and archery ranges, trap field - \$72,500
- Montrose Rod and Gun Club — Electrical upgrades - \$25,000
- Pikes Peak Gun Club, Colorado Springs — Vault toilet - \$34,500
- Rio Grande Shooting Range — Targets, stands, berms - \$31,000
- Sangre Shooting Sports Club, Westcliffe — Electrical upgrades - \$34,200
- SOAR, Dotsero — Two new shooting lanes and backstops, shade shelter - \$20,000
- Stengel Range, Hotchkiss — Vault toilet - \$15,000

CPW is an enterprise agency, relying primarily on license sales, state parks fees and registration fees to support its operations, including: 42 state parks and more than 350 wildlife areas covering approximately 900,000 acres, management of fishing and hunting, wildlife watching, camping, motorized and non-motorized trails, boating and outdoor education. CPW’s work contributes approximately \$6 billion in total economic impact annually throughout Colorado.

## Independence Mine

Artwork by Dianna Hokenstad-Anderson



*Independence Mine and Mill were owned by Winfield Scott Stratton. It operated from 1893 to 1899 and produced 200,000 ounces of gold. It was located on the south side of Battle Mountain near Cripple Creek. Stratton staked two claims on July 4th, 1891 which were the Independence and the Washington. In 1901, Stratton sold the Independence for \$11 million.*

### Artist Bio

Dianna Hokenstad-Anderson is an artist that likes to meddle in different mediums, from charcoal, stained glass, pottery, to chalk. When she is not working on art she is playing in the great outdoors searching for gold, and gems. She has five children who are usually with her on her many adventures. Dianna has been playing in the dirt, with a pan and shovel since she was one years old. Her family has had a few gold claims around Colorado, and being a 5th generation CO native she has a rich family history here.

## CC&V highlights treasures from below with two events

by David Martinek

The Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V) sponsored two events in July and August, in conjunction with their visitors’ center at 371 E. Bennett Avenue in Cripple Creek, by partnering with local community organizations to highlight the geology of the region, and the minerals and fossils revealed. Both events were free to the public.

On Saturday, July 25, the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds presented a table display and informational booth outside the mining company’s visitors’ center in Cripple Creek. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. volunteers engaged visitors and passers-by with stories of how volcanic activity in the past has laid the geology that created both the Florissant Fossil Beds and the Cripple Creek and Victor gold mining district — the World’s Greatest Gold Camp.

By all estimates, over 100 people stopped by the display to talk with the volunteers. Many also came into CC&V’s Visitors’ Center to view examples of gold ore, see the rich wall presentations, learn more about modern mining operations, as well as the deep mining history in the district.

“CC&V is always looking for ways to partner with the

community and inform local residents and tourists alike of the unique mining heritage that exists here,” said Brad Poulson, communications coordinator for CC&V. Jeff Proper, President of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, concurred with Poulson.

“Even among Teller County residents the national monument is not well known. We really enjoy the opportunity CC&V provided for us to engage visitors and the community, and hope to make this a regular occurrence. CC&V made a sizeable donation to the Friends for this event which enabled The Friends to purchase a new canopy, banner, and promotional materials, which will continue to serve us at numerous venues in the future. We hope people will visit our web site (www.fossilbeds.org) and learn more about the Friends, the national monument and all the activities we hold. We also hope to be able to partner with CC&V again in the fall for a similar event”.

The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to assisting the National Park Service in preserving, protecting, and interpreting the natural and historical resources of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The Friends’ primary mission is to raise funds and provide assistance to projects that preserve the fossils of Florissant, as well as to organize and promote programs and activities that support the Monument’s educational, conservation, and scientific research objectives. The Friends accomplish their goals through partnerships with a variety of local and regional organizations, including CC&V.

Later, on Saturday, August 8, CC&V sponsored “Exploration Day” outside the Visitors’ Center, featuring Professor Steven Veatch, who teaches earth science classes accredited by the Colorado School of Mines and Emporia State University. Veatch was joined by the Pike Peak Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars.

An informational booth was available during the day which displayed a variety of minerals and fossils inviting any who would stop by to learn a little more about the geology of the gold district and the region. It was an experiential day that included learning about local prospecting methods



*Professor Steven Veatch, the Pikes Peak Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars presented an informational booth outside CC&V’s visitors’ center which featured a variety of minerals and fossils and invited folks to learn about local prospecting methods, how to use a digital microscope and the geology of the region. People could also bring in there rocks and minerals for identification. photo by Brad Poulson*

and locations, using a digital microscope, and studying fossils. Folks were also encouraged to bring their rocks and minerals for identification.

The Pikes Peak Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars are active youth groups supported by two non-profit organizations: The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society and the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club. In addition to exploring the hands-on fun of rock, mineral, and fossil collecting in the field, the group of elementary and teenaged students (about 40 youth) pursue a rigorous curriculum — applying the scientific method, performing research, publishing articles, and working with professional organizations. The students attend monthly meetings, go on digs, visit museums, and explore the geology around the state to broaden their experience and accumulate data.

Geological marvels abound in the Pikes Peak region, as well as the fossil remains from eons ago. Scientists from around the world journey to Colorado to study our state’s unique natural assets. The Cripple Creek & Victor Mining Company welcomes the opportunity to sponsor organizations which highlight these resources.



*Over a 100 people stopped by the Friends of the Fossil Bed’s table top display on the sidewalk outside CC&V’s visitors’ center to talk with volunteers about the geology that created both the Florissant Fossil Beds and the Cripple Creek and Victor gold mining district. photo by David Martinek*

## Rampart Library news

by Anne Knowles

Fall is the perfect time to check out all that your library has to offer. After a very busy summer and record breaking summer reading program, we are excited about what will be happening at our libraries this fall and some new programs we will be offering.

The national Banned Books Week begins on September 27. Come into your library for more information and to check out a book such as Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird”, John Steinbeck’s “Of Mice and Men”, “Harry Potter series”, Katherine Paterson’s “Bridge to Terabithia”, Mark Twain’s “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn”, “Junie B. Jones series”, John Grisham’s “A Time to Kill” or Madeline L’Engle’s “A Wrinkle in Time”.

Paws for Reading is a program where children who are already reading on their own have the opportunity to practice reading out loud to the friendliest audience there is — a trained therapy dog. Research shows that children who read to dogs often have better overall gains in reading abilities than those who read to humans. Twenty minute sessions are now available at Florissant Public Library on Fridays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Preregistration is required by contacting the Florissant Library at 719-748-3939.

Storytimes continue this fall at Florissant Library in their new permanent time slot — Friday mornings at 10 a.m. If you missed the Drama/Video Club’s variety show, “Every

Hero Tells a Story”, you can pick up a DVD copy at the library for a donation of \$10. Minecraft is now available at Florissant all the time the library is open. Online computer games for younger kids are now available in the children’s area at both Florissant and Woodland Park libraries.

Kids in grades 6-12 may apply to be on the Teen Advisory Board at Woodland Park Public Library. This is a new volunteer program that will meet during the school year on the second Tuesday of every month. It will be an opportunity to have your voice heard, earn community volunteer hours, make new friends, gain leadership and team work skills, and more. Applications and more information are available in the Teen Room at Woodland Park.

There will be new computer classes introduced this fall at both libraries. Introduction to Facebook will cover the basics and does require an active email account you can access online and basic computer knowledge. It will be offered October 1 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Florissant and October 9 from 10 a.m. to noon at Woodland Park.

Google Apps will teach you how to use the best cloud service available, including Gmail, Google Calendar, Drive and Contacts. You need basic computer knowledge and a Gmail account. Classes will be held on November 12 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Florissant and September 22 from 10 a.m. to noon at Woodland Park.

Mobile Devices will teach the basics of using a tablet. You must bring your own Android or iPad device. Classes will be October 15 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Florissant and November 13 from 10 a.m. to noon at Woodland Park. To register for the classes at Florissant, please call 719-748-3939. Call 719-687-9281 ext. 102 to register for classes at Woodland Park.

Other computer classes offered at Florissant in September are Computer Basics on September 19 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Word 1 on September 24 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact the Florissant Library at 719-748-3939 to register. For a complete schedule and description of computer classes offered, please see our website <http://rampartlibrary-district.org> under Programs, Adults.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Florissant Library is on Monday, September 14 at 1:30 p.m. This is a group of dedicated community members who have a lot of fun together while supporting the library. Please come to the next meeting and see what they are all about.

The Book Worms Book Club at Florissant will meet on Wednesday, September 16 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the book “Tallgrass” by Sandra Dallas. The Book Club at Woodland Park will feature “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee on Tuesday October 6 at 10:30 a.m.

If you have a legal question or need some

advice and you do not have an attorney, you may make an appointment at either library from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the first Friday of every month for a free private, online consultation with an attorney. The next clinic will be held on September 4 so call Florissant at 719-748-3939 or Woodland Park at 719-687-9281 ext. 102 to register.

On September 30, Colorado author Mark Stevens will give a talk at the Florissant Library on his latest installment to his Allison Coil mystery series, “Lake of Fire”. Mark’s previous works include “Antler Dust”, “Buried by the Roan”, and “Trapline”. The son of two librarians, Mark worked as a reporter for The Christian Science Monitor in Boston and Los Angeles; as a City Hall reporter for The Rocky Mountain News in Denver; as a national field producer for The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour (PBS); and as an education reporter for The Denver Post. After journalism, he worked in school public relations before starting his own public relations and strategic communications business. He lives in Denver with his wife and has two grown daughters. A potluck lunch with the author will be held at noon, followed by Mark’s talk and a question and answer period.

Rampart Library District will be closed on September 6 and 7 for Labor Day. We look forward to seeing you in the libraries during the month of September!

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# Wildflowers, weeds & water

## Educational event at Bison Reservoir

On Saturday, August 1, the Teller-Park Conservation District (TPCD) cosponsored a Wild-flower, Weeds & Water tour at Bison Reservoir in Victor, CO, with Cripple Creek Gold Mining Company. Other event sponsors included CSU Extension and the City of Victor. The impetus for the event was a sighting of Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) in 2014 during a Native Plant Master Field outing held at the Reservoir. The Native Plant Master course is a program of Colorado State University Extension program.

While this pristine and strikingly beautiful property is host to a couple of small patches of Orange Hawkweed, is also host to a wide variety of native plants. The Cripple Creek Gold Mining Company carefully manages the property to keep land disturbance to a minimum as the site provides a premier fishing and camping destination for members of the Gold Camp Fishing Club. The club is a members-only property open only to landowners in Victor. Landowners must also have a water tap.

Participants of the Wildflower, Weeds, and Water education hike were privy to at least 25 species of flowering native plants, in addition to the Orange Hawkweed. After a guided hike to the beaver pond, participants ate a delicious and hearty sack lunch packed by Gertrude's Bakery in Victor. After lunch, the group tromped in and around the bog to view Rose Crown, Star Gentian, and a mass of hill-side Sego Lily. Participants also received commemorative T-shirts.

As one participant said "Wow, this is the best way to spend a Saturday. We're surrounded by beauty eating a free meal in a new outfit!"

Orange hawkweed, though many see it as a beautiful little flower cluster on a straight fuzzy stem, is a List A weed species in Colorado, meaning that it must be eradicated according to the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. List A species call for swift eradication before they spread or become unmanageable, like Common Mullein, a Class C species mandated to be suppressed or contained if not eradicated. The name hawkweed comes from the Greek word hierax for hawk. It's ½ to ¾ inch flower head is capable of spreading seeds to form dense patches in just a few years. It also spreads via underground rhizomes and stolon or runners, similar to strawberries.

Seeds of the invasive plant can be carried by hikers in their shoe treads, by animals, and by heavy equipment. The seeds can remain viable for many years, waiting for the proper conditions to germinate. Because of the long seed life, a multi-year effort may be

TPCD manages the weed spraying program for Teller and Park Counties (county roads only) as well as provides spraying services for private landowners. The most common weeds in Teller and Park Counties are Canada thistle, Musk thistle, Toadflax, and Knapweed.

Education is a vital part of the Teller-Park Conservation District's mission. The Teller-Park Conservation District participates in local events and conducts workshops: talking to folks about conservation topics like range management, erosion control, water quality, and weeds & grasses. TPCD also provides literature about environmental and conservation topics. Visit tellerparked.org for more information.



Orange Hawkweed

warranted for long-term weed management. There are other species of hawkweed that are not alien.

Like other noxious weeds on the Colorado state list, orange hawkweed invades healthy forests and rangeland by crowding out native species. Herbicides are the best defense to eradicate Orange Hawkweed as it does not respond to pulling or mowing. Encouraging the growth of native plants can also help to crowd it out of an area.

TPCD, as part of a Colorado Department of Agriculture grant, organized the education event and treated the orange hawkweed with an herbicide targeted to eradicate the species. You can find more information at [www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds) and click on Noxious Weed Management Program.



Dan spraying noxious weeds

## ~OUT AND ABOUT~

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

**ALMA**  
Alma Coffee House hosts live music by Gladys Kravitz from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

**BUENA VISTA**  
5 Family Fun in the Park Day at McPhely Park, pancakes, fish, hot dogs, and playground from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. More information 719-221-8948.

5 Hike to the headwaters of the Arkansas. If you would like to discover the source of the legendary river, join Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area naturalist Kate Spinelli and volunteer naturalist Bob Hickey on Saturday, Sept. 5 to hike above timberline, where the mighty Arkansas River gurgles from the rocky ground. The hike is 6.5 miles round trip, and begins on a 4WD road near Climax Mine north of Leadville. The hike will depart from Buena Vista at 7:30 a.m. to make the drive to the trailhead just south of Fremont Pass on Highway 91 north of Leadville. Carpooling is encouraged, and hikers should be back in Buena Vista by 2 or 3 p.m. Hikers need to dress for changeable weather, wear sturdy hiking shoes, and bring sunscreen, water and a sack lunch/snacks. Reservations for the hike are required. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact AHRA at 719-539-7289 and ask for Kate.

8 BV Celtic & Old-time Music Jam on Tuesday, September 8, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Creekside Gathering Place, 203 Cedar St., Buena Vista. All abilities are welcome to the Buena Vista Celtic & Old-time Music Jam held the second Tuesday of each month! Bring your instrument(s) and a tune to share. If the weather is nice, we'll jam on the porch. Free with donations appreciated. Call Carol Barnes for more info: 719-395-6704.

8 Dies Libros on Tuesday, September 8, at 6 p.m. (Back to 6, not 6:30). Please bring your own tableware. Featured musician: David Tipton, playing the Chapman Stick. Featured authors: Donald Brewer, Keith Ostling, Heather Buchman, Marcia Rowland. Featured cuisine: an evening of hearty appetizers, including bruschetta, deviled eggs, dips and chips, sliders, and stuffed "shrooms. Wine, of course. RSVP required call 719-539-9629. Cost is \$10 and you will receive 15 percent off any items.

12 Mt. Olivet Cemetery Tour at 3:15 p.m.

12 The 2nd Annual Boots and Bolos Event is Saturday, September 12th at 5 p.m. at Buena Vista Community Center. The evening festivities include entertainment, live music, complimentary heavy appetizers and libations. This is an excellent opportunity to align your corporate mission to Chaffee County Boys and Girls Clubs mission to inspire and enable youth to become caring, productive, and responsible citizens. For additional information on Sponsorship opportunities available visit <http://salidachamber.org/boots-and-bolos-sponsorships/>. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Scott Erchul at 719-395-1004 or [scotte@highcountrybank.net](mailto:scotte@highcountrybank.net).

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**CANON CITY**  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 NAMI Connection Support Group for adults with a serious mental illness. Share experiences and resources in a safe environment. Meetings are free and confidential. Group meets every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Thomas More Hospital in the Community Education Room. Contact Sherry at 719-671-7954 or

NAMIsoutheastco@gmail.com.

16 Fremont County The Emergency Food Assistance Program distribution at First United Methodist Church, 801 Main Street, 1:30 p.m. until gone. Call Erlin Trikel 719-275-4191 X111 for more information.

16 NAMI Family Support Group for family and caregivers of individual with a serious mental illness. Share experiences and resources in a safe environment. Meetings are free and confidential. Group meets third Wednesday of every month at St. Thomas More Hospital in the Community Education Room. Contact Yvette at 719-275-0338 or NAMIsoutheastco@gmail.com.

18 Fremont County Community Supplemental Food Program distribution. 3rd Fridays each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Loaves & Fishes, 241 Justice Center Rd. Call Traci Nelson for more information 719-275-0593.

20 In Our Own Voice presentation. Two individuals share their story about living with a mental illness and achieving recovery. This is an opportunity to ask and learn about mental illness. Saint Michaels Catholic Church, Parish Center 10th Street and College Avenue, Canon City, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact Sherry at 719-671-7954 or NAMIsoutheastco@gmail.com.

## COLORADO SPRINGS

14 Charles Goodnight - the Real Lonesome Dove Story by Laurel Campbell and Linda Crawford at 6 p.m. Linda Crawford will speak about Goodnight's early life, his arrival in Texas, his jobs as a youth and teen (including Indian Scout and Texas Ranger) which prepared him for his life-long work on the cattle trail and later ranching business. She also talks about his early interest in Texas Longhorns, partnership with Oliver Loving and their first cattle drive. Linda Crawford is a Pueblo Native and a Central High School and CSU-Pueblo graduate. The event is held at Colorado Springs Masonic Hall, 1130 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904. Program format is in a casual, catered dinner setting at a cost of \$17. Reservations are suggested by Friday prior, at noon. Guests are welcome. Membership in the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners is open to all individuals with an interest in Western history. For more information call 719-473-0330 or email [posse@devintenterprises.com](mailto:posse@devintenterprises.com).

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**COPPER MOUNTAIN**  
5 & 6 Copper Country is a free Labor Day festival tradition celebrating the best of the American spirit. Incredible live music, an arts festival, and Copper Kids Arts & Crafts come together to make this Labor Day weekend event ideal for the entire family. 2015's lineup includes Nitzy Girl Dirt Band, Three Dog Night, Jimmy Vaughn, Orleans, Buckwheat Zydeco and Savannah Jack and the Long Players. Keep an eye on CopperCountry.com for more band announcements.

12 Calling all ladies: it's time to get dirty - muddy with the Dirty Girl race that is. On Saturday, September 12, women of all ages are invited to participate in this 5K untimed mud run complete with 12 obstacles. Dirty Girl has partnered with the charity Bright Pink to raise awareness for prevention and early

detection of breast and ovarian cancer in young women.

19 The Copper Mountain Chubby Chili Crawl Festival will be on from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come and sample a variety of concoctions that contain the special Colorado grown ingredient the Chubby Chili Pepper. Bring your crock-pot and participate in the Community Chili Cook-off. For more info call Stephanie 970-968-2318 x38827 or visit CopperColorado.com.

## CRIPPLE CREEK

5 Lissa Hanner plays solo acoustic at Bronco Billy's in Cripple Creek September 5 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

4-26 Butte Opera House - Thin Air Theatre. "The 39 Steps" Where Alfred Hitchcock meets hilariously! A madcap stage adaptation of the famed 1935 Alfred Hitchcock film. The 39 Steps trails unsuspecting Englishman Richard Hannay as he is inadvertently drawn into an elaborate plot by a beautiful female spy. When the same woman is mysteriously murdered in Hannay's apartment, he must flee the country in an attempt to save his own life from her diabolical pursuers. On the lam from both the authorities & a team of assassins sent to kill him, Hannay is met by an outrageous cast of characters (all played by 3 actors), from suspicious Scotsmen to an evil professor to an innocent female companion (with a temper). A whirlwind adventure. The 39 Steps pays homage to Hitchcock & the classic film mysteries with an unapologetic, tongue-in-cheek flare that has won over audiences on Broadway, London's West End and around the world. For more information, visit ButteTheater.com.

18 & 19 Haunting weekend for ghost enthusiasts. Over 20 paranormal events to choose from. Registration required. Call 719-291-2409 or visit [annualspritsofcoloradocovention.com](http://annualspritsofcoloradocovention.com) for more information.

19-20 Mt. Pisgah Cemetery Tour 19-20, 26-27 2 Mile High Club Aspen Tour

25 Aspen Mine Center's Teller County Food Distribution from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please bring photo ID and proof of Teller County residency. Call 719-689-3584 for more information. Save the October 3 date for: A Victorian Fashion Show and Tea featuring the "Harvey Girls" at the Aspen Mine Center. Call 719-659-3599 for questions.

26 C&V Mine Open House. See ad page 7 for more info.

CRIPPLE CREEK PARK & REC Special Classes/Events & Trips for September.

5 Trip to Mt. Princeton Hot Springs from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

12 Round Table Discussion "Living off the Grid" from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

19 Garage Sale at Park & Rec from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

26 Trip to the Chile Frijole Festival from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**On Going Classes:**  
Aikido for Adults, Mon & Wed 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., only \$5  
Archery Classes, most Fri 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., & Sat 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. by Appointment, call for fees  
Bible Study for Women Only, every Wed evening from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., FREE  
English as a Second Language, Tues Michael 689-3514 for info.

Judo, on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., only \$5  
Kickboxing on Mondays from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. only \$5 CALL for start date  
Scrap Booking, third Saturday every month from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., FREE

**FLORISSANT**  
2, 5, 12, & 19 Join Ranger Denise for yoga along the trail! Hikes are approximately 1-2 miles, with stops for peaceful stretching, all are from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

5-6 4 Mile Fire District Yard Sale. See ad on page 29 for more info

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continued on next page

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**On Going Activities & Sports/Fitness:**  
Archery Outdoor Open Shooting. Daily Sun-up to Sun-down, \$5 pay at Park & Rec

Day Care (KRU) - Kids Rock University, Licensed Program ages 5 - 17, Mon - Fri

Day Care (KRU) field trips one Friday per month, call for dates/times/ places

Fitness Center Membership \$14 month, or \$3 day, or \$20 Punch Card 10 visits

Kids Adventure Club for Boys and Girls, Grades 1 thru 6, Call John for Info

Roller Skating/Blading most Fri & Sat 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. CALL AHEAD \$2

Silver Sneakers Fitness Membership is FREE for qualifying seniors! T-25 Cardio Workout DVD is FREE to all Fitness Members

Walk/Run with "5K at 10K Running Club" on Thursdays, FREE

Youth Outdoor Soccer League, starting early September

For more information call 719-689-3514.

## DIVIDE

16 The Divide Planning Committee (DPC) will conduct a Community Meeting at the Little Chapel of the Hills in Divide on County Road 5 on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 beginning at 7 p.m. Topics will include what the Divide Planning Committee has done during the past 12 months and to elect members. If you reside or work in the Divide Region of Teller County you are encouraged to attend. The Divide Planning Committee is the voice of the Divide Regional Plan acting as a Review Agency for the Teller County Planning Commission, Teller County Planning Department, and the Teller County Board of County Commissioners. See the DividePlanning.org website for information on this committee.

14 & 28 Divide Little Chapel on the Hill - Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. For more info 719-322-7610 or email [littlechapel-foodpantry@outlook.com](mailto:littlechapel-foodpantry@outlook.com).

**FAIRPLAY**  
The South Park City Museum is open; hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Any questions, phone 719-836-2387, check-out our web-site at [southparkcity.org](http://southparkcity.org) or email [southparkcityhistorical@gmail.com](mailto:southparkcityhistorical@gmail.com).

**FLORENCE**  
JOHN C. FREMONT LIBRARY  
22 Japanese Tea Ceremony Ichijo Ichie with Joy Sato at 7 p.m. Dressed in kimono, Joy Sato will perform a thousand year old tradition of the Japanese Tea Ceremony. She will explain the Zen tradition and underlying practice of the tea.

25 Friday night at the movies presents "Boyhood" the coming-of-age story of one boy's epic journey to adulthood. Starting October 2nd, Patricia Arquette, Ethan Hawke, and Ellar Coltrane. 2015 Golden Globe winner for best picture. Rated R. FREE Popcorn! Bring your own drink.

29 Tunnels, Treasures and Tragedies with Sue Cochran at 7 p.m. Sue Cochran, assistant archivist at the Royal George Regional Museum and Historical Center, will present some long held legends of Fremont County. Her program includes tales of tunnels under Canon City, treasures hidden behind every tree, hauntings at Chandler and a head-on train wreck in the Royal George. September's celebrated artist is Florence photographer, Sam Carlsson displays his landscape and nature photographs. John C. Fremont Library, 130 Church Ave., Phone 719-784-4649.

**FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS**  
2, 5, 12, & 19 Join Ranger Denise for yoga along the trail! Hikes are approximately 1-2 miles, with stops for peaceful stretching, all are from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

5-6 4 Mile Fire District Yard Sale. See ad on page 29 for more info

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5-6 4 Mile Fire District Yard Sale. See ad on page 29 for more info

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# Come to Mueller State Park to Celebrate Fall!

by Linda Groat

With the changing of the fall colors and the elk beginning to bugle, Mueller State Park is a great place to visit! Views of the mountains and foothills in autumn colors can be spectacular in the latter half of September and into October. This is also the time of the rut – elk breeding season, when the bulls bugle to herd up the females and compete with other males. To celebrate the changing season, Mueller is offering guided hikes, programs and events to give visitors a many chances to enjoy the outdoors.

The first event Saturday, September 5th is called “No Child Left Inside”. This is a national movement to get kids playing outside and exploring nature. Songs, games, animal tracks, pond life, are some of the activities included in a day of fun for kids! Please see the full schedule.

“Mueller in Gold” is a fall festival celebrating the elk and aspens in gold and will happen on Saturday, September 26! Guided aspen hikes, an elk bugling hike, make an aspen ornament, and learn about elk natural history are a few of the special activities planned. Also see a camping demonstration, try fly fishing or archery, and learn about living in bear country. A local artist will be demonstrating her painting. The annual bookstore sale will be going on all day Saturday and Sunday. Please see the schedule for specific program times.

The elk bugling hikes are very popular! A guide takes visitors out to watch and listen for the elk to come out and sound their bugling calls! These are limited tours and folks must pre-register by calling the Visitor Center 719-687-2366. Elk hike dates are September 12, 19, 21, 26, 28.

**Wednesday, September 2nd**  
• Hike: Black Bear Trail, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Horns and Antlers, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Friday, September 4th**  
• Amphitheater – Lynx, Lion and Bob, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, September 5th**  
No Child Left Inside Events:  
• Hike: Dynamite Cabin, 9 a.m.  
• Children: Making Paper, 10 a.m.  
• Archery for Beginners, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
• Pond Safari, 1 p.m.  
• Touch Table: Whose Tracks Are These? 2 p.m.  
• Sensory Hike, 3 p.m.  
• Amphitheater: Games and Songs with Anne, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, September 6th**  
• Touch Table: Senior Citizens of Mueller, 2 - 4 p.m.

**Monday September 7th**  
• Hike: Outlook Ridge, 10 a.m.  
• Hike: Turkey Cabin Overlook, 2 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 8th**  
• Hike: Cahill Loop, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Birds, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 9th**  
• Hike: Cheesman Trail, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Cougar and Bears, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Thursday, September 10th**  
• Hike: Elk Meadow, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Horns and Antlers, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Friday, September 11th**  
• Hike: Dynamite Cabin, 1:30 p.m.  
• Amphitheater: Midland Days, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, September 12th**  
• Children: In an Ant Hill, 9:30 a.m.  
• Hike: Osborn Homestead Hike, 11 a.m.  
• Hike: Elk Bugling, 5:45 p.m.

**Sunday, September 13th**  
• Touch Table: Skins and Skulls, 2 - 4 p.m.

• Star Party, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, September 14th**  
• Hike: Four Mile Overlook, 2 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 15th**  
• Hike: The Golden Eagle Trail, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Owl Pellets, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 16th**  
• Touch Table: Scat and Tracks, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Thursday, September 17th**  
• Hike: Logger Mountain, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Skins and Skulls, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Friday, September 18th**  
• Hike: Nobel Cabin, 1:30 p.m.  
• Amphitheater: Birds of Mueller State Park, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, September 19th**  
• Hike: Stoner Mill Trail, 2 p.m.  
• Hike: Elk Bugling, 5:45 p.m.

**Sunday, September 20th**  
• Touch Table: Cougar, Elk and Deer, 2 - 4 p.m.  
• Hike: Sunset on Outlook Ridge, 6:15 p.m.

**Monday, September 21st**  
• Hike: Elk Bugling, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 22nd**  
• Hike: Aspen Colors - Cahill Loop, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Senior Citizens of Mueller, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 23rd**  
• Hike: Four Mile Overlook, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Skins and Skulls, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Thursday, September 24th**  
• Hike: Ranger Ridge, 9 a.m.

• Touch Table: Scats and Tracks, 1 - 3 p.m.

**Friday, September 25th**  
• Amphitheater: Coyote Tales, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, September 26th**  
Mueller in Gold  
• Annual Bookstore Sale, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
• Hike: Aspen Colors – School Pond, 9 a.m.  
• Visitor Center Activities: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
• Fly Fishing, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
• Archery for Beginners, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
• The Mystery of Golden Aspen, 2 p.m.  
• Hike: Wapiti Trail in Color, 3 p.m.  
• Hike: Elk Bugling, 5:15 p.m.

**Sunday, September 27th**  
• Hike: Elk Meadow in Color! 2 p.m.  
• Hike: Full Moon Hike, 6:30 p.m.

**Monday, September 28th**  
• Fall Challenge Hike, 8 a.m.  
• Hike: Elk Bugling, 5:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 30th**  
• Fall Challenge Hike, 8 a.m.  
• Hike- Stoner Mill/School Pond Ridge, 9 a.m.  
• Touch Table: Owls, 1 - 3 p.m.

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

Mueller State Park is located just 45 minutes from Colorado Springs on the west side of Pike Peak. Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages 42 state parks, more than 300 state wildlife areas, all of Colorado's wildlife, and a variety of outdoor recreation. For more information go to cpw.state.co.us.

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All-New Compact Crossover SUV  
ONLY \$21,899 IN STOCK NOW!  
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**2015 Volvo XC70**  
ONLY \$7,500 OFF MSRP  
MSRP \$49,475 #15V19

**2015 Mazda CX-9**  
UP TO \$6,000 OFF MSRP OR -0% APR for 63 months SEATING FOR 7!  
#W15M262 MSRP \$40,150

**2016 Mazda CX-5 Sport**  
OWNER LOYALTY BONUS \$500 \$239/MO Lease: 36 mos.  
#W16M60

**2015 Volvo XC60 T6**  
ONLY 3 LEFT!  
\$6,000 OFF MSRP  
MSRP \$43,470 #15V25

**2015.5 Volvo S60**  
10 TO CHOOSE FROM  
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**2015 Mitsubishi Lancer SE 2.4L**  
0% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS! OR JUST ANNOUNCED... 0.9% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS!  
ALL-NEW, REDESIGNED 2016 Outlander has arrived!  
MSRP \$21,860  
Mitsubishi Rebate -1,500  
Military Rebate -500  
Loyalty Rebate -500  
Penkhus Savings -1,363  
Dealer Handling +587  
TOTAL PRICE \$18,584  
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS \$243/MO \$0 DOWN PURCHASE  
#A14M15

**2015 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport ES**  
MSRP \$23,100  
Mitsubishi Rebate -1,500  
Military Rebate -500  
Loyalty Rebate -500  
Penkhus Savings -1,462  
Dealer Handling +587  
TOTAL PRICE \$19,987  
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS \$262/MO \$0 DOWN PURCHASE  
#A14M15

**2015 Mitsubishi Outlander 2.4 SE S**  
MSRP \$28,195  
Mitsubishi Rebate -2,000  
Military Rebate -500  
Loyalty Rebate -500  
Penkhus Savings -1,462  
Dealer Handling +587  
TOTAL PRICE \$24,380  
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS \$322/MO \$0 DOWN PURCHASE  
#A35M15

**2015 Volkswagen Model Year End Sales Event**  
Das Auto.  
Goodbye 2015 models. Hello great deals.

**2015 Golf S SportWagen TDI**  
Motor Trends 2015 Car of the Year! \$1,000 VW Loyalty Bonus!  
\$3,000 OFF MSRP OVER 20 TO CHOOSE FROM!  
MSRP \$26,835 #15VW220

**2015 Jetta S TDI**  
Automatic  
MSRP \$23,880  
Mitsubishi Rebate -1,500  
Military Rebate -500  
Loyalty Rebate -500  
Penkhus Savings -1,462  
Dealer Handling +587  
TOTAL PRICE \$20,467  
0% APR for 72 months \$0 DOWN PURCHASE  
#15VW338

**2015 Passat SE TDI**  
Sunroof  
MSRP \$28,100  
Mitsubishi Rebate -1,500  
Military Rebate -500  
Loyalty Rebate -500  
Penkhus Savings -1,462  
Dealer Handling +587  
TOTAL PRICE \$23,687  
0% APR for 72 months \$0 DOWN PURCHASE  
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THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HOMES



3 bed / 4 bath  
\$850,000



5 bed / 4 bath / 4 car  
\$364,000



3 bed / 2 bath / 2 car  
5 Acres Borders National  
Forest \$344,000



4 bed / 4 bath  
\$379,900

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