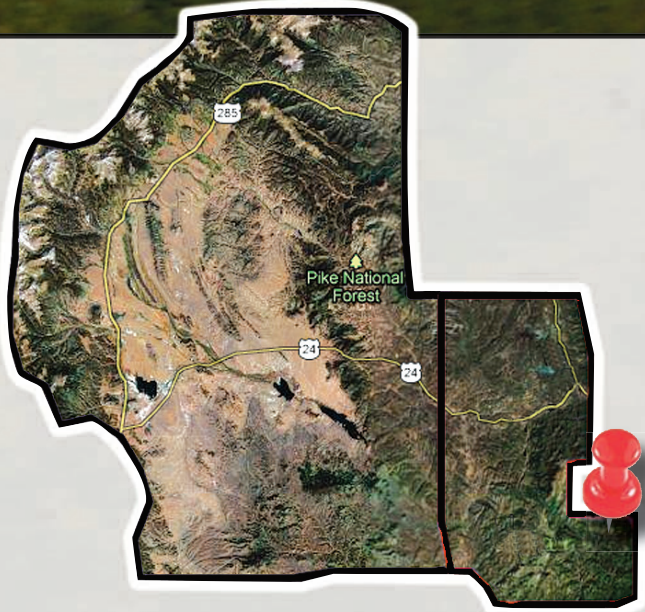


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— President Theodore Roosevelt

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Howdy!

We continue to be grateful for the increased interest in and positive feedback about for our paper! Thanks to all of our writers who continue to keep us connected with our communities and provide photos. We couldn't do it without you!

Mr. Spaz, photo editor of Critter Corner, was making sure to be accepting of all breeds because he believes embracing diversity is the key to world peace. Please see page 5 for Mr. Spaz' pics on Critter Corner. Please send your photos via email to utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com or hard copies to POB 753, Divide CO 80814.

Beginning this issue, we include a feature from TCRAS. Please see page 6 to learn about Sugar who has been waiting very patiently for her forever family to find her. Is it you? Please don't keep Sugar waiting any longer.

Our distribution is up to 9,000! This month we welcome Hartsel as the new community we add to our list of Divide, Florissant, Lake George, and Guffey; the postal patrons who receive Ute Country News via their post office box or delivery route. We have also begun to offer our paper in newspaper boxes. Look inside for a photo of our newspaper boxes now located at The Highline in Hartsel, Antiques at Lake George in Lake George, and Mountain Naturals in Woodland Park. Would you like one of our boxes at your business? Please contact us by phone 719-686-7393 or email: utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com

To help meet the needs of our dual-residency readership, we are also offering subscriptions to our paper for only \$36 for 12 issues. We will send it first class to your mailing address. Leave a message at 719-686-7393 or email: utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com

— Jeff & Kathy Hansen

UTE COUNTRY NEWS

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A special thanks to all the above for their professional work and time to make this issue possible.

The Midland Depot at Divide - restoring history

by David Martinek
photos by David Martinek

There is a lot of excitement developing around the old Midland Depot at Divide these days. Folks passing by in their cars on their way to and through Divide have noticed an increase in activity – mounds of dirt piled up from diggings around the foundation, banners billowing in the wind, and a green privacy fence encircling the entire complex. Something is happening.

In fact, all this activity is the fulfillment of the beginning of a dream that started at least a decade ago when the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition (T.H.E. Coalition), a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation of the historical, environmental and scenic assets in Teller County, took on the responsibility of preserving and restoring the 108 year-old depot. A series of small grants received over the years have helped T.H.E. Coalition prepare for this summer when the first major construction project from the master development plan was finally begun – the culmination of countless years of volunteer work.

After receiving a large grant from the Colorado State Historical Fund last August, T.H.E. Coalition has been working to prepare the site and hire a general contractor to install a new, more permanent foundation so that the next phases of the master plan – renovation of the exterior and interior – can be done in the future. That work started in late July and will continue through to January 2013, weather permitting. In the interim, the general contractor will have to raise the depot, perhaps by crane, in order to install a good foundation, then set the building down again very carefully.

The work done so far has required digging down about 4' below ground level all around the depot to expose the existing foundation. In doing so, it was learned that all of the perimeter frame joists were rotted away. The contractor and project managers are amazed that the depot is still standing! Clearly, the work was started just in time. After further analysis, it was determined that the interior pine stumps, upon which the depot sits, and likely the accumulation of mud and earth that has migrated underneath the depot over the ages, is probably what has kept the building upright. Or, it could be angels watching over it.

Along with the construction, archeological studies are being done to sift through the exposed earth and debris for any artifacts that might be dug up while trenching around the foundation. A number of interesting pieces have already been found below the brick platform, which was installed around 1904.

Once the new foundation is in place, the windows and doors (which were removed and stored prior to beginning work) will be re-installed and painted along with the exterior wainscoting and siding. It is fortunate that none of the windows were broken since many of the lead-glass panes date back to the initial construction of the depot.

The Midland Depot at Divide was constructed in 1904 by the Santa Fe Rail-



The depot looking south, showing construction activity



A close look shows the mounds of dirt dug out from around the depot foundation, the windows and door removed and wall bracing inside.

road, the owners of the Colorado Midland Railway at the time. The depot was a unique structure, serving 2 railroad lines at the same time – the Colorado Midland, which ran from Colorado Springs to Grand Junction, and the Midland Terminal which ran from Divide to Cripple Creek. The depot had 2 ticket offices, 2 agents and common passenger waiting room and baggage areas. The entire depot was surrounded on all sides by a brick platform. That platform still exists under the ground, parts of which are visible just east of the annex. Thousand of people, gold ore and freight passed through the depot during its time, basically from 1904 until 1949.

The eventual plan for the depot involves restoring the interior to the way it was when it was operating as a train station. The master plan calls for housing interpretive displays and a visitor's center manned by the Divide Chamber of Commerce. Outside, around the grounds, T.H.E. Coalition aims to:

- re-install the railroad tracks on the north

- and south side
- uncover and rebuild the brick platform
- construct outdoor pavilions, kiosks and restrooms,
- create a park
- build a rest stop

These efforts will convert an historic relic into a community asset. This dream is yet to be realized, but the project is off to a good start. Anyone wanting more information about the Midland Depot in Divide or about T.H.E. Coalition's long-range plans for restoration may email the non-profit at THE@thecoalitionco.org or go to their website at www.thecoalitionco.org.

Hayden Loop Divide - additional information

by Mark & Beja Foky

In the August 2012 issue of Ute Country News, Mr. David Martinek wrote an article regarding the Hayden Divide Loop Trail. While the article does a great job singing the praises of this unique trail, I feel there is one important correction to be made. The sundial which he says is "laid out in a star pattern with meditation benches" is there for a very tragic reason.

Deputy Brent Holloway, Teller County Sheriff's Office, was shot and killed in the line of duty in Teller County on October 16, 1995. It is our only line of duty death for the Teller County Sheriff's Office. This star pattern is actually the shape of a badge and it sits in that spot overlooking Raspberry Mountain because it was an area that Brent dearly loved. It is my understanding that an Eagle Scout designed and built it.

While Brent's death is not in the current county consciousness, we feel we need to give Deputy Brent Holloway due respect. So while people are sitting on the bench meditating, maybe they can have a moment of silence for a fallen hero. We don't want Brent, nor his sacrifice, to be forgotten.



Photo by David Martinek

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Heirloom Rosebush

by Flip Boettcher
photos by Flip Boettcher

An heirloom rosebush was planted in Guffey between the Community Building and the library, by the non-profit group Vision 2020 from Fairplay on Saturday, July 21, according to Vision 2020 board member Nancy Stimson.

The rosebush, an Austrian Copper Rose, has been cultivated since the 1500's and can survive at altitudes up to 10,000 feet. The Austrian Copper has five single petals with a coppery-red color and a brilliant yellow reverse because of the parent, a Harrison Yellow Rose. The Austrian Copper has been known to have all yellow blossoms, a licorice scent, blooms for 2 to 3 weeks in June and grows to seven feet tall.

The rosebush is 1 of 11 such planted at the following communities in Park County – Alma, Fairplay, Como, Jefferson, Grant, Shawnee, Bailey, Pine Junction, Hartsel, Lake George and Guffey – as a THANK YOU to each community for being a Good Samaritan, according to Stimson.

Also at each of the 11 sites, Vision 2020 placed a community bulletin board to post county happenings and increase county communications between each community. The Vision 2020 bulletin board in Guffey is at the Freshwater Saloon on the front porch.

Vision 2020 was started in Fairplay in 1994, with a grant from the Colorado Trust and their Healthy Communities Initiative. It became a non-profit in 1995 according to Stimson. Vision 2020 is working towards making better communities and help people feel better about their communities.

Vision 2020's mission is to "preserve and enhance the rural quality of life for Park County residents by taking a proactive stance in community-wide issues that impact communications, economic development, human services, and the environment", according to a Vision 2020 flyer. Vision 2020 is working towards making a better community by the year 2020.

Vision 2020's environmental projects include their rosebush plantings as well as Recycle-the-Park program. Recycle-the-Park was popular from 1997-2002, when it folded from lack of funding and was renewed in 2010. Once again, Recycle-the-Park needs community support and funding, or it will die again. Right now, it costs more to haul the recycling to Denver markets than the recycling brings in. Vi-



Watering and fertilizing the Austrian Copper Rosebush in front of the Guffey Community Building. Flip Boettcher (left), President Guffey Community Association and Nancy Stimson (right), Vision 2020 board member.

sion 2020 is looking for supporters.

Vision 2020's communication projects include the 11 community bulletin boards for sharing government and non-profit news and events.

Human services projects include the Ed Snell Memorial Fund which distributes money anonymously to Park County people in need, said Stimson.

Vision 2020 was also involved in the Adopt-a-Road campaign where volunteers picked up roadside trash. The Big Backyard project included scenic plantings of xeric flowers/bushes and weed pulling activities at the post office.

Vision 2020's longest running and most successful fundraiser has been selling poinsettias at the Holiday Bazaar at South Park High School in early December.

Vision 2020 has other fundraisers including periodic yard sales, and annual BBQ lunch at the 4-H plant sale, a booth at the Annual Burro Days and other events throughout the year.

Vision 2020 is looking for volunteers for all their projects and they greatly appreciate whatever anyone can do to help. Vision 2020 is also looking for volunteers to sit on their board of directors. Meetings are usually held the last Thursday of the month in Fairplay; everyone is welcome!

"We are all stakeholders, so let's get together and maintain our quality of life before it slips away" stated the Vision 202 flyer.

The rosebush at the Guffey Community

Building and library is thriving and has new leaves. There is a sign planted beside the rosebush which says "In honor of your communication efforts. May this rosebush grow and blossom here within the Guffey community. We thank you! Park County Vision 2020, Inc."

Contact Park County Vision 2020 at: P.O. Box 1314, Fairplay, CO 80440 for more information and to volunteer.



The commemorative sign by the Austrian Copper Rosebush.

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Lake George Charter School
dedication and opening

by Maurice Wells
photos by Maurice Wells

On August 4th at noon under a perfect Colorado sky, hundreds watched as members of VFW Post 11411 raised the United States and Colorado flags on the pole for the first time. Following the time capsule placement and corner stone laying, the ribbon was cut and the official key was used by Pat Lewis, principal, to open the school for a tour and lunch.

When classes resumed on August 21, the 109 students found not only 8 sparkling new classrooms but also a large multipurpose room (cafeteria/gymnasium). This room has special acoustical flooring to reduce noise and is also constructed of material that reduces maintenance. The facility is equipped so that there is an easy conversion for athletic programs.

When in cafeteria mode, free breakfasts and nutritious lunches are served. Diana Zaccagnini, senior dietitian, emphasizes that this year more fruits and vegetables will be served with an increase in whole grains in the bread, pasta and rice.

Other special purpose rooms include the piano room where students 2nd through 6th grades may obtain training. There are over 20 students presently enrolled. Another room is specifically designed for art training with specialized lighting and supply space. When formal art classes are not in session, the room may be used by other teachers for art and craft projects.

The school is still enrolling new students. For information please contact 748-3911.



Laying the cornerstone



Official keys given to Pat Lewis

Meet Ms. Pat Lewis, Principal
at Lake George Charter School

by Bani Kurth

When Pat Lewis meets me at the door of the new Lake George Charter School, her smile fills the entry. I feel welcome. “Let me you show around.” She invites me for a tour. The open concept to offices, spacious hallways, classrooms, and gym/lunch room, smells of dry wall spackle and new paint. The dedication of this building was held August 4, 2012. Principal Lewis reminds me of a person “who has never met a stranger.” I am ready to enroll.

Ms. Lewis has been with the Park County School System for 6 years. In this short span of time she has organized local participation in the Park County School District Bond campaign resulting in the present relocation and new school building project. She then implemented the impetus for obtaining the \$7.2 mi. Colorado B.E.S.T. Grant, which has turned into the new school, located at 38874 US Highway 24 at Lake George.

Pat states that her objective at Lake George Charter School is to have a team of dedicated professionals who join her in “people-first” orientation and to ensure an exemplary academic environment. She has led school programs in MO, KS, GA, and Colorado Springs. Her areas of expertise include: Teaching, Counseling, Art, and Grant Writing.

When not at school Ms. Lewis has multiple interests, including writing, painting, home decorating, camping, traveling and motorcycle riding.



Principal Pat Lewis

- Year is still open.
- L.G. School operates 4 days per week, M-TH, with special activities available on Fridays.
 - The new building has six classrooms, each with outdoor access.
 - Kindergarten and Pre-school have their separate areas.
 - Furniture and toilets are age specific.
 - Large fenced recreation areas exist for the safety of the children.
 - Lake George School security is computer monitored.
 - Mrs. Zaccagnini serves tasty lunches. Free breakfasts are available.
 - Enrollment is at 109 students in Pre School through 8th grade.

Park and Teller County Students are welcome! Phone Mrs. Gilley at the office 719-748-3911.

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A Florissant Fossil for the White City

by Steven Wade Veatch

The "Big Stump" at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument is one of the largest petrified stumps exposed in the Monument: it measures over 11 feet tall and is just over 12 feet in diameter at breast height. This solitary petrified stump (one of the largest in diameter on record) is all that remains of a tree that was more than 196 feet tall when a volcanic mudflow (lahar) buried its base during the late Eocene—over thirty-four million years ago.

Fortunately, Big Stump did not make it to the White City, but remains at its original location for visitors to the Monument to enjoy. Image date 8/10/2012, © by S. Veatch.

Over a century ago there was a local effort to send this incredible fossilized tree stump to the World's Columbian Exposition (The Chicago World's Fair) of 1893. A plan was made in 1890 to remove the stump, transport it to Chicago by rail, and then rebuild it at the fair. Fortunately, the attempt to remove Colorado's prized fossil was unsuccessful. As it happened, the workmen's saw blades became permanently wedged in the fossil wood. The plans to send Florissant's famous stump to the Columbian Exposition were then quickly abandoned.

The World's Columbian Exposition, one of the greatest cultural events in the nineteenth century, was named in honor of Christopher Columbus and the 400th anniversary of his discovery of the New World. Thousands of people were employed in the development of 633 acres of fairgrounds and the construction of 200 buildings at Chicago's Jackson Park. Many of the fair buildings were located along constructed waterways fed by Lake Michigan. The Court of Honor buildings (14 main buildings) were covered in white stucco. Visitors, after seeing these white buildings, began to call this the White City. After three years of planning and building, and at a cost of twenty eight million dollars, President Cleveland opened the fair on



View of Big Stump at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

May 1, 1893. Ticket prices were 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children.

Moreover, visitors to the Columbian Exposition enjoyed more than 65,000 exhibits and attractions. The fair contained many marvels and introduced Americans and the world to picture postcards, carbonated soda, hamburgers, and a gigantic wheel (built by George W. Farris) that visitors could ride. The fair also introduced the nation to the Pledge of Allegiance, and brought a new holiday—Columbus Day.

Additionally, most of the states and territories had exhibits at the fair, including Colorado. The Colorado building had a wide variety of displays from the Centennial State. If Big Stump had been cut and quarried into sections, the Colorado building would have been a likely destination. Colorado day was celebrated September 12 at the fair without Big Stump—Colorado's famous fossil remained at the Florissant Fossil Beds, intact. Although Big Stump did not make it to the Columbian Exposition, it is probable that other Colorado fossils made it to the fair, perhaps even fossils from Florissant.

In short, by its closing date on October 30, 1893, more than 27 million people had visited the White City. If Big Stump had been removed and displayed at the fair, this oddity of nature would have been lost forever. This magnificent fossil is now protected by the National Park Service, and visitors to the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument can view Big Stump in its geologic setting.

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Adopt Me

TCRAS Features Sugar

Hi everyone out there, I've called all you readers together to help me find my forever home!! I just don't understand why my new owners haven't found me yet. You see, I'm so sweet, my name is Sugar! I'm a 2 year old shorthaired gray & orange dilute kitty, so I'm very pretty with my green eyes and graceful moves. I also have many nice tricks for my new owners to enjoy-I've learned quite a few new ones at the shelter, too.

I do have one confession to make—I want my new owners all to myself so I can spoil them as any good kitty knows - it's my job to make people happy and entertain them with my antics. I do this mostly from sitting with you and snuggling. It will quickly reduce your stress and we both will have many peaceful times. You don't even have to pick me up; I will come to you-which I really prefer! Perhaps you will scratch me behind my ears?

Just for my new owners, I think I'll be able to adjust to other calm pets. I sure will try my hardest at my forever home. I am so hoping someone out there will give me a chance to be their best companion. Although the shelter is very kind to me, I've been here for over half of my life. Please 'take a chance on me'. I won't dis-



Sugar

appoint you and will be a model cat in my new home—most of the time, that is!! I do like to play, did I tell you that?

A special message to my new owners— 'I'm here, I'm here, please find me and take me home!!!!'

Call TCRAS, the no-kill shelter in Divide at 719-686-7707, for more information or checkout our website to see all the available animals!! www.tcrascolorado.com

Gem Show goes international

by Maurice Wells
photos by Maurice Wells

The recent Lake George Gem and Mineral show attracted not only vendors from other states such as Washington but also other countries. Yohannas Truneh, a native of Ethiopia, was one of the 29 participants in the 2012 show.

Mr. Truneh displayed specimens unique to his native country as well as other areas of eastern Africa. Also on display was a 4' 5" smoky quartz crystal weighing in at 349 pounds.

Other large smoky quartz crystals mined from the same claim are on display at the Pikes Peak Historical Society museum in Florissant.



349 pound smoky quartz crystal



Mr. Yohannes Truneh

Flag retirement ceremony

by Maurice Wells
photo by Maurice Wells


American flags that are no longer in suitable condition for display should be respectfully retired. The United States Flag Code established in 1923 and voted into law in 1942 states "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably burning".

The VFW Post 11411, in conjunction with the Lake George Fire Department, will conduct an official flag retirement ceremony on September 29 at 10 AM at the fire station and the public is invited to witness the event. If you cannot attend and have a flag to retire, it may be dropped off at the Woodland Park Senior Center Monday through Friday between 9 AM and 1 PM by September 27 or the Lake George Fire Station weekdays when the station is staffed.

In the event of a burn ban the ceremony will be rescheduled. New flags may be purchased at the ceremony or by contacting Bob Tyler at 748-1335.



Flag flies over Lake George



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Labor Day travelers' refreshments

by Maurice Wells
photo by Maurice Wells

On the Labor Day holiday weekend, August 31, September 1, 2 and 3, the VFW Post 11411 will once again provide coffee, punch, water and cookies for travelers at the Wilkerson Pass rest stop. The VFW Post wishes to thank the Forest Service which provides their covered porch at the center for this event.



Wilkerson Pass visitor center

Gold Belt National Scenic Byway wins award

by Maurice Wells
photo by Maurice Wells

The Palmer Land Trust has selected the Gold Belt National Scenic Byway as the recipient of the 2012 Friends of Open Space Award. The Gold Belt has collaborated with partners to protect 14 properties encompassing 10,500 acres now in conservation trusts. This means these properties are protected from development and preserved for their scenic and historic value. The Gold Belt's northern gateway is Teller #1 in Florissant and covers over 130 miles ending in Canon City or Florence. The Beltway includes the popular Phantom Canyon and Shelf Roads.



Byway sign in Florissant

Flatlander runs again

by Maurice Wells

The Fall Flatlander 5K and Fun Run will be held on September 15th. The Lake George Charter School is hosting the event. The activity provides a beautiful 5K run around Lake George. Following the 5K will be the Fun Run; from the Fire Department to the new school along Hwy 24, which will be closed during the Fun Run. A Post Party and Medal Celebration with refreshments will be held following the race. Child care will be provided. Registration forms may be downloaded from www.lakegeorgecharterschool.org or you may register at 9AM on the day of the race at the Lake George Bible Church. For more information please call 748-3911.



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Woodland Park Historical Tour

by Ute Pass Historical Society

The Ute Pass Historical Society invites you to explore our local history. History Park will be open on Saturday, September 8 from 10 am to 1 pm. Come enjoy our tours of period cabins and museum displays. A guided walking tour of Woodland Park will

meet at the Museum Center building at 10:30 am. The walking tour lasts about 90 minutes. Both tours are free, but donations are greatly appreciated. History Park and the Museum Center are located just north of the Woodland Park Public Library at 231 E. Henrietta

Avenue. For more information, please call the UPHS at 686-7512.

Tour de Ted

Do you enjoy riding your bike? Would you like to be a part of an incredible fund raiser for the American Cancer Society? Check out the Tour de Ted – Ride the Wire multi-state bike tour. This tour is in memory of Edward Jones' second managing partner, Ted Jones, whose life was taken by cancer over 20 years ago. The tour will begin September 23rd at Glen Eyrie Castle in Colorado Springs. The tour is set up with various options for multiple athletic abilities in each city. Riders may choose to ride up Ute Pass to the Edward Jones office Woodland Park, where riders will be greeted by Tracy Barber and Barbara Fritz. From there, the tour follows the path of the telegraph wire all the way to St. Louis on Oct 6th. There will be 13 major stops on the tour. Training and Riding Tips: Always wear a helmet. Don't use headphones. Relax your upper body and let your legs do the work. However, please make sure that you hold your steering wheel steady with both hands. As you get tired, your body will try to slump. Envision you are a hood ornament and sit as if your head were attached to a string and someone was pulling you from above and in front of you. Don't mash. Mashing the pedals means using brute force and sheer leg strength to drive the pedals, thereby creating unnecessary lactic acid in your legs that shortens the life of your ride. Usually, people mash when the bike is in higher gear and they are riding more slowly and with greater force. Instead, pedal, pedal, pedal! Use the gears on your bike to their maximum potential. You wouldn't climb a hill in your car with the same gear you'd

use on the freeway at 70 miles an hour – so use your gears. Keep the pedals turning and try not to stop. This will give your body a chance to build muscle memory and allow you to be stronger and go farther. Your arms are shock absorbers. Relax and let them do their job. Make small adjustments to your direction. Do not make quick, sudden, jerky movements. Glide and roll from place to place. Be verbal or point out obstacles, potholes or debris in the road for riders behind you. Always give motorists the right of way. Their vehicles are bigger, made of metal and can cause more damage to you than the alternative is worth. Always think two steps ahead, but enjoy the ride. Relaxing, taking in the scenery and becoming "one with your senses" are key to the overall riding experience. Use your side mirrors. Become aware of your personal space on the bike. Be conscious of what and who are coming and going around you. Ride close, but be aware. Riding compactly is safer and allows more organized passing and predictability for motorists.

See their website www.tourdeted.com for information on how to register and specific nutrition tips for the ride. Proceeds are for cancer research. There are 5 major cancer centers which will benefit from this event. They include: American Cancer Society, The University of Kansas Cancer Center, Kansas State University's Johnson Cancer Research Center, American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, and Pedal for the Cure.



Sat., Sept. 15th

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Fall hunting

by Jeff Tacey

Fall is fast approaching and it's time to go big game hunting. If you didn't draw a tag in the April draw there are still leftover tags available. You can also get any over the counter elk tags.

There is some great hunting to be had in the Pikes Peak region. The key is the weather and knowing where to go.

First, let's cover archery elk hunting. The season runs from August 25 to September 23. With the hot weather lately, a good area to try would be the tree line up on Pikes Peak. Bugling and cow calling will draw elk close enough for a bow shot. Also watch watering holes and wallows. Tree stands can work well if you did your scouting and know travel routes between feeding and bedding areas.

All deer tags are draw and there's a few left for purchase. It's a good idea to buy a bear tag for whatever season you're going as you never know when you'll see a bear.

Most big game hunters will go elk hunting second season (October 20 – 28) or third season (November 3 – 11). First season (October 13 – 17) and fourth season (November 14 – 18) are draw only. There may be some leftover tags still for sale.

With the rut over, the key to rifle hunt is the weather. The colder and snowier it is the better the hunting will be. A good tactic for areas 59, 581 and 511 is to hunt the edges of Pike National Forest and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) where it butts up against private land. The elk know where to go once the shooting starts.

So get ready, do your scouting, watch the weather and get ready for some awesome eating. Check the 2012 Colorado Big Game Brochure for all rules and regulations.



You should be so lucky to catch a sight like this on your next hunting trip.

Rampart Library District News

The Rampart Library District is pleased to announce an expanded list of databases now available to our patrons. EBSCO, a database service has added: Legal Information Reference Center, Consumer Health Complete, Student Research Center, Kids Search, Novelist, Auto Repair Reference Center and Small Engine Repair Reference Center, just to mention a few. You can check it out at a patron computer in either library (Woodland Park Public Library or the Florissant Public Library) or with your resident Library card and pin; you can access these databases from home by going the Rampart Library District website: <http://rampart.colibraries.org>.

The District is sponsoring a special program in September with renowned fly fisherman, Landon Mayer, author of Colorado's Best Fly Fishing. The program was originally scheduled on June 28, when a good part of Woodland Park was evacu-



Landon Mayer shows his catch

ated. Mayer has been guiding on Colorado's rivers for the past 14 years, and will be sharing his innovative techniques for sighting, hooking, and landing selective trout. The program is free and will be at the Woodland Park Public Library, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Guffey Community Charter school board meeting - August

by Flip Boettcher

photo by Flip Boettcher

The highlight of the Guffey Community Charter School Board of Directors August meeting was that Cathleen Van Egmond was unanimously voted in to fill the vacant seat left by resigning board member Mike Copen. Van Egmond received her packet containing all the Carver governance policies which govern the charter school and signed the agreement saying she would abide by those policies.

In other business board members Frank Ruvo, Laura Batts, Peg Larson and Chris Peterson approved the agenda, the June meeting minutes, the consent agenda, and acknowledged the board self-monitoring reports.

Principal Pam Moore stated that the school Pet Parade and Open House would be September 8 about 11am. Moore also mentioned that long time Guffey residents Jack and Linda Lawrence would be honored at a community potluck to be held Sunday, September 9 at noon at the fire station in Guffey.

The Lawrence's, who are moving to the east coast, have lived in Guffey for over twenty-five years and have been very active in the community including helping at the GCCS, the Friends of the Guffey Library, the Guffey-based Southern Park County Fire Protection District, the Senior Coalition and the VFW. They will surely be missed!

To see a picture and learn a bit about Van Egmond and each of the board members, go to the school website: www.guffeyschool.org.



At the school board meeting before the vote on the vacant board seat are from left to right are board members Frank Ruvo, Laura Batts, Peg Larson, Chris Peterson, school principal Pam Moore, Cathleen Van Emond, prospective board member and meeting attendee in the foreground Amy Mason.

Midland is still with us

by David Martinek

About 6 miles south of Divide, just past Mueller State Park, lies a fork in the road - the right tine (Four Mile Road, or County Road 61) leads directly south. The left tine (Highway 67) snakes up the ridge along the western foothills of Pikes Peak, following the former route and roadbed of the Midland Terminal railroad. In that fork there used to be a settlement called Midland. History has lost the reason for naming Midland "Midland," since there isn't much there today. But as history shows, it was once in the middle of somewhere.

Early on, Midland started as the gateway to a wagon toll road which once existed between Divide and Cripple Creek prior to the coming of the railroad. Midland was where wagon drivers paid their toll. Four Mile Road, the dirt road off to the right or south tine of the fork, follows the route of that toll road for several miles, linking up with Highway 67 in Gillett Flats - another spot on the highway that was once a town.

Midland became a railroad watering station for the steam locomotives of the Midland Terminal Railroad as they hauled trains of gold ore from Cripple Creek to the mills in Colorado City. It was on the Midland sidings where the long triple engine ore trains were split in half and the two half-trains separately shepherded up the lengthy incline to Murphy - another siding about three miles south of Divide. The two halves were then reunited for the trip down Ute Pass.

Midland was also where the state militia encamped during the mining union disputes in 1899 near Cripple Creek and Victor. Midland was also the site of the Fig Leaf Ranch.

In their book, A Century in the Shadow of Pikes Peak - Don Lawrie, His Mountain, His Life, co-authors Jean Taylor and Ann Cott write that the Fig Leaf Ranch was located on the "back-side of Pikes Peak." The 160 acre ranch was homesteaded by Jim and Jessie Lawrie and essentially operated as a guest ranch until 1928. An early advertising flyer reads: "The Fig Leaf Ranch, An Ideal Spot for Recreation, Complete Rest and Recuperation. Prices are the same for all, i.e. fifty cents for bed and fifty cents per meal per person (a day)."

Driving up Highway 67 beyond the fork from Midland, a look over the ridge to the south reveals several ponds in the valley. The ridges on either side now encompass a rural subdivision called Rainbow Valley. The stocked ponds in the valley are recent additions (within the last 50 years or so) but there were earlier ponds during the time of the railroad and the Fig Leaf Ranch. In fact, according to Taylor and Cott, the Lawrie's would cut ice from a pond near the intersection of the fork and ship it to Monument for use by the Denver and Rio Grand Railroad in their refrigeration cars.

About the only thing recognizable in the Midland area today is the faint outline of the old railroad bed running lazily along the left side of Highway 67, a wetland that was possibly the pond from which ice was cut, some rural subdivisions and a few ranches. Just



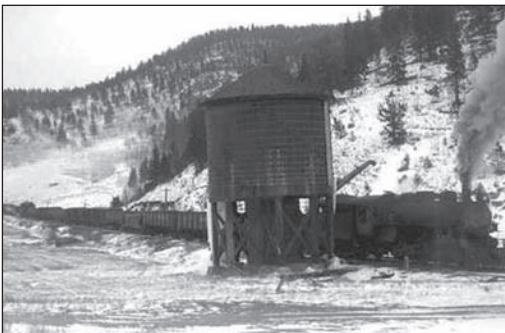
A view of Midland and the Fig Leaf Ranch - the hotel, blacksmith shop and barn (1920s). Photo contributed by Jean Taylor and Ann Cott.



The old Midland Hotel and men playing horseshoes near the Fig Leaf Ranch - from L to R: Cliff Hiddleston, Glen Lawrie, Jim Lawrie (pitching), Frank Hiddleston, George Hiddleston, Don Lawrie, Bob Lawrie (back to camera) and Romilius Hiddleston.



The Lawrie's cutting ice from a Fig Leaf Ranch pond to be sold to the Denver & Rio Grand Railroad. Photo contributed by Jean Taylor and Ann Cott.



A Midland Terminal ore train stops in Midland for water. The Midland Terminal operated from 1892 to 1949 (photo from the Denver Public Library).

north of the area is the entrance to the Craggs hiking trail and camping area. Beyond that, what used to be there is now left to individual imagination. Still, Midland was so important in times past that it remains a named place on road and topographic maps of the area.

Like so many towns and villages in Colorado, Midland sprang up over the years to serve a purpose and contained a small settlement. When that purpose disappeared, so did the people. While the buildings and improvements have vanished into memory, Midland is still with us.

May it always be so.

21st Annual Cruise Above the Clouds Car Show

By Woodland Park and Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company

Join us for the 21th Annual "Cruise Above the Clouds Car Show" presented by Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company on September 8 & 9 2012. On Saturday the 8th beginning at 9 am, Woodland Park will host up to 300 beautiful cars, hotrods and motorcycles. Enjoy great music from Nick Donovan, from Oldies 108 KDZA in Pueblo and his trusty sidekick, Wallace Cotton. There will be food vendors and free popcorn. Make sure to sign up for the kid's bike give-away (ages 4-15)!

Following the trophy presentation at 3 pm, there will be a poker run to Cripple Creek and the fun continues. The vehicles will be parked on Bennett Ave until 8 pm. During that time, there will be live entertainment and a beer garden. On Sunday the 9th, the show continues on Bennett Ave from 9am until 1pm. The shows are free to spectators. Come and enjoy the fun and beauty of Woodland Park and Cripple Creek!

For additional information or to register for the show, visit our website- www.cruiseabovetheclouds.com

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FINANCIAL FOCUS Should You Take A Pension Buyout?

Have you recently received a pension buyout offer? If so, you need to decide if you should take the buyout, which could provide you with a potentially large lump sum, or continue accepting your regular pension payments for the rest of your life. It's a big decision.

Clearly, there's no "one size fits all" answer — your choice needs to be based on your individual circumstances. So, as you weigh your options, you'll need to consider a variety of key issues, including the following:

- **Estate considerations** — Your pension payments generally end when you and/or your spouse dies, which means your children will get none of the money. But if you were to roll the lump sum into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), and you don't exhaust it in your lifetime, you could still have something to leave to your family members.
- **Taxes** — If you take the lump sum and roll the funds into your IRA, you control how much you'll be taxed and when, based on the amounts you choose to withdraw and the date you begin taking withdrawals. (Keep in mind, though, that you must start taking a designated minimum amount of withdrawals from a traditional IRA when you reach age

70½. Withdrawals taken before age 59½ are subject to taxes and penalties.) But if you take a pension, you may have less control over your income taxes, which will be based on your monthly payments.

- **Inflation** — You could easily spend two or three decades in retirement — and during that time, inflation can really add up. To cite just one example, the average cost of a new car was \$7,983 in 1982; 30 years later, that figure is \$30,748, according to TrueCar.com. If your pension checks aren't indexed for inflation, they will lose purchasing power over time. If you rolled over your lump sum into an IRA, however, you could put the money into investments offering growth potential, keeping in mind, of course, that there are no guarantees.
- **Cash flow** — If you're already receiving a monthly pension, and you're spending every dollar you receive just to meet your living expenses, you may be better off by keeping your pension payments intact. If you took the lump sum and converted it into an IRA, you can withdraw whatever amount you want (as long as you meet the required minimum distributions), but you'll have to avoid withdrawing so much that you'll even-

tually run out of money.

- **Confidence in future pension payments** — From time to time, companies are forced to reduce their pension obligations due to unforeseen circumstances. You may want to take this into account as you decide whether to continue taking your monthly pension payments, but it's an issue over which you have no control. On the other hand, once your lump sum is in an IRA, you have control over both the quality and diversification of your investment dollars. However, the trade-off is that investing is subject to various risks, including loss of principal. Before selecting either the lump sum or the monthly pension payments, weigh all the factors carefully to make sure your decision fits into your overall financial strategy. With a choice of this importance, you will probably want to consult with your financial and tax advisors. Ultimately, you may find that this type of offer presents you with a great opportunity — so take the time to consider your options.

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

Coalition of Pikes Peak Historic Museums

Calendar of Events for September 2012

Remember: Some fees may be charged at events below, even if not listed. Many of the museums offer walking tours

Beginning Sept. 1 - The McAllister House begins operating under its fall/winter hours. Museum hours will be Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Last tour begins at 3:15 p.m.

Sept. 1 - Sat. - Cool Science comes to the Manitou Springs Heritage Center - Hands-on workshop for kids showing them how 3D technology works along with the Heritage Center's exhibit of historic stereo views and viewers. - 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 8 - Sat. - Ute Pass Historical Society tours - The tour includes period cabins and museum displays. A guided walking tour will meet at the Museum Center building, 231 E. Henrietta Ave., Woodland Park, at 10:30 a.m.. The tour lasts about 90 minutes.

Sept. 13 - Thr. - Annual potluck dinner and membership meeting - Calling all members and wannabe's! Join us at the Manitou Springs Heritage Center for a potluck cookout dinner and annual membership meeting. The Heritage Center provides the grilled meats and meat alternatives and beverages - please bring a side dish or dessert to share. 5:30 p.m. Business meeting starts about 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 13 - Thr. - Special program for the benefit of the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Dept. - Dan Edwards will present photos of Palmer Lake from the 1940s to 1975. Photos are from the collection of Dr. M. Scott Carpenter, father of astronaut Scott Carpenter, as well as photos from the beginnings of the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Dept. Free. Suggested donation \$5-\$10. - Palmer Lake Town Hall.

Sept. 14 - Fri. - The Growth of a Garden - by Brook Cruz, park interpreter - an illustrated program about the history of the Garden of the Gods history, Old Colorado City History Center - 11:00 a.m.

Sept. 15 - Sat. - Pikes Peak Historical Society Annual Auction - Florissant Library, 2:00 p.m. - Call 719-748-3562 for more information.

Sept. 15 - Sat. - Open House - at the Pikes Peak Streetcar & Railway Museum (Pikes Peak Historical Street Railway Foundation) - Call 719-475-9508 for more information.

Sept. 15 - Sat. - 15th Annual Cemetery Crawl - Actors portray early pioneers who found their final resting place in

the Fairview Cemetery, 1000 S. 26th St. - Old Colorado City Historical Society - Tickets in advance \$8, at the gate \$10, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 17 - Mon. - Annual Membership Meeting - Pikes Peak Streetcar & Railway Museum - 2:30 p.m. - at the El Pomar Conference Center.

Sept. 20 - Oct. 31 - Haunted Mines! - Check out the Haunted Mines on the grounds of the Western Museum of Mining & Industry every Thurs. - Sat., plus the night before Halloween. See the grounds transformed into the area's most thrilling and terrifying haunted attraction. \$15 or \$20 for VIP tickets. Recommended for souls 13 and over. Visit www.hauntedmines.org for ticketing info. and hours of operation.

Sept. 20 - Thr. - Ponderosa Giants - How Old Is that Tree? - Terry Stokka demonstrates that you can't judge a tree's age by its size and describes efforts to determine the age of local area "giant" pines - Palmer Lake Historical Society - Palmer Lake Town Hall - 7:00 p.m., free, refreshments served.

Sept. 24 - Mon. - Open House - at the Pikes Peak Streetcar & Railway Museum - for Staff and immediate family of members of The Coalition of Pikes Peak Historic Museums.

Sept. 29 - Sat. - "Coffee and Conversation with Winfield Scott Stratton" fundraiser for the McAllister House - Hosted by Richard Marold. Reservations required, seating is limited. Location of event is 1410 Wood Ave. \$20 per person. For more info call 719-635-7925 or check their website at www.McAllisterHouse.org.

Sept. 29 - Sat. - Steampunk Symposium - Power Your Imagination! - Learn more about the fictional world of Steampunk using our operating engines and mining exhibits as a stage. \$8 adults, \$7 AAA/military, \$6 seniors/students, \$4 children 3-12, but receive \$2 off if you come in costume! Western Museum of Mining - Visit our website for more info. At www.wmmi.org. 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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FLORISSANT GRANGE

1 Breakfast and Flea Market
Thursday Jam Session 6-9pm.

GREATER WOODLAND PARK CHAMBER

6 Is Facebook Going the Way of the Dinosaur? 11:30-1pm. Call 687-9885.
6 CHOICES Island Night Fund Raiser 6-8:30 Shining Mountain.
9 The Mountain Top Cycling Club Ice Cream Social at 1:00 PM at Mountain Scoops www.

mountaintopcyclingclub.com 719.687.2489 Mountain Top Cycling Club
12 CSU Extension and CERTI host a webinar focused on radon mitigation during construction. Contact: Mark J. Platten, CSU Extension Director, Teller County
Email: mark.platten@colostate.edu or call 719.686.7961.

16 Tap into Your Sixth Sense - Lane Robinson will be teaching a 5 week tele-seminar 6 -7:15pm For more information, please visit laneknows.com or info@laneknows.com.

GUFFEY

15 Bruce Hays Private Dinner Show at Rita's Place. Limited seating. Call 719-689-2501 or email: www.ritasplacein-guffey.com
Open Mic Night at Bull Moose is now Fridays Call 719-689-4199.

HARTSEL

22 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Handicapped Accessible Fishing Area on the middle fork of the South Platte, sponsored by Cherry Creek Anglers (member of Trout Unlimited), Park County, and the Department of Wild-

life. Call 719-836-2233 for more information.

LAKE GEORGE

1-2-3 VFW Travelers refreshments Wilkerson Pass Visitor Center
11 Gem Club Youth Program 6 PM Lake George Community Center
18 Gem Club Youth Program 6pm at Lake George Community Center
29 Flag retirement ceremony 10am at the Lake George Fire Department

VICTOR

2 Lowell Thomas - Revisited at Stratton Outdoor Amphitheater 4pm



Fall aspen tours

The Two Mile High Club of Cripple Creek proudly presents the 2012 Aspen Tours, September 22 & 23 and September 29 & 30. Tours depart from the Cripple Creek District Museum parking lot at the East end of Bennett Ave. in Cripple Creek. First tour leaves each day at 10:00 a.m. and the last tour departs at 4:00 p.m. These fabulous tours are FREE but we respectfully request donations. All proceeds from the Aspen Tours go to support Cripple Creek's World Famous Donkey Herd. For more information please call (719) 689-0738 or visit www.visitcripplecreek.com and go to the Events page.

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35+ acres with cascading stream, Majestic Mountain Views. Aspen Grove building site, locked private access road, power, phone, high speed internet, and abundant wildlife on this tract. Just 10 miles to the charming town of La Veta with golf, shops, schools, airport, restaurant... Wow price at \$59,900

39.40 Acres.
Magnificent mountain views of nine 14,000 ft. peaks with total security. BLM, Unique sandstone



buttes frame the south view of the Spanish Peaks. The West view overlooks ranch land and eight San de Cristo Peaks. To the North is PIKES PEAK. Enjoy the rolling pinion and cedar covered hills with productive gramma grass that deer and elk come to enjoy. Private maintained gated driveway that crosses Bear Creek. Located in Beautiful Walsenburg....Price to sell \$75,000



Cute, cozy, secluded, open floor plan. 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath, club house w/tennis, pool, Fishing, weight room. 1.39 acres, treed, Views, Fenced for the Fur Kids. New Metal roof, earth bermed for extra insulation. Your very own Mountain get-away for only \$129,900



Beautiful 9.60 acres, Rock Outcroppings, Aspens, Spruce & Pine everywhere. Very Private. Power is on property with a Great building site ready for your dream cabin. Florissant Co. Close to Cripple Creek, Woodland Park and only 45 miles to Colorado Springs. \$47,500



Cripple Creek Gem.... Built in 1895... 3 Bedroom/1 bath... Remodeled, New plumbing, electrical, Beautiful Country Kitchen. Great lot on .28 acres with Great Mountain views. Large Pantry, Two Sun rooms, Wood deck. One of the nicest Homes in Cripple Creek. \$134,900



5.06 Acres, 4 Bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 car Garage. ...1928 sq. ft. Beautiful Pikes Peak Views!! Also Views of the most Beautiful Rock Outcroppings in Teller County. Great Horse Property. This Home is True Pride of Ownership... \$249,900



True Colorado Custom Log Masterpiece. Spectacular 9 inch Swedish Cope Log Home with awesome Pikes Peak views!!
Gorgeous great room with fireplace, tongue & groove pine ceilings, breakfast area with bay window, and walk-out to the large deck. Spacious Master Bedroom with sitting area, walk-in-closet, adjoining bath w/jetted tub. This custom home is one of a kind. Must see this one!!! Colorado living at its Best!!! 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 2 Car, .53 acres Divide Co. \$358,900



3 Bedrooms/1 bath, Well maintained cozy, nice home. This Property comes Furnished!! Great getaway cabin or year round. Nice rear deck & storage shed. The perfect location for the outdoors man, Full use of the private lake and Clubhouse, close to Eleven Mile, Spinney Reservoirs & South Platte River. .75 acres all for only \$70,000

2.5 Beautiful Treed Acres. Light and bright updated A-frame, zoned for horse. Home is located just outside of Woodland Park city limits. (lower taxes!!!) New energy efficient furnace, new roof, new seamless gutters, double paned windows, freshly painted exterior. Wow... newer kitchen cabinets w/updated microwave, range/oven. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, Oversized 2 car garage....Great Price \$249,900



1.11 acres mountain cabin, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, Mountain views, Club house with Pool/tennis/weight room/fishing. Just outside of Cripple Creek in Cripple Creek Mountain Estates. Your very own Mountain getaway for only \$139,900

4 bedrooms/2 bath/1 car attached garage.... Well built 2 story with south facing upper deck. Enjoy your morning coffee with your Great Mountain Views !! Adjoining 10 acre lot available in this cul de sac located home. Peace, quiet and wildlife abound. Community Club house, pool, fishing, tennis, weight room. \$234,900



3 Bedroom/1 bath/ 2 car detached garage. 2000 sq. ft. Great A-Frame high atop a corner Mountain lot. Views to the south with great southern exposure. Large deck with great outdoor entertainment, views and wildlife. \$194,900

4/3/2 Beautiful custom built home with huge wall of cathedral windows for lots of sunlight, passive solar and a 3M coating to protect your furniture. 2 x 6 construction. Vermont Casting wood stove, wired for surround sound, vaulted ceilings all tongue and groove knotty pine. Open concept with a loft and small nook. Custom ash cabinets, imported Italian tile, decks on front and back, sunken flagstone patio, landscaping to enjoy the great outdoors. Pride of Ownership.... A Must See. \$289,900



Beautiful 3/3/2 on 1 acre in the heart of Woodland Park and still very private. Large Country Kitchen, Over-size Master suite w/ large bath and walk in closet. Family /game room or possible 4th Bedroom. Central vac, wired for surround sound. One of the most Beautiful treed lots with Aspens and Pine in Woodland Park. Custom Landscaped, sprinkler system, Mountain views of Rampart Range, oversized 2 car Garage. This home shows Pride of Ownership....\$309,000



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