

Welcome to Ute Country



"It is only the farmer who faithfully plants seeds in the Spring, who reaps a harvest in Autumn."
~ B. C. Forbes



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This month's cover is a photo Jeff took at this year's Florissant Heritage Day at the Florissant Grange. The tractor reminds us of harvest time; the time of year when we reap the rewards of the seeds and labors we have sown. It is also a time to give thanks.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the farmers that produce our food, especially the local growers who conscientiously provide healthy foods for our communities. We are grateful for the many professions and individuals that come together to create caring communities. There are many articles inside that exemplify the "unity" in our community.

We would like to thank our readers, our writers, and our growing sales staff, without whom these issues would be impossible. We would like to thank Pueblo Chieftain for always printing a great looking paper. We have the best graphic artist around and truly enjoy bringing forth each issue.

Mr. Spaz would like to thank our readers for the many submissions received. For those of you who do not see your critter pic in this month, keep an eye out for December.

The submission we received for November's Youth Writing Contest, was Park County Pilgrimage, by Elisabeth Newton. She is ineligible for the contest because she is not yet at senior level in her home-school curriculum. We felt her story should run anyway. Great job to Elisabeth!

Thank you,
—Kathy & Jeff Hansen

A special thanks to all listed here for their professional work and time to make this possible.

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Hunting at the Depot

by David Martinek
photos by David Martinek

It was a cool, crisp, sunny morning recently when 20 or so hunters converged on the Midland Depot at Divide. But instead of rifles and game bags, they were armed with sophisticated metal detectors, electronic probes and utility belts crammed with digging tools. These hunters were members of the Pikes Peak Adventure League who had been invited to explore the depot grounds. Based in Colorado Springs, the league is about 60 members strong and routinely conducts surveys of historic properties.

Assisting the group were members of the Board of Directors of the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition ("T.H.E. Coalition"), as well as the Midland Depot at Divide Preservation Project committee, and a couple of local historians, including Mel McFarland. T.H.E. Coalition is the non-profit organization restoring the depot.

After brief introductions, a group photo, some historical background and a round of coffee for everyone, the hunters spread out across the old Colorado Midland and Midland Terminal railroad berms east of the depot. Before long the morning air was filled with a blended murmur of beeps and buzzes.

"Hunting" is the term used by the group to describe their work; in actual practice it is a fair comparison. The long-shafted detector is waved over the surface until a report is heard (sometime using earphones), then a little digging commences and the dirt debris is probed by a hand-held device that can locate objects as small as a pin. Within an hour, there were red, yellow and blue flags everywhere marking the spots where the hunters had found something.

The usual hubris of human activity was certainly found, but laced among the trash of earlier days were the rusted remains of a railroad era from the past. Expected items like railroad spikes and bolts, for example, were uncovered in abundance. But larger pieces were also unearthed, such tie metal plates, locomotive clincher tools, part of a switch down where the eastern wye was located and a number of railroad car brake shoes.



Bill and Anneliese Gillie from Woodland Park explore a spot near the end of the brick platform east of the depot. They found a metal bar and a kitchen utensil.

The shoes were a logical discovery. Between 1894 and 1949, as the double and triple-ended (two or three locomotives) ore trains made their way from the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold District down to the Colorado Springs mills, they stopped at Divide to check the brakes on each heavily loaded car before heading down Ute Pass. The last thing anyone



Over 21 members of the Pikes Peak Adventure League, led by Robert DeWitt (center) converged on the Midland Depot at Divide on a recent Sunday in October to survey the metal artifacts buried on the property.



(Looking towards the depot) After each discovery, the hunter marked the spot with a colored flag and left the artifact in place. Confirmed railroad artifacts were documented and their GPS coordinates recorded.

wanted was a run-away ore train crashing through the rail yards in Colorado City, caused by overheated or broken brakes. So a hot or worn out brake shoe would be replaced and the old parts thrown off to the side of the tracks.

In total, about 15 or 20 shoes were found, many in pieces, but a whole one with the imprint of Colorado Midland initials still plainly visible was discovered.

A small amount of old money, locks, kitchen utensils and other everyday items were also discovered, including two 19th century Indian-head pennies. By the end of the day, the crew had likely uncovered nearly a half ton of rusted metal parts and other artifacts, exposed and left tie where they were found.

These items were picked up by T.H.E. Coalition afterwards. All of the railroad artifacts were documented in place and the GPS coordinates of each piece listed on a roster for future study.

The one thing the group did not find and one of the reasons for their coming in the first place, was the location of the first depot that was erected by the Colorado Midland in 1887.

When the foundation of the current depot was renovated late last year, the archeologist announced that contrary to accepted legend the current depot was not erected on the same spot occupied by the first one (which burned down in the 1890s). There was hope that the mystery of the first depot's location might be discovered by the league – but it was not to be. That mystery continues.

But the day brought both new and expected revelations about railroad activity around the Divide area. In the future a more comprehensive survey may be scheduled for a grid-by-grid dig of the entire historical grounds surrounding the depot. For the present, the collective consensus is that we've only scratched the surface.

London Mine

by Linda Bjorklund

The gold rush that started in 1859 brought many would-be miners to the Rocky Mountains hoping to find their fortunes. The first miners endured icy stream waters as they dug into their claims and swished the dirt around in their gold pans to remove the lighter debris, leaving the heavier material in the bottom—gold. It didn't take too many years for the easy pickings to be gone. This method was called placer mining. There was still plenty of the mineral left, but it was harder to get at.

Lode mining or 'hard rock' mining involved digging out the ore, then crushing it to reveal its components and separating out the gold, silver, lead, copper or any other metals.

The London Mine was discovered by John H. Smith and Larkin Ford in 1874, who very quickly sold their interests for \$200,000 apiece. Early ores were sent to Swansea, England for treatment.

A stamp mill was soon built at London Junction, near the point where Mosquito Creek runs into the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. A stamp mill is a large mechanical device that uses heavy steel stamps to repeatedly drop onto the ore, crushing it into finer material so the metals can then be extracted by water or by chemical means.

Power for the mill was originally supplied by an enormous windmill with 60 foot arms. The windmill was blown down in 1880 during the same windstorm that took out telegraph lines that extended across Mosquito Pass to Leadville.

London Junction was also the location of the depot for the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad, which was completed to that point in 1882.

John T. Herrick became the general manager of the London Mine in 1881 and proceeded to develop the operation on a large scale.

In 1882 the tramway was built, an ingenious way to get the ore from the mine down the mountain to the railroad cars. The tramway buckets were sheet-iron boxes with self-dumping bottoms strung along a continuous steel cable. At the upper house men shoveled about a hundred pounds of ore into each bucket. There were 76 buckets along the steel cable which was 7,760 feet long. The cable revolved in a manner similar to what we now recognize as ski tramways.

Herrick invested \$70,000 to build the London, South Park and Leadville Railroad, which extended the track from London Junction to the bottom of the tramway from the London Mine.

A new stamp mill was built in 1883 with a much larger capacity, powered by a 65-horsepower boiler. By this time the mill was using electricity for light as well and plans were to extend the electrical power into the mine.

The telephone was also a new invention put to use at the London Mine a number of years before the public in local towns were afforded that convenience. The London Mine telephone had four offices, all connected by the same line. One ring of the bell meant the Fairplay office should pick up the receiver; two rings was for London Junction; three bells was for the lower ore house and four bells meant anyone at the mine should answer.

At the mine a number of buildings served the mine workers. There was a large office building with six large rooms: the office area, sleeping rooms for mine officers, and a dining room and kitchen. The bunk house was built with a lean-to on one side used as a reading room for the miners and a lean-to on the other side used as a store-room for mining supplies. The ore house was built so that ore cars could dump ore from the upper story down into bins below. The engine house contained a boiler that created both steam and compressed air, enabling large drills to break into the ground at the rate of five feet per day. The assay office was outfitted with all the necessary equipment to assess the content of minerals in the ore. There was also a stable for horses and jacks (burros) and a powder house for explosives.

In 1892 another new mill was built at a site located at timber line in Mosquito Gulch. The mill was located so that the automatic tramway from the London Mine passed over the building. The ore was fed from the tram buckets



London Mines-North London Mill;
Source: Burton Osborne Family;
photo courtesy Park County Local History Archives



London Mines 1930s; Sanborn Post Card.
photo courtesy Park County Local History Archives

directly into the mill ore bins. The ore was first passed through two crushers or rock breakers, then through two sets of rollers. After that ore was separated by weight so the appropriate process could be performed on the material as it emerged.

The railroad came right to the doors of the mill so the product could be efficiently transported.

Unfortunately legal and political problems brought the mine to almost a standstill. Then, in 1900, a new vein was discovered with a combination of gold, lead and copper. John M. Kuhn, of Alma, of Alma, was then leasing the mine and worked it for those minerals. He was able to pay stockholders a dividend of \$1.15 per share in 1902. Kuhn was able to produce high grade ore for a number of years.

In 1914 it was reported that a Leadville syndicate had leased the London Mine and would install a cyanide mill, a new process for handling ore. Chas. B. Aicher was appointed manager of the property.

Water became a problem in the mine, so in 1918 the Extension Tunnel was built to remove the water. In more recent years the water coming out of the tunnel was tested and found to contain small amounts of metals, including zinc. The metals were not found to be harmful to humans or plants or wild animals. However, the zinc was found to be in sufficient quantities to kill "cerendophia," a water flea that the brown trout eat. A number of processes were tried to reduce the level of zinc, but none were successful. A federal government grant was used to divert mill tailings from the North London to a pit where the runoff would not get into the North Mosquito Creek, so the creek is now considered a proper fish habitat.

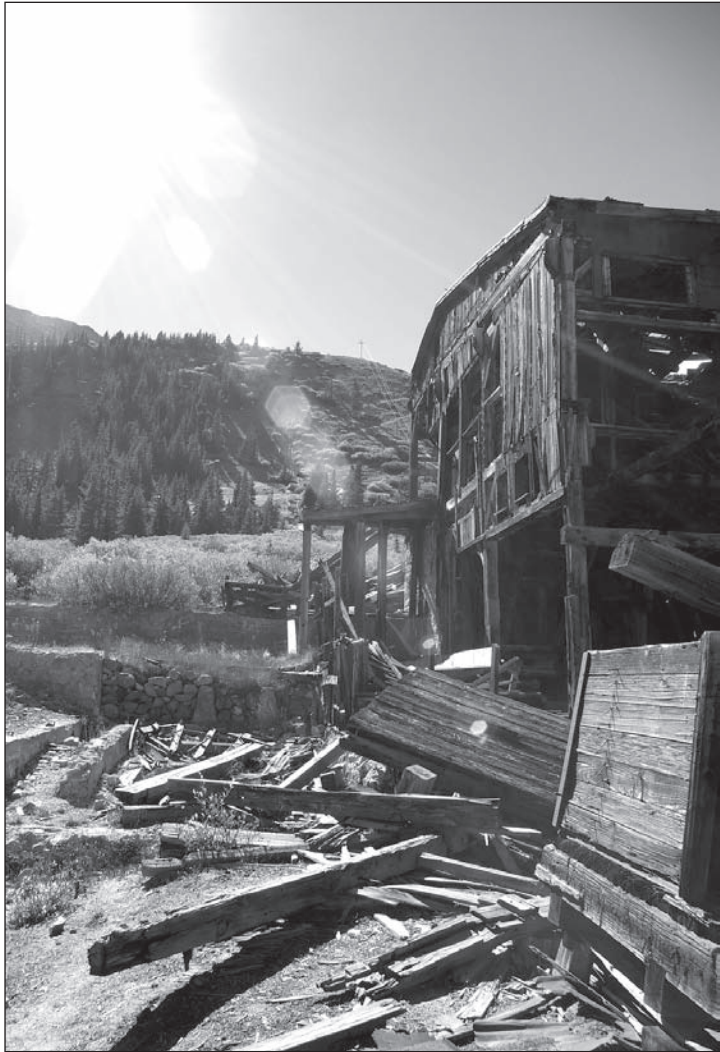
The London Mine was worked into the 1940s, and a new attempt was made to work the mine in 1988, but it was closed again in 1989.

An incident as long ago as October of 1882 proved without too many doubts that it's pretty difficult to rob a mine like the London and get away with it.

Marx Ginsburg, a local Alma merchant, was in the habit of going up to the mine on payday and cashing miners' checks for them. He was able to then sell some of his products to make the trip profitable. Knowing that the payroll amounted to \$2,500 or \$3,500, Ginsburg counted out \$3,000 in cash and wrapped it up in a handkerchief which he carried on his person.

On that particular day, he met up with Starr, the mine's cashier, and Fred Mack, engineer of the London & South Park Railroad, all of whom were on their way to the mine. They noticed that four horsemen, whom they didn't recognize, passed them, riding rapidly up the gulch.

Mack stopped off to visit the railroad camp and the other two men were waiting for him when



North London Mill this fall.
photo by Jeff Hansen

Dr. Yokum rode up, on his way to the mine to collect his monthly stipend. Dr. Yokum convinced Ginsburg to ride ahead with him. They were close to the mine when three of the horsemen who had passed them rode up and ordered them to "throw up your hands and give up the stuff."

Ginsburg instinctively pulled out his revolver and snatched his horse with it. Stunned, the horse took off, but stumbled and threw the man to the ground. As he fell, Ginsburg pulled out the handkerchief containing the money and hurriedly buried it in the snow. He then jumped up and ran toward the boarding house, exchanging shots with the robbers as he went.

In the meantime, Dr. Yokum fled the other direction and ran into and past Starr and Mack, so they knew something had gone awry. The two made their way to the mine, pistols drawn, but saw nothing of the road agents, who had taken off over the pass. Starr tried to telegraph to Leadville, but found that the line had been cut. When Ginsburg had caught his breath, he went back to the spot in the snow where he had buried the cash and found it all intact.

The local sheriff suspected that two of the robbers were Jake Quackenbush and Curly Harrington, known to be in those parts. The sheriff received a tip that Quackenbush was staying at a local house, so he surrounded the premises with deputies and forcibly opened the door, beyond which the outlaw was standing stark naked, except for a gun in his hand. He was persuaded to give up the gun and put on some clothes.

His complicity in the attempted robbery at the London Mine was not proven, but he then stole a gold necklace from one Jennie Morse, while that unfortunate woman was engaged in a street fight with another "dame." Quackenbush thus did a bit of time in the penitentiary for theft.

Sources include: articles from the Fairplay Flume; Ben Wright's Recollections; Virginia McConnell Simmons "Bayou Salado."

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Holiday Bazaar November 9th at Florissant Grange

The "Help U Club's" annual Holiday Bazaar will be coming to the Florissant Grange Hall on Saturday, November 9th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

There will be crafters and vendors offering their wares for sale. The club will be serving biscuits and sausage gravy for breakfast followed by home made chicken and noodles for lunch.

Members of the club pride themselves on fresh baked goodies for the bake sale. This is the perfect opportunity to buy your holiday baked goods such as cakes, pies, breads, cookies and candies. The members make a quilt for the yearly fundraiser and this year's quilt is a beautiful blue toned queen size, which will be raffled off at the end of the day to one lucky winner.

The Help U Club members can be seen at various venues selling tickets for the raffle of the quilt and bake sales. We would like to thank

all of the supporters who have bought tickets and baked goods. We also would like to express our appreciation to all those that have allowed us to fundraise at their place of business or their organized events in our community.

The Help U Club has been helping people in our community in need for the last 70 years. We help individuals and families with rent, utilities, wood, clothing and anything else they may need. We also sponsor families for Christmas. We are completely non-profit and raise all of our money thru the sale of raffle tickets and bake goods.

We have a dedicated group of people who are giving back to our community while having a good time of camaraderie. We always welcome new members because the more people we have, the more people we can help!

Please come and join in the fun and "Help Us Help Others". Call 689-2486 for more info.

Mountain Top Cycling news

The Mountain Top Cycling Club will be having its last meeting of 2013 on November 5th at the Shining Mountain Golf Club in Woodland Park. Jim and Sue Kerr will be sharing their bike tour adventures along with Jackie Grabbert. Jackie's adventures to Vancouver and along the California coast are sure to entertain. A special menu will be available to order before the meeting at 6 p.m. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. This will be a night for members to share stories and adventures they participated in over the year and a glimpse into what is being planned for 2014. Join the fun and maybe win a door prize.

Call Debbie 719-687-2489 for more information or visit www.mountaincyclingclub.com.

Rampart Range Library news

by Antonia Krupicka-Smith

Change is in the air. Not just with the weather, but also at the Rampart Library District. With so many new things around the corner, let's take a moment to look at the things that will remain the same for everybody in the Woodland Park and Florissant Communities.

That is right, the Rampart Library District isn't just Woodland Park Public Library; it is also Florissant Public Library. This means that with your library card from either Woodland Park or Florissant, you have access to everything either Library has to offer. Between both libraries, the Rampart Library District has a location open seven days a week. Although this won't change, what will change is that you will need to have your library card with you to use our computers and checkout materials. Library cards are free for your first one and \$2.00 for a replacement.

The library is also open 24/7 on our website, <http://rampart.colibraries.org>. This won't change, but what will change is the look of our website and what our catalog has to offer. With this change there will be an increased number of materials that you will have access to as well as a greater number of resources. We are hoping that these changes make it easier and quicker to find the information you are wanting. If you look around on some of the pages you will find much more information in a design that is easier to navigate. Besides our website, we also have a number of social media outlets including Facebook, Twitter, a blog, and Pinterest. Take a moment to follow, like, or friend us so that you can be up-to-date with the latest information right in your own feed.

Even with these changes, we at the Rampart Library District know that we wouldn't be here without the wonderful communities that we serve. To celebrate the communities that all that the library has become, we will be having a 10 year birthday celebration of the Woodland Park Library on November 16th from noon un-

til 3pm. This celebration is to recognize all the wonderful things accomplished in the last 10 years and to look forward at all that is to come. The whole family is welcome to help celebrate 10 years in our current Woodland Park building by enjoying music, food, and other activities for all. Florissant Public Library will celebrate its 10 year anniversary on April 26, 2014.

Although a major event in November, it is not the only upcoming program happening at the library. The Rampart Library District will be giving back to the community by partnering with the Community Cupboard of Woodland Park to host a Food For Fines program. For two weeks starting October 28th and ending November 9th, the Woodland Park Public Library and the Florissant Public Library will be accepting non-perishable food with \$1.00 of fines waived for each food item donated. Restrictions do apply so contact your local branch for more information.

The children's department will also be celebrating the release of the latest "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" book on November 5th from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in Woodland Park. The book clubs in both Woodland Park and Florissant will be meeting to discuss "Where'd You Go, Bernadette?" by Maria Semple in Woodland Park on November 5th at 10:30 a.m. and "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck in Florissant on November 20th at 10:30 a.m. The Florissant book club will also be enjoying the movie based on their book selection following the book discussion. As always there will be storytime as usual on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Woodland Park and 10:30 a.m. in Florissant. The Florissant themes are November 7th teeth, November 14th trains, and November 21st, turkeys. Also in Florissant on November 9th at 1:30 there will be a showing of the Youth Summer Drama Clubs production of "Cowgirl Cookie and the Case of the Missing Chocolate Chips".

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Volunteer rehab work in the Springer Fire burn scar.

Water sampling in Eleven Mile Canyon

by The Coalition for the Upper South Platte
photos courtesy of CUSP



Below the dam at Eleven Mile Reservoir and just outside of Lake George, Eleven Mile Canyon is a great place to get away from it all and take in the beautiful scenery. The South Platte River winds its way through Eleven Mile Canyon and makes the canyon ideal for watching wildlife, fishing, or hiking. This area is well-loved by the community and visitors alike, with over 200,000 people visiting Eleven Mile State Park each year.

In order to maintain high quality recreation opportunities and promote ecological health in the area, the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) has been working on a water quality sampling program in Eleven Mile Canyon over the past few years. The initial phase of the program started in 2011 when CUSP took several samples in the area and discovered excess nutrients in the water.

Excess nutrients, primarily phosphorous and nitrogen, can have a cascading negative effect on aquatic ecosystems and the quality of our water. Phosphorous is normally in short supply in most fresh waters, so even a small increase can start a chain reaction.

With more nutrients available, plants grow more readily and algae populations take off and cause algae blooms. As algae populations expand, they consume more and more oxygen, leaving less for other aquatic creatures such as fish and invertebrates. These blooms can therefore lead to fish and other aquatic animal die-off as the water becomes deficient in life-sustaining oxygen.

So how does phosphorous get into our water? Runoff and erosion from riverbanks, riverbeds, land clearing (deforestation), and sewage effluent are the major sources of nutrients. Phosphorous hitchhikes a ride on sediments, and when water is low in dissolved oxygen, the sediment releases phosphate into the water. To make this problem worse, the area around Eleven Mile Canyon is dominated by erosive granite soils. These soils have very little cohesion, so they readily erode away and end up in the river.

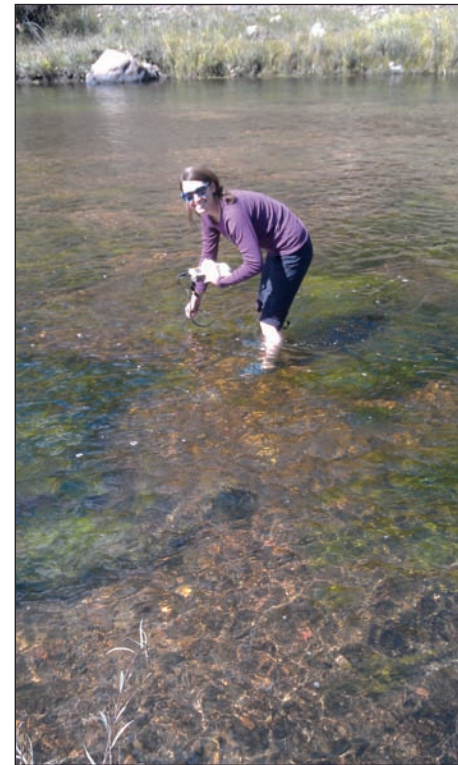
Based on the 2011 samples, CUSP suspected some of the old vault toilets near the South Platte River might be contributing extra nutrients to the river. Since then, the toilets in the Spillway and Riverside Campgrounds, two campgrounds in Eleven Mile Canyon near the South Platte, were replaced in the summer of 2012 with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service funding.

Fire can be another significant source of sediment and nutrients in our waterways. The Springer Fire charred 1,145 acres of forest in Eleven Mile State Park in 2012. The blaze started on June 17th and burned just adjacent to the South Platte River until June 23rd. Several miles of streams are contained within the fire's perimeter, and a little over a mile of the South Platte River lies just outside of the southeast fire perimeter. When high-intensity, hot fires burn they leave very little vegetation to hold the soil in place. The already erosive soils are now even more likely to make their way downhill and into area waterways. Runoff from the Springer Fire is cause for concern, especially if it travels down to the South Platte River itself. If sediment enters the South Platte, it will travel downstream through Messenger and Springer Gulches and contribute to impairment through this entire stretch of river.

Other potential contributors to excess nutrients may include possible septic system leaks from the nearby Boy Scout camp, a subdivi-

sion located near the canyon, or from the Denver Water caretaker homes just below Eleven Mile Reservoir. These systems may very well be working as intended, without leaks, but with their proximity to the river, are worth investigating for any problems.

In order to better understand water quality impacts associated with human factors, fire, and sediment run-off in the South Platte River in Eleven Mile Canyon and work together as a community to address them, CUSP continued our water sampling program this year. Over the summer, USDA Forest Service funding was used again to sample for phosphorous and nitrogen in the South Platte River near Eleven Mile Canyon. Nineteen locations along the river were sampled at three separate times during the summer. This data will be used to assess possible contributions to algae blooms in the South Platte River and inform the next steps needed to address them.



Water sampling in Eleven Mile Canyon.

In the meantime, CUSP has proactively hosted volunteers to help with restoration in the Springer Fire burn scar. Volunteer groups from the United Methodist Church, Trout Unlimited Cuthroat Chapter, and Cripple Creek and Victor School District's Soaring Without Limitations have all generously contributed their time to assist in the burn scar.

Volunteers have helped with rehab work to slow erosion and address potential post-fire water quality impacts. This is the first step in the long process of restoration that will improve the health of the forest and the health of adjacent streams and rivers. If you are interested in helping with this type of work, check www.upperouthplatte.org/Volunteer/ for upcoming volunteer projects. Projects will vary and are dependent on weather, with many more volunteer events opening up in the warmer seasons.

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Fire safety program visits Guffey

by Flip Boettcher
photo by Flip Boettcher

The Fire Safety Program put on by the Southern Park County Fire Protection District on Monday, October 14, at the Guffey Community Charter School was sparsely attended by 11 people. New fire chief, Mike Simpson, firefighter, Mike Parrish and auxiliary president, Doug Schellenger, put on the program with information on what to do in case a wildfire approaches your home and how to avoid interior fires.

Parrish started the program with interior protection tips. Smoke detectors more than double your chances of surviving an interior fire. Be sure you have a smoke alarm on every level of your home and in all sleeping areas. You can have a hard wired smoke alarm or a battery powered one. It is important to change the batteries twice a year, usually at the time change. You should also check your smoke detector every month stated Parrish.

The location of your smoke alarms is very important. The alarm should be located high because smoke rises. If you have a carbon monoxide detector, it should be located low, because carbon monoxide is heavier than air. It is important to detect the gas before the level reaches your bedroom said Parrish. Remember, carbon monoxide is odorless.

It is important to have an escape plan with two ways out of every room in your home in case fire is blocking one escape route. In case of fire, feel any door before you open it. If the door is hot, do not go out that way, use your alternate route. Be sure to practice your escape plan stressed Parrish.

There are many causes of fire, including poor housekeeping, lots of combustibles in the home, extension cords, electrical heaters, dryer lint, any appliances or heating sources and water heaters.

"Keep all combustibles away from appliances, wood burning stoves, water heaters and other heating sources. Don't overload extension cords, run them under furniture or carpets or use frayed cords," Parrish stated. Also, be careful pets don't chew on extension cords. Always properly install approved wood burning devices only.

In the kitchen, be careful of fires while cooking. Kitchen fires are the leading cause of fire injuries among older adults. Never leave a stove unattended, keep pot and pan handles turned inward and never reach above the stove for items.



From left to right are firefighter, Mike Parrish; auxiliary president, Doug Schellenger; and new fire chief, Mike Simpson at the Guffey Charter School during the Fire Safety Program.

If you do have an oven fire turn off the oven and shut the door. If you do have a grease fire, do not use water on it, as that makes it flare up and spatter. "Smother the fire with a lid or baking soda," said Parrish.

"If your smoke alarm sounds get out of the house and do not go back in for any reason," stressed Parrish. "If you are trapped in your house, let the dispatcher know your situation when you call 911. You can then try to seal any openings with wet towels, duct tape or the like."

It is good to have fire resistant materials on your roof and siding. Keep leaves and debris off the roof and out of rain gutters. Store all firewood well away from the house. Definitely do not store firewood on or under the porch or deck.

All chimneys should have spark arresters on them with 1/2" screen. Trim overhanging branches 10 feet away from the chimney.

Clear vegetation 30 feet from around the house, keeping a 15 foot distance between tree crowns and trimming trees 15 feet up to prevent ladder fuels stated Parrish. Keep the area around propane tanks clear.

"Fireplace and stove ashes should be put in a metal container with a lid. Add water and stir the ashes. Then still leave them outside for a couple of more days," said Parrish. "Ashes can stay hot for 48 - 72 hours. Once completely extinguishes, ashes can be spread and scattered around outside."

If you are going to be doing any outdoor burning, you need to get a free burn permit from the fire department to be legal. Follow the proper burning procedures, burn only during permitted hours, have a shovel and water source handy.

Make sure the access route to your house is clearly marked and wide enough for emergency vehicles (10' - 12'). Make sure there is room to turn around. "Fire vehicles are big and heavy," stressed Parrish, "so plan on sturdy

bridges and 60 feet turn around."

Schellenger then talked about the importance of having visible address signs marking your driveways. Signs should be reflective with large numbers and be easy to see. The SPCFPD auxiliary sells green address signs with large, white, reflective numbers. The signs can be one sided - \$15 - or two sided - \$20 - and be either horizontal or vertical stated Schellenger. Address signs need to be seen from either direction. Call the fire department to order one. "Remember, emergency responders need to be able to find your residence to be able to help you," stressed Schellenger.

Chief Simpson gave a brief demonstration on how to use a fire extinguisher. "Remember PASS," he said, "Pull the pin, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep. You want to be 10 to 12 feet from the flames and aim at the base of the fire. Aiming at the flames only spreads them," stated Simpson. You should have extinguishers located near an exit and easily accessible. Call 911 before attempting to put out a fire. In case of an electrical fire, be sure to turn off the electricity.

If you have to evacuate your home, leave your family information sheet and emergency contact list by the phone or on the refrigerator. One should also have a list of medical conditions and medications for the household. These forms are all available at the Guffey fire station said Simpson.

"Remember it will be dark, smoky, windy, and hot. There is nothing you own worth your life! Please evacuate immediately when asked by fire fighters and law enforcement officials," according to the handout "If wildfire is threatening your home".

All the handout materials from the program are available at the fire station. If you need more information, a burn permit, or if you have any questions call 719-689-9479.

Chasing the cure

photos by Karla Schweitzer

The Ute Pass Historical Society, in conjunction with the Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center Foundation, presents Chasing the Cure: The TB Sanatorium in the Pikes Peak Region, featuring photographs, local history and anecdotes from Colorado Springs as well as the Pikes Peak region.

In the late 1800s, health-seekers flocked to Colorado with the hopes of finding a cure from the deadly disease, then known as consumption. Many sought relief at local sanatoriums that offered fresh air and healthful living, such as the Bellvue, Cragmor, Glocker, and Woodmen of the World. Others were treated at less formal locations, such as the Woodland Hotel in Woodland Park. Some unfortunate sufferers succumbed to the false hopes promised by proprietary medicines that often contained deadly ingredients.

The exhibit runs through November in the Pikes Peak Regional Hospital lobby. For more information, contact the Ute Pass Historical Society at 719-686-7512, via email at uphs@peakinter.net, or check our website at utepasshistoricalsociety.org.

The exhibit consists of two glass cases at Pikes Peak Regional Hospital. Top picture features the use of the Woodland Hotel as a sanatorium.



Meet and Greet with Sandi Sumner

by Hannah Taylor, Grade 7

The Guffey Charter Middle School class went to the Meet and Greet at the Guffey Community Library to meet the author, Sandi Sumner. Mrs. Sumner has written several books about women pilots in Alaska, women who have climbed Mt. Denali, and her newest book, an adoption reunion story. Mrs. Sumner talked about her life and that she was adopted also. Her inspiration on birth-mothers and adoptees are a big part of her life!

The middle school class is learning about writing, including: adventure, humor, and fiction.

The Guffey Charter School arranged a time when they could have a writer's workshop with Mrs. Sumner to work with the middle school students. Mrs. Sumner came in on September 25th and did a couple free-writes with us. She is currently working on a book about an air traffic controller who was working on 9/11/2000 and asked us to do some research for her book. She has agreed to include our class in the acknowledgments at the front of her book once it's published.



Author Sandi Sumner

I thought it was amazing that she is writing a book about adoption and reunions when she is an adoptee and tried to reunite with her own mom. It was hard to do the free-writes because you can't stop writing to make corrections or edit your work, but it was a lot of fun to read our stories to her and be told what good imaginations we had. We had a good time working with her and she also seemed to enjoy herself because she has agreed to return to our class and work with us again in the future.



The Thymekeeper - Fire Cider

by Mari Marques

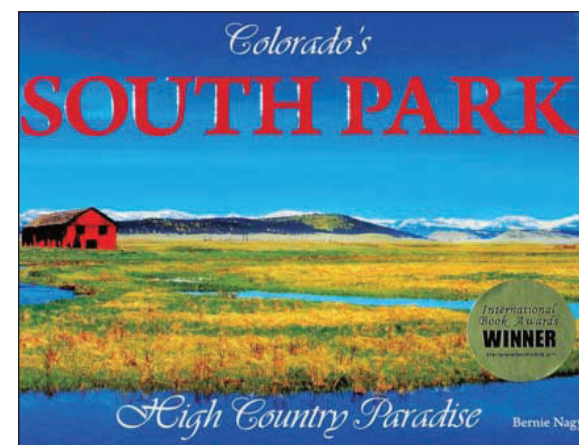
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- 1/2 cup fresh grated horseradish root (be prepared, some of these will make your nose run and eyes water!)
- 1 Medium Onion chopped
- 2 Jalapeno peppers chopped (can substitute cayenne peppers)
- Zest & Juice from 1 Lemon
- Several springs of fresh Rosemary or 2 Tbsp dried leaves

Prepare the herbs and place them in a quart mason jar. Cover with Apple Cider Vinegar. Place a piece of wax paper under the lid to avoid metal reaction to vinegar.

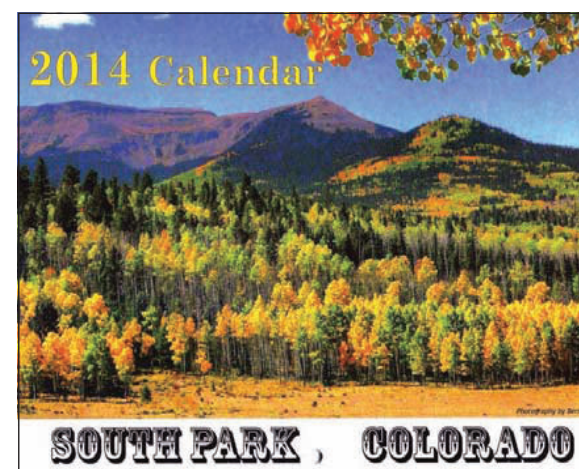
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The beautiful blue flax

by Ciena Higginbotham

The Blue flax (*Linum lewisii*) is a flower that can be seen in Teller and Park Counties. There are around 220 different species of flax. Blue flax grows 18–24 inches tall. Its native habitat is woodland areas, prairies, meadows, and fields. It rarely stands straight up, but rather leans at an angle. Its flowers, which are a pale, sky blue, with 5 petals, are about 1 to 1 ½ inches across, and the petals are veined in a darker blue that contrasts with the beautiful lighter blue of the flower. These dark veins act as runways for various insect visitors that work as pollinators.

The blue flax is a perennial with delicate leaves and flowers that blooms from March to September. Each stem produces several flowers, blooming from the bottom upward. The seeds are produced on the lower flowers while those above continue to bloom. The stem is leafy when the plant is young, and gradually loses most of its leaves as it matures. Leaves are spirally arranged, narrow, lanceolate, and about ¾ of an inch long.

These plants are endemic to middle to high elevations. It is a good garden flower as it is so eye-catching: every morning it covers itself with lynch blue flowers. The leaves stop at 18 inches or so, but the flowers reach above making a total, arching display of blue flowers up to two feet high. The blue flax is used in perennial gardens, rock gardens, or even in simple containers.

In areas where the snow is on the ground until March to June, this plant will flower all summer long. Blue flax can be seen in snow fields and in dry, rocky, sunny sites at 6,000 to 8,000 feet. Blue flax has done well within sight of the ocean on the west coast and will survive in the desert as long as it gets enough water—which is a precious commodity in the desert.

This is another plant that doesn't behave as you would think: it survived up in our garden in Florissant with no water for two seasons in full sunlight—flowering its little heart out each morning from late March until mid-July. The reason it did not get water is the drought we experienced. In the garden, it does need to be trimmed down each winter.

Various native peoples used flax for cordage and string, as well as for mats, snowshoes, fishing nets and baskets. Flax is also grown for the linen fibers which are obtained from the stems.

The seeds of blue flax are edible when cooked and are very nutritious and have a



Artwork by Ciena Higginbotham



About the author:

Ciena Higginbotham is a youth member (Pebble Pups) of the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club, Lake George, Colorado. She is a 15-year-old 9th grade.

pleasant nutty taste. Raw seeds contain cyanide, but this is removed in the cooking process. Because of its link to good health, flaxseed is fast becoming a new food in many diets. Flaxseed adds a pleasant flavor to many basic foods and is rich in dietary fiber. It may protect against heart disease and cancer and has a positive influence on blood cholesterol, and immune system diseases such as arthritis and lupus. An infusion of the whole plant has been used as a hair and skin wash. It is reportedly very beneficial to the skin and also helps to prevent hair loss.

On your next drive through Teller or Park County, keep your eyes out for these beautiful flowers. Now you will know a little of the science that goes with the bright blue flowers.

Blue flax in bloom near the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Original artwork © by Ciena Higginbotham. It was named after Meriwether Lewis

of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Facts at a glance	
Water use	Medium
Light requirement	Sunshine
Soil moisture	Dry
Drought tolerance	High
Soil description	Sand

Park County Pilgrimage

by Elisabeth Newton

photos by Emily Newton

The trees are turning, and there is a chill in the air as a group of kids follow a series of clues across Praise Mountain property. In a single afternoon they run into thugs, get captured, sword-fight with Apollyon, walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, are knighted at Palace Beautiful, trudge through the Slough of Despond, and carry their heavy burdens up the hill "Difficulty."

The Pilgrim's Progress Scavenger Hunt was hosted by the World Literature class of the Teller and Park County Homeschool Group. The World Literature class, which meets every Thursday through the school year, studied the classic by John Bunyan during the month of September. On October 4, nine students were put to the test at a mock pilgrimage with many surprises. The places portrayed in the original story, such as the Valley of Humiliation, the Palace Beautiful, the Interpreter's House, and many others were recreated on the Praise Mountain property in very clever and unique ways for the day. For example, the duck pond served as the Slough of Despond, the prayer caves became Doubting Castle, and a dark hay barn became an obstacle course for the Valley of the Shadow of Death.

When it got dark that night, the group retired and warmed their hands at the Celestial City Pizza Party. Everyone was able to laugh over memories and pictures from the day, and talk to people who were behind the scenes. Some pilgrims stayed up late to watch the Pilgrim's Progress film after the pizza party.

There were many people from the community involved in putting together the scavenger hunt. There were photographers, actors, craftsmen who helped build swords and signs, and those who wrote the clues and the script to make it all come together. The pilgrims thank everyone for the loads of effort put into the event to make a fun, memorable day. A



Joshua Newton, Josiah Almeyda, Andrew Calzadilla, Alex Bateman, Elisabeth Newton, Kathryn Newton, and Cameo Hockenberry crawl to the "Interpreter's House" with heavy burdens on their backs.



Talia and Traesa Smith trudge through the "Slough of Despond".

big thanks goes especially to Rena Smith, the teacher of the World Literature class at the homeschool group, for her creativity and loving devotion.

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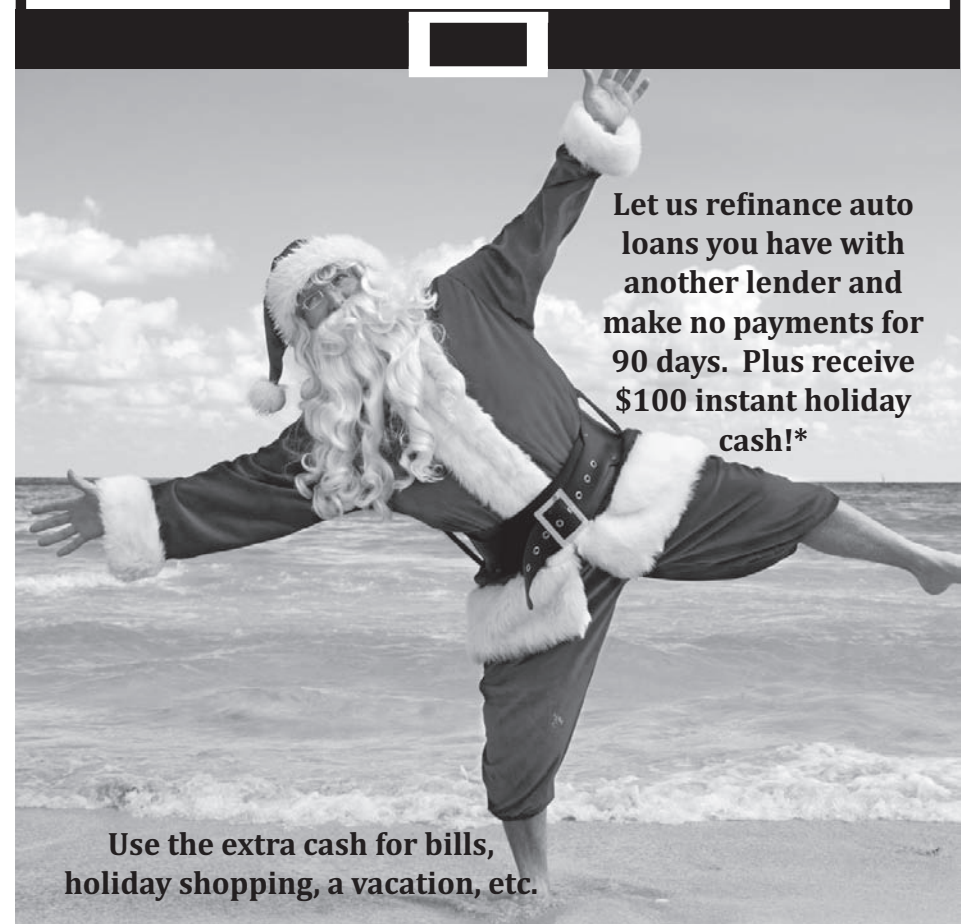
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The Life and Times of Jesse Higgins Waters

by David Martinek

According to the "Rocky Mountain Sun", one of several newspapers published in Aspen during its silver days in the 1880s and 90s, Jesse Higgins Waters was "as fat and jolly as ever" and a "born railroad man" (from an article dated February 9, 1895).

Whether he was fat and/or jolly depends on one reporter's opinion, but the fact that he grew up in the railroad business is documented. Throughout his 52 years until his death in 1914 in a train accident, Waters represented the Denver and Rio Grande and the Colorado Midland railroads, as well as several freight companies. Eventually, he became superintendent and president of the Midland Terminal railroad and most of its consolidated operations serving the Cripple Creek and Victor gold mining district. This is his story.

Although not much is known of Jesse Waters' early childhood, except that he was born in 1862 - according to his tombstone in Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Spring, there are more reliable accounts of his teen years where he was seen "parading the platform at Parsons, Kansas" working as a railroad porter for \$20 a month "under the supervision of his father." Parsons is a small community in the southeastern part of the state about 35 miles northeast of Coffeyville, as the crow flies.

A little later, at age 16 (in 1878), he was given his first real job as chief clerk of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad at Parsons, a position he held with distinction until he was called to be a messenger for the Adams Express Company, a freight enterprise founded in the 1840s which is still around today as an investment trust. His messenger duties put him in contact with a variety of railroad companies where he learned valuable skills and the subtle details of a complicated business.

Fast forward five years to 1883 where Waters is stationed in Chicago for the Adams Express Company, and where the Denver and Rio Grande Express Company hired him as their assistant general agent in Leadville. He was 21 years old at the time. He remained in "Cloud City" until sometime after Aspen began to develop as a prominent silver mining district. In 1885, he came to Aspen to serve as the Denver and Rio Grande's representative for the passenger and freight departments, and also as agent for the Rio Grande Express company, as well as Carson's stage line.

During his early days in Aspen, Waters became a young, up and coming figure in the community, at one time elected (in 1887) to be a delegate to the Democratic county convention for Aspen's second ward. He also got into a few scrapes.

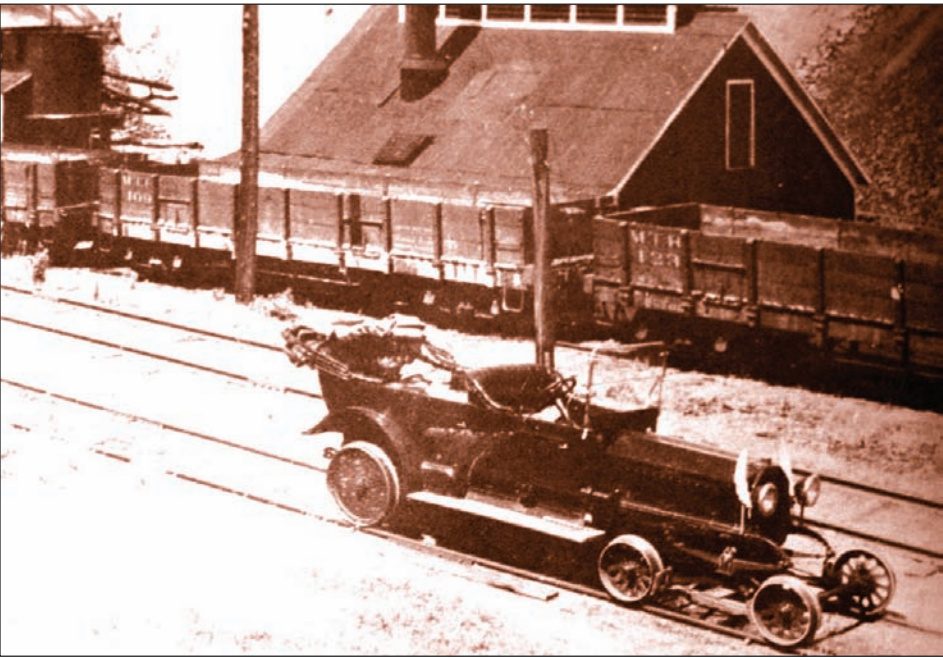
One episode occurred in September 1888 while the Colorado Midland and the Denver and Rio Grande railroads were fighting it out for the silver ore transport business. Waters and 15 other men were arrested for contempt of court for refusing an order to "clear the road" of a Denver and Rio Grande locomotive, supposedly to allow the Colorado Midland to finish laying their tracks into town from Maroon Creek or to bring one of their own engines into the city. The event was reported by the "Leadville Daily and Evening Chronicle". It is not certain how that melee ended, but it is ironic that on October 1 of the same year, Waters had "transferred his services" to the Colorado Midland as their general agent in Aspen, as well as the resident agent for the Wells Fargo Express Company.

Waters' work with the Rio Grande Express Company was audited prior to his leaving as confirmed by a newspaper article in the "Aspen Daily Chronicle" on October 5, 1888, which reads that a "Mr. F. C. Smutzer, one of the traveling auditors of the Denver and Rio Grande Express Company, has just completed his labors in this city in checking Colonel Jesse H. Waters out and Colonel Frank I. Smith (Waters' replacement) in. He reports Colonel Jesse Waters 'O.K.' in all his dealings between the corporation and the people and says the narrow gauge will soon be broad" (a reference to the Denver and Rio Grande's plans to add a third rail to their narrow gauge lines).

The title "Colonel" appears to be an honorary attribution favored by the Aspen newspapers and reserved for outstanding members of the community. It appears in no other newspaper accounts elsewhere.

So now at the young age of 25, Waters has a decade of experience in the railroad industry and is working for two companies and drawing two paychecks. Around Thanksgiving in November 1888, the "Aspen Daily Chronicle" printed comments from local residents featuring those things they were most thankful for. Jesse Waters was quoted as being "thankful for his \$5000 salary."

Though it is unclear what relationship Waters retained with the Denver and Rio Grande after 1888, later newspaper stories cite him as being "joint agent" for both railroads (the Rio Grande and the Colorado Midland). Perhaps he left the Denver and Rio Grande Express



It was in a Midland Terminal VIP inspection car like this one that Jesse Waters was killed near Cripple Creek when he collided head on with a steam locomotive helper engine running at full speed. (Photo from Mel McFarland's Collection)

Company but stayed on as the railroad's agent. At least that is what later newspaper articles indicate. What is known is that in April 1893, during a rate war between the two railroads, Waters resigned his position (or positions) and was appointed general freight agent for the Colorado Midland, presumably causing a move to Denver. This was about three years after the Santa Fe had purchased the Colorado Midland Railway from James J. Hagerman and his host of investors.

His new position apparently lasted less than 18 months. Newspaper accounts in both the "Aspen Morning Sun" and the "Denver Times" early in 1895 list Waters as the general agent in Cripple Creek for the Midland Terminal Railroad, a standard gauge spur line connecting the gold district with the Colorado Midland in Divide. The Midland Terminal had a strong relationship with the Colorado Midland and would complete its construction all the way into Cripple Creek by December of that year, the last leg from Victor helped along by Waters' considerable efforts.

A Midland Triumph.
The announcement was promulgated this afternoon, and was subsequently confirmed by the gentleman himself, that Colonel Jesse Waters, who has for a long time been identified with the Denver and Rio Grande at this point, had transferred his services to the Colorado Midland, and that upon October 1st he will be inaugurated as the general agent of the broad gauge, and the resident agent of the Wells Fargo Express Co., thus receiving the salaries and compensation attached to both of the positions. While a host of friends unite in exulting over the good fortune of Colonel Waters, they cannot resist this opportunity of congratulating the Midland upon its acquisition and at the same time deploring the Rio Grande's loss. Mr. Waters' success at the Rio Grande has not yet been designated, although he will no doubt represent the best talent in their corps of adjutants.

The announcement in September 1888 in the Aspen Daily Chronicle of "Col. Jesse Waters'" appointment as general agent of the Colorado Midland. (Image from Colorado Historical Newspapers Collection)

Waters also became superintendent of the Midland Terminal. An article in the April 24, 1895 issue of the "Denver Times" spelled it out, "For the past few days it has been rumored that a change would take place in the superintendency of the Midland Terminal, but nothing definite could be learned about it until today, when the announcement was made that instructions had been issued by Mr. (H) Collbran, now in Chicago, for the publication of a circular announcing the appointment of Jesse Waters as superintendent, to go into effect on May 1. Mr. Waters is the general agent for the company at Cripple Creek, and the appointment of superintendent adds to his duties. In fact, he will be monarch of the entire outfit, occupying a dual position of general agent and superintendent."

By contrast, a story in the Cripple Creek "Morning Times", dated January 1, 1898, charts Waters' route to Cripple Creek a little differently, saying that he left Aspen in 1893 "and on the death of young Collbran (president of the Midland Terminal from 1895 to 1898)

he was appointed general freight agent with offices in Denver. Thereafter, in February 1895 "he came to Cripple Creek as superintendent and general agent for the Midland Terminal, the line being built from Victor."

Regardless of when he got to Cripple Creek, once there he made his presence and his "immense reserve of personal courage" known by fighting to complete the construction of the Midland Terminal lines through the Portland and Strong mines above Victor and on across to Cripple Creek. He also helped to insure that his railroad had access to the samplers and ore bins of surrounding mines where competition with the Florence and Cripple Creek narrow gauge railroad was fierce. Sometimes, those efforts were nothing short of shenanigans - tracks laid over a competitor's tracks on weekends or in the "dim light of early morning." Once, both railroads ran boxcars on their tracks to block the route of the opposing line, resulting in cars being wrecked to splinters.

But Waters survived all these antics with a good reputation and earned the respect of railroaders and mine owners alike. He was popular, gregarious and very social, and is mentioned repeatedly in the "Morning Times" as attending parties and teas and other events regularly.

In 1911 Waters had to contend with labor disputes and threatened strikes by trainmen and engineers over wages. The Colorado Midland had averted a strike by granting increased wages through an agreement with their workmen's "grievance committee." Fireman on all the Denver and Rio Grande lines were also demanding more money at the same time. Waters, however, held the line and refused to increase trainmen salaries on the Midland Terminal, as well as the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek District Railroad (the "Short-line"), which was by that time under the same management as the Midland Terminal - and Waters was president of both.

Life for Jesse Higgins Waters ended abruptly in 1914 when an early version of his Midland Terminal VIP inspection car (a Pearce-Arrow) met a steam locomotive helper engine running at high speed near Cripple Creek. A story in the "Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph", dated December 19, 1914, lists the condition of J. T. Lendrum of the Short Line as steadily improving. Lendrum "sustained a fractured skull in a railroad accident in Cripple Creek which resulted in the death of Jesse H. Waters, president of the line."

His burial at Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs was well attended. After Waters' death, the Midland Terminal tunnel about half way between Midland and Gillette (now located at the Horse Thief Trailhead on Colorado Highway 67) was renamed the Waters Tunnel in his honor.

The Cripple Creek "Morning Times" summed up Jesse H. Waters life and accomplishments by saying that "he never faltered in any particular in his line of duty, and much of the success of the Midland Terminal has been due to his efforts." A born railroad man for sure.

Sources: The Cripple Creek Road - A Midland Terminal Guide and Data Book by Edward M. "Mel" McFarland; historical newspaper stories from the "Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph", the "Denver Times", the "Rocky Mountain Sun", the "Aspen Daily Chronicle", the "Aspen Morning Sun", the "Aspen Weekly Times", the "Leadville Daily and Evening Chronicle" and the "Cripple Creek Morning Times". I could find no photos of Jesse Higgins Waters.

Bo's blessings

by Patricia Gilbert

I moved from a magical, beautiful, small mobile home park in Bishop California where I lived for 31 years. My daughter and her husband, Don Barton, wanted me to move closer as I'm going to be 80 on my next birthday. They looked for a little cabin with a fenced in yard etc. My reply was, "If I could walk to your house I would pack up tomorrow."

First Giant Blessing: I get a phone call with the two of them giggling, saying "Ma the house next door is for rent, so start packing." It was like taking off in a big air balloon, spirits high, anticipation over-flowing.

I am an artist and if you can imagine I had two sheds full of paintings, never hung, but were anxious to get out of that storage shed. I donated my mobile home to the Benton Ute Tribe, honored to have the Chief and a contractor sitting on my porch having coffee. The tribe donated \$1000.00 toward my moving expenses.

Don arrived with that terrific grin. He helped pack what I didn't sell. My grandson, Ben, followed behind driving Don's car. Don driving the U Haul truck and trailer with my '90 Oldsmobile in tow. Bo had a cozy bed in the back of the car.

I saw wondrous country on the way here, arriving three days later to what was, in my eyes, a mansion. Val and her dear, and I do mean dear, friends in the three weeks prior to my arrival completely rejuvenated the home making it come alive again. A lot of wear and tear was cleaned up. Fresh paint in my favorite colors applied with the loving hands of my granddaughter, Brianna, Valerie, and some of Valerie's precious friends, Debbie and Barb. Valerie furnished my new home via craigslist. She found couches that Bo sneaks up on occasionally. OK, OK! I'll get to the heart of this story.

On Aug 4th I took Bo to a near-by lake where we had gone previously. She would usually run home behind my car. This day, however, she passed me up, running in front of the car. She was hurt badly; she was crying and bleeding, but managed to get in the back seat with my help. When we arrived home she got out and lay there on the ground. It was a Sunday morning.

I called Don and Val and immediately they were there. Don picked her up placed her in the back of their car. Val called Dr. Mike Factor of the Animal Medical Center, 15226 W. Hwy 24 and he was there when we arrived. He took her in the back and X-rayed her and found a major break in her back leg, broken talus bone, multiple broken metacarpal bones, a half dozen ruptured collateral ligaments and a dislocated ankle. He highly suggested an orthopedic specialist to pin and set the damage which would cost approximately another \$3000.00 over and above the initial \$1000.00 emergency visit.

Now folks, as you can gather from my intro I don't even own a credit card. I live on social security and occasionally sell a painting, mostly to doctors. Go Figure.

Valerie and Don put it on the credit card and decided we would figure it out later. Dr. Mike Factor said he would do his very best, but there was a 70 to 80 percent chance Bo would have her leg amputated if she didn't have the bones pinned by the Orthopedic Surgeon. Dr. Mike understood our financial situation and performed surgery.

Bo came out with a full cast from hip to covered paw. Dr. Mike said he did a MacGyver maneuver. He cut a window in the cast so the lacerations could be cleaned daily to prevent infection. Bo never even whimpered. With antibiotics,



Dr. Mike Factor with Bonne and Patricia Gilbert

pain pills, and devoted daily bandage changes, Bo continued to get better. Bo, with heritage of Husky and Heeler (who knows what else) is a beautiful pooch. Sweet natured and barks as though she means to eat other dogs, although she has never been in a tassel with any species.

With growing medical bills mounting, a woman we met told us about a wonderful foundation, Harley's Hope. An angel, founder of the nonprofit Harley's Hope Foundation, Cynthia Bullock heard the story and helped with \$500.00 toward the vet bill.info@harleys-hopefoundation.org

Valerie told some of her neighbor friends about the accident and the overwhelming



The Fundraiser Gang!

expenses of vet bills. Her friend Laurel decided to throw a fundraiser to help pay the vet bills. A wonderful group of talented ladies made pillows, baked goods, wine, jewelry and other beautiful items to sell. The date was set for September 11th; a day we decided to honor and do a good turn. These wonderful ladies with their generous donations raised over \$500.00.

I want take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation and gratitude to all those that helped! I find myself with a continuous grin on my face, pinching myself, being thankful for meeting folks I didn't know before moving to this glorious place called Colorado.

Less than three months after the accident Bo's walking 3 miles a day!

Pictures in time

A review of Park County, Colorado: A Photographic History

by Jeff Hansen

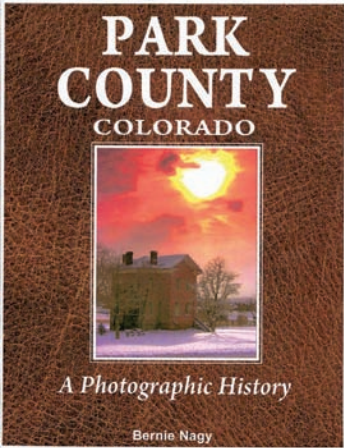
Fairplay author and photographer Bernie Nagy has done it for the third time. He has produced a coffee table book packed full of pictures,

evenly distributed between historical photos and those he's taken himself. This immediate comparison helps the reader experience life in Park County as it was about 100 years ago, then to the present, to note the evolution.

This beautifully bound book is well researched and includes interesting snippets describing the little towns that popped up, from Alma to Webster; local landmarks, businesses, and colorful characters of Park County.

Those of you who enjoy doing a little research before heading out to a ghost town will appreciate the maps in the back of the book.

This is definitely a book you want on your coffee table when out of town guests are expected. To learn more about how to get your copy please email info@HighCountryArtworks.com or see www.ParkCountyColoradoHistory.com or www.HighCountryArtworks.com



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2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Sport
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 5.7L V8 16V
Transmission: 5-Speed Automatic
Ext. Color: Flame Red
Int. Color: Medium Slate Gray
Mileage: 113,811
Price: \$15,495



2002 Ford F-150 Supercrew Lariat
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 5.4L V8 16V
Transmission: 4-Speed Automatic
Ext. Color: Dark Highland Gray
Int. Color: Medium Parchment
Mileage: 140,928
Price: \$9,995

2003 Audi A8 L 4.2 Quattro AWD
Drivetrain: quattro AWD
Engine: 4.2L V8 40V
Transmission: 5-Speed Automatic
Ext. Color: Light Silver
Int. Color: Saber Black
Mileage: 124,589
Price: \$9,495



2008 Ford Edge SEL
Drivetrain: AWD
Engine: 3.5L V6 24V
Transmission: 6-Speed Automatic
Ext. Color: Redfire
Int. Color: Camel
Mileage: 93,375
Price: \$13,995

2007 Ford F-250 King Ranch Crew Cab 4x4
Drivetrain: 4WD
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Transmission: Automatic
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Int. Color: Brown
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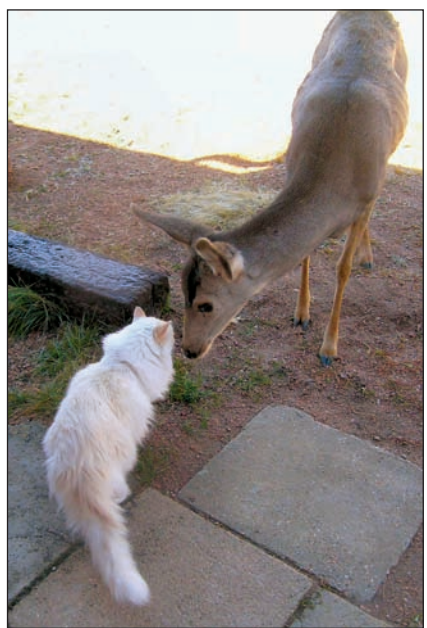
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in his yard - Ralph and Doris
Palmer, Divide



Handle-Chewing Fox-
Del & Dave, Divide



Crevan, (fox in Irish) - Diana
Doyle, between Woodland Park
and Divide

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

A THANKFUL FAIRY

by Danielle Dellinger

The Lodgepole pine tree fairy, Treana, could only watch as drought, wildfires, and mountain pine beetles destroyed her beloved trees. She knew that these events were just part of life, and she couldn't stop them. Her large family had resided in a few of the oldest Lodgepole pines. The trees live up to 400 years, and grow to 150 feet. With the three different subspecies combined, the trees cover roughly 50 million acres of the western regions of North America. They got their name because the Native Americans used their slender trunks to support their tipis. She had admired the Native Americans for the respect they held for everything they used. She wished that other things held that much respect for her beloved trees.

Her powers weren't mature, and her family had recently been attacked and taken over by the mountain pine beetles. Her father and the fae-warriors had fought back against the aggressive, invasive bugs, but they were defeated. The female beetles started the attack, gnawing through the bark ferociously, releasing pheromones that called more beetles to the tree. The fae-warriors had been outnumbered, and were trampled to death. Nearly all of Treana's family had been crushed into the bark as the pine beetles muscled their way in. It had been devastating to watch as their home was consumed. She and a few distant relatives had sat on a nearby tree, watching the throng of shiny black bodies flow into the tree. Her kind of fairy could feel the heartbeats of every tree, and this particular catastrophic event had caused dramatic palpitations, bringing all of the fairies to their knees and weakening them for several days.

Unfortunately, the severe palpitations eventually took their toll on her relatives, and they passed away, leaving her alone and looking for a new family. She couldn't understand why she had survived; maybe because the young tended to be more resilient. She was not a solitary fairy like wind fairies, or crystal fairies, so being on her own was practically a death sentence. Finding a new fairy family was going to be hard, though, since most had been wiped out by the pine beetles. Winter was coming, and Treana wasn't yet strong enough to warm the inside of the pine trees by herself. Plus, the bitterness she held would inhibit her from casting the warm glow she needed to.

Now, she sat on the bare branch of an aspen tree as a chilly November wind rattled her tiny frame. She shivered and her light green hair blew into her face in stringy strands. Her skin was the same color as the bark of Lodgepole pines, and it even had the same patterning, like she had been cut out of the bark itself and sanded down into the small fairy she was now, smaller than a

hummingbird. Her outfit that was like a one-piece swimsuit was made entirely of hummingbird feathers, with the tail feathers creating fringe at the bottom. Her eyes were completely black with blue irises, unique to her species. Her wings were similar in shape and color to willow leaves and had an outer covering of Lodgepole pine tree needles for protection, but they were useless to stay warm with.

She flew off the branch, heading to the denser part of the forest. She landed on a Lodgepole pine tree and huddled against the trunk, listening to its steady heartbeat. Sometimes, the heartbeat could give guidance to where more of her kind resided. The stronger the beat, the closer she was. Thankfully, this tree's heartbeat was very strong. The thought of finding a new family excited her, and her wings began to beat rapidly, though she stayed on the branch. She was just on the outskirts of Victor, Colorado, so she flew south, coming across Phantom Canyon road.

There were many tales about this road; most were eerie and hair-raising. Since it possessed some form of magical qualities, it was the perfect place for fairies to make their home. Wherever spirit energy was strong, so was fairy energy. The two energies fed off of each other, creating quite the electrically charged area. The closer she got, the more the air began to snap and pop with the cumulated energy, hers joining it. The sun had set behind the mountains, casting the world into goldish-grey light. Up ahead she could see tiny white lights blinking in and out around a Lodgepole pine. It was the right time of day to still see the tree for the most part, while also being able to see the slight glow that emitted from the inside. A fairy family was definitely living there.

The trees were thin here, but still relatively close together. She landed on the tree next to it, and listened to the soft thrum of fairy harps coming from inside the trunk. There was an opening straight across from her, and she started to fly toward it, her heart racing with joy. She was just a couple of feet away from the hole when a bell began to ring frantically, the high pitch jarring to her long and pointed ears.

"Halt!" shouted a male voice, moments before she was jumped on and sent hurtling toward the branch below.

A body landed on top of her but the fairy quickly rolled to his feet, pointing a pine needle arrow to the back of her neck. "Move and you'll be killed," ordered the same male voice. "What do you think you were doing, flying straight for the grand entrance?"

"I'm j-just seeking shelter, sir!" she replied, shakily.

"Ha, likely. Are you a spy? Do you work for the pine beetles? Are you a dark fairy?"

"What?!" It was the most absurd thing she'd ever heard. "No! I lost my whole family to a pine beetle invasion. I wouldn't spy for them!"

He pushed the tip of the arrow into the back of her neck, pricking her skin. She gasped and

quickly rolled to the side, getting a thin scratch across her neck in the process. She scrambled to her feet, facing him. "Please. Don't shoot. I mean no harm. I'm just alone, and tired of it." His arrow was aimed right at her heart, and she thought for sure this was the end.

Tense seconds ticked by, but he finally lowered his weapon. "You will be detained until further notice. Madam Chief will decide your fate shortly," he said coolly. Treana sighed and bowed her head as more guards appeared out of the shadows and surrounded her.

When a fairy is detained, they wear a golden collar around their throat and golden shackles on their wrists, which are then clipped to the collar. This keeps them from using their hands to create tools or spells. Not that Treana had much power to begin with, but she understood it was protocol. She was led down a winding, elegant staircase to a large ballroom that was crammed with tiny bodies enjoying some sort of festival activities. At the bottom of the stairs she was tugged away from the excitement, and was led down a hall that wasn't lit up as brightly as the stairs had been. The next thing she knew, she was being shoved into a room and the door was shut and locked behind her. She looked around and noticed that the only source of light was from the ceiling of the small cell, and it was coming from a sap orb that had been lit with fairy powers.

She awkwardly sat down with her knees bent, resting her elbows atop them. She couldn't hold back the negative and disheartening thoughts anymore, and they washed over her quickly. She stared at a spot on the wall in front of her as she despaired about the possibility of never having a family again. Lone wild animals that were meant to be in a group usually didn't survive long. She was like that, and she wondered how much longer she had to live before she wilted away into orange sparks.

Time might as well have stopped for her, because she was still sitting there having a pity party when the door finally opened and the guy who'd jumped on her earlier walked in. Now that she could actually look at him in the light, and he was facing her, she was fascinated by how handsome he was. His auburn hair nicely complemented his hazel eyes that had vertical, rectangular pupils. He was a different tree fairy species. His skin was tinted the same color as a blue spruce's needles, indicating he'd come from the blue spruce tree fairy species. She was curious as to how he'd gotten here, but she had to silence her thoughts when she realized that he was speaking to her as he stood in front of her. "... then will decide. Understand?" was all she'd heard.

"Sorry, say that again," she said sheepishly, a light rouge barely showing up on her cheeks.

He sighed heavily and rolled his eyes. He was a rather dramatic creature. "Madam Chief will meet with you briefly and ask you questions about your intentions then will decide if you can

stay. Got that?" His tone had sharpened.

She nodded and clumsily got to her feet. He put his hand on her shoulder and steered her out of the room and farther down the not-so-well-lit hallway. After many turns and a few staircases, they stood outside two large doors. The guards standing on either side of the doors moved in unison to open them. Treana was then forced in and roughly shoved down onto her knees before a large throne made of sand. On it sat an elegant woman with wings like a dragonfly's. She smiled at all of them sweetly. She was clothed in bright orange silk robes. Treana surmised that it was her that caused most of the glowing seen from outside.

"Ragnon," she spoke, her voice soft, like tinkling glasses, "don't you think you're being a bit excessive again?" She arched an eyebrow and smirked.

The man with his hand on Treana's shoulder cleared his throat. "I'm only following protocol."

Madam Chief's eyebrow rose higher while her smirk grew. "Do I really need to tell you that she hasn't reached magical maturity yet?"

Ragnon shifted. "No, your Faeness."

"Well then," she said expectantly.

He nodded and removed the collar and shackles from Treana, who was impressed he'd called her Faeness, a term reserved for powerful fairies. Ragnon then stepped back, standing with his head bowed.

"Now, young miss," Madam Chief said, looking Treana up and down. "What brings you to us?"

"I'm alone," said Treana. "Ah," Madam Chief said with a slight lift of the head. "You're looking for a new family. What happened to yours?"

"They were either stampeded to death during the pine beetle invasion, or the severe palpitations of the dying tree's heart killed them."

A knowing smile graced the Faeness's lips.

"Ragnon, did she tell you this?"

He nodded, head still bowed.

"And you still chose not to show her any mercy despite your similar stories?"

"I didn't kill her. That counts for something," he muttered haughtily.

"Need I remind you that you were treated with mercy and kindness when you arrived at our grand entrance? So why didn't you show her the same treatment you received?"

"I was just following protocol. These are stressful times, your Faeness. I have always advised against taking any chances."

Surprisingly, Madam Chief giggled and stood up. "I know you have, Ragnon," she said as she walked to Treana and stopped. "What is your name?"

"Treana," she replied, looking up at this intimidating, yet entertaining woman.

Madam Chief nodded and put a hand on Treana's cheek. "I hope you enjoy it here. Nevermind Ragnon, he has a good heart most of the time."

She looked up at her guard with a teasing smile. Ragnon rolled his eyes, breaking his stance to fold his arms. "He'll grudgingly show you around and help you get settled." The Faeness chuckled and went back to her throne, a sign of dismissal.

"Come on," Ragnon said, taking Treana by the elbow and leading her out. He took her around all the important places that she needed to know about. Their last stop was her new bedroom. It was lit with many sap orbs. She walked in, looking everything over slowly. When she reached the bed, she turned back to find Ragnon standing in the doorway, leaning against the frame with his arms folded again. His eyes never left hers. His gaze was so strong it froze her to her spot. Ragnon then blinked, turned, and walked away.

Over the next few weeks Treana grew close to Ragnon, even though he tried to keep his distance and not admit that he enjoyed her company. The night of The Great Feast soon arrived. Treana dressed in an elegant cerulean evening gown. She put her hair up into a braided bun, while putting striking eyeshadow and tiny jewels on and around her eyes. She walked down the hall toward the ballroom, spotting a familiar figure standing at the corner of the opening. "Hello Ragnon," she said pleasantly, blushing a little as she looked over his blue, black, and gold dress uniform. "Treana," he greeted coolly, as usual. He led her over to the long table and helped her take her seat. She thanked him and looked around. She'd made many new friends, and had started to develop her powers more. It had been the best few weeks of her life.

Madam Chief walked in, wearing salmon colored robes and took her seat at the head of the table. "A toast, family," she announced, raising her goblet of raspberry juice. "There's so much to be thankful for. We are so lucky to have this healthy tree to call home, while many others are not. As you know, Treana was one of them, but now this is her home and we're her family. We're so thankful you're with us, young miss. Ragnon is especially pleased and grateful."

That was the first time Treana had ever seen Ragnon blush. Treana giggled a little, and then smiled to the Faeness, who smiled back. They all then clinked goblets, and started eating. The meal finished quickly, and everyone departed the table to go dance. Treana stood and started to head over to dance with some friends, when someone caught her wrist, "Wait."

She turned, blinking when she saw Ragnon. He quickly let go of her wrist, blushing again. He stepped in close to her, his hands on her upper arms. "The Faeness was right," he said quietly, his voice a low rumble. "I am pleased you're here with us... with me..." He held her gaze a moment, then leaned down and kissed her.

She instantly melted into his strong body. "Me too," she whispered against his lips. He hummed, embracing her tighter.

Yes, she had so much to be thankful for.

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Youth Writing Contest

hosted by
UTE COUNTRY NEWS

Calling all high school seniors, home school, and GED equivalent students. Cash prizes for first, second and third place each month. Plus, the top three winning entries will appear in the Ute Country News each month.



The sponsor for December's First Prize of \$100 is Kelly's Office Connection in Gold Hill North Shopping Center of Woodland Park, owned by Gail and Tim Taylor. When the publishers thanked Gail for her sponsorship, Gail said, "Tim and I believe in supporting our youth."

Both Second Prize of \$75 and Third Prize of \$50 will be sponsored by Ute Country News.

To be considered for December's issue, submissions MUST be received by midnight of Tuesday, November 15th. Please see rules below:

- Rules:**
- Contest is open to any high school senior, home-schooled students graduating between Oct. 2013 and June 2014, and to GED-test-eligible student aged 19 or less.
 - Entrant must be a resident of Teller or Park County.
 - Only one submission per individual per month.
 - Entry must be typed in Word or pdf format.
 - Entry to be submitted to publisher via email (utecountrynewspaper@gmail.com) or website (www.utecountrynews.com) by midnight of the 15th of the month to be considered for the following months contest.
 - Entry length to be no longer than 1500 words.
 - Entry must be an original work, never before published.
 - Subject matter to have relevance to Teller or Park County (person, place, historical event, plant, animal, mineral, geographical, river, mountain, etc.).
 - Submission must include contact information: name, address, email, and phone.
 - Subject matter can be fiction, non-fiction, journalism, memoir, poetry, or creative writing.
 - Photographs or graphics included are publisher's option to include and will bear no relevance on scoring.
 - All submissions become the intellectual property of the Ute Country News upon receipt.
 - Any student below the age of 18, as of the date of the submission, must have a parent or guardian's release giving permission to the Ute Country News to use the student's personally identifiable information (name, address, age, etc.) in the contest.

- Parameters for scoring:**
- Grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence/paragraph structure.
 - School appropriate subject matter and language.
 - Organization and logic: the story develops, pieces fit, and it makes sense.
 - Topic development: definitions, clarity, knowledge of subject matter.
 - Flow – does the piece move fluidly, include segue for transitions, sub-headlines, or marks to let reader know we're going someplace different.

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- Was it interesting? Yes, this one is subjective.
- Originality and creativity – something new or it can be a new spin on an old topic, creative slant, and unique perspective.

Prizes and Awards:

• First: \$100, Second: \$75, and Third: \$50.

- Benefits to student:**
- Students who have been published tend to find their grades go up across the board and self-esteem rises. A deep sense of confidence is built.
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 - The work world needs writers. This could develop into a full time job, part-time paid passion, or an enjoyable outlet.
 - Every opportunity to practice helps to hone skills.

- Benefits of sponsorship:**
- Sponsors will be identified in three issues: announcing upcoming contest, current month contest, and the following month when the photo/check/certificate presentation is printed. Sponsors may choose to remain anonymous if they like.
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- To be a sponsor, call 719-686-7393 or visit our website and look for the Youth Writing Contest page.

S.Y.S. Auction and Sales in New Location

by Christine Ford
photos by Christine Ford

Bargains, Twice Monthly Auctions in Woodland Park

Ask Nick Pinell what he's doing at any particular moment these days, and he's likely to say "Moving stuff." In fact, he's moved so much "stuff" since he began his resale consignment and auction business 18 months ago, he's had to find quarters more suitable to his high traffic business.

Now located at 650 Burdette, S.Y.S. Auction and Sales is just one block west and one to the north of Park State Bank and Foxworth-Galbraith. Look for the bright yellow signs.

Entering Pinell's shop, the street facing room hosts the thrift store portion of his business. These are items not for auction. "Thrift" may be a misnomer, as the area features a wide variety of consignments, including antique furniture, such as an ormolu clock marked for \$500.00. But there are definitely bargains there too, as this author bought a set of cranberry glass dishes for only \$15.00.

Other items on sale included tables and dressers, curtains, jewelry, and even an alpaca skin. All is bright and clean and feels like home. In fact, one of Pinell's goals is to have the auction and store become a "social event", and he's set up a well-stocked drinks area for the visitor. "This is something the county needs," he says.

Behind that hospitality room is the auction room itself. Here is where Pinell is constantly in motion, moving items that come in on a daily basis, to be ready for his twice-monthly auction on the first and third Friday. Once he and his client have decided if a particular item will be auctioned or put on consignment, and if it will have a reserve, or minimum, auction price, Pinell considers it up for sale. He receives a straight 35 % of each item. If a shopper is interested in an auction item during the week, without a reserve price Pinell will name what he would consider a good auction price. So deals can be found back here all month long.

Pinell receives a wide variety of items, from the enormous buffalo head hanging on the back wall, affectionately referred to as "Gus", to an 1880's doctors buggy and an 86 Alfa Romeo, neither of which met their reserve price. There is furniture, tools, equipment, art, dishes, a wood-stove, collectables, and almost anything you could imagine.

Pinell uses a professional auctioneer from April to October, but as that snowbird recently has flown, Pinell took over for the winter. He hopes in the future to go school in Missouri for 16 days to become a professional auctioneer, but in the meantime he and the rest of his family, many of whom are involved in the business, seem to want to just enjoy this new experience. "We're like a bad reality TV show! We put our own spin on things," jokes Pinell, even as he juggles the demands of single parenthood with running his own business. "I'd never go back to shift work," he vows, explaining how he now has the freedom to get his eight year old son, Greg, off to school before he comes to work. "He only needs to spend one hour in daycare after school," boasts Pinell. Greg also comes along for the auctions, which begin at 6:00 and typically last until 8:30 p.m. Pinell has two older sons as well, who are no longer at home.

His mother, Jeanette Barton, is his cashier at auctions, and his sister, Tami Metts, is his clerk. Metts, from Colorado Springs, keeps track of winning bidders and then helps her mom settle up. She has two kids and is a Mary Kay consultant during the week; she does the clerking job as a volunteer and has done since the business inception. She loves the sense of extended family they get from the customers, and the excitement of new friends becoming a part of that family. "It's just fun to come see everybody every couple of weeks," she said.

The process is simple. Bidders see cashier or "Mom", Jeanette Barton, who fills out an information sheet on each bidder, checks identification like a driver's license for new clients, then issues a bidding numbered paddle. You don't even need to be there. You can leave a dollar amount you would bid on a lot or item, and if you are the closest bidder, you are notified that you won. "We take Master Card, Visa and Discover, as well as local checks and, of course, cash," says Barton. She records the winning



Thrift store for browsing.

bids during the auction and checks out each customer at the end. She also considers this volunteer job "fun, with a great sense of family."

Similar items are often placed in lots, such as a box full of books or other related items, and the whole box is bid on as one lot. These "box lots" are very popular with the customers. Pinell also keeps a "Wish List" and will let his clients know when an item they are interested in comes into the shop.

He says he has many regulars who come to the twice monthly auctions, or browse the thrift store, on a regular basis. "They may not always buy something, but we have fun. I've made a lot of really good friends," says Pinell.

One is Mike Isele, owner of Divide Timber, who's been in the logging business for 45 years and lived here since 1962. "I saw his sign (in his previous location near Safeway) and just stopped in one day last October. Super friendly



A customer inspects auction items in the back.

guy," says Isele, "we just hit it off immediately. He's definitely got the right personality for what he's doing."

Isele loves the auctions, claiming "We don't get much entertainment up here, you know," and says he is more a buyer than a seller. "My wife says I never sell anything, so I guess one of these days I should just take it all down to Pinell to sell and start over again!"

He says Pinell did an excellent job as auctioneer last Friday. "He's more laid back than these professionals. There's no high pressure," to sell, say Isele. He bought two draw knives for peeling logs that night, and says he tends to buy things he knows other people need. Isele likes the auction attendees, too, who he says tend to be older folks like him, and yes, he used the word "fun" several times, too.

Pinell began the business as the result of watching storage auctions on TV. He began to bid himself, and soon needed a way to re-sell his items besides on Craigslist or Face book, from his garage. He now handles storage auctions for a local company, Woodland Park U-Store-It at 303 E. Highway 24 in Woodland Park, and has a storage auction of around six units at various locations around the city planned for December 7th at 12:30, beginning at the Highway 24 location.

So, whether you're looking for some second-hand shopping entertainment, Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., or the social fun and bargain hunting excitement of a real auction, on the first and third Fridays of each month at 6 p.m., check out S.Y.S. (as in "Sell Your Stuff") Auction and Sales at their great new location at 650 Burdette St. Just one caution; it looks like it could be addicting!

A patient eye Photography by Bijan

by Kathy Hansen

There are those who are really good at what they do and then, there are those who are exceptional, some might say gifted, some might say soulful. We agreed to let our readers decide.

Bijan has been studying, practicing, and living his life around photography for years. He spends a great amount of time in an area, say Garden of the Gods, for example noticing nature, becoming one with his surroundings and waiting for that moment when the lighting is just right. Then, snap! as he captures the beauty he's been studying for sometimes months.

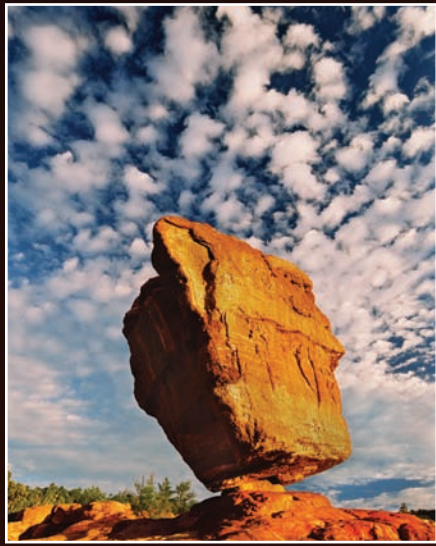
"Over the years, raising environmental awareness has been the impetus behind my photography. For as long as I can remember, I have had an incurable longing to make a difference and meaningful contribution to the human condition,"

said Bijan.

Since most of us who live in Colorado now are both transplants from elsewhere and nature lovers, we decided to allow our readers to view these photos and decide for themselves if they can feel their soul resonate.

For those of you who are looking for that perfect fundraising idea, Bijan is willing to sell his work. Many options include the prints themselves in various sizes; note cards, or postcards. Feel free to chat with Bijan and perhaps the combination of creative energy alongside good intentions can set your fundraising results beyond your dreams.

Bijan can be contacted at 719-291-6622 or by email bijanturkish@gmail.com or drop him a line at POB 303, Manitou Springs, CO 80829.



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Take advantage of "Open Enrollment"

At many places of work, it's "open enrollment" season — the time where you get to make changes to the various benefits you receive from your employer. As you review your overall benefits package, what areas should you focus on?

Here are three possibilities:

• **Life insurance** — If your employer offers life insurance as a benefit, and you haven't already signed up for it, consider adding it during your open enrollment period — because life insurance can be important to your family's financial security. If you already have life insurance with your employer, you may want to take the time, during open enrollment, to review your beneficiary designations. If you've experienced a change in your family situation, such as divorce or remarriage, you'll want to update your beneficiaries, as needed.

However, the amount of life insurance offered by your employer in a group policy may not be sufficient for your needs, so you may want to consult with a financial professional to determine if you should add private, or individual, coverage. You may find that individual coverage is comparable, in terms of cost, to your employer's coverage. Also, individual coverage is "portable" — that is, you can take it with you if you change jobs.

• **Disability insurance** — Your employer may also offer disability insurance as a low-cost benefit. The coverage can be invaluable. In fact, nearly one in three women, and about one in four men, can expect to suffer a disability that keeps them out of work for 90 days or longer at some point during their working years, according to the Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE). Again, as was the case with life insurance, your employer's disability policy may not be enough for your needs, so you

may need to consider additional coverage.

• **Retirement plan** — Your employer may offer a 401(k) or similar retirement plan, such as a 403(b) plan, if you work for an educational institution or a nonprofit organization, or a 457(b) plan, if you work for a governmental unit. All these plans offer the chance to contribute pretax dollars; so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. Equally important, your earnings can grow tax deferred, which means your money can accumulate faster than if it were placed in an account on which you paid taxes every year.

Consequently, try to contribute as much as you can possibly afford to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan. If you've gotten a raise recently, consider boosting your contributions during open enrollment. Also, take this opportunity to review the array of investments you've chosen for your 401(k) or other plan. If you feel that they're underperforming and not providing you with the growth opportunities you need, you may want to consider making some changes. You might also think about making adjustments if your portfolio has shown more volatility than the level with which you are comfortable. Your financial professional can help you determine if your investment mix is still suitable for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

Open enrollment season gives you the perfect opportunity to maximize those benefits offered to you by your employer. So, think carefully about what you've got and what improvements you can make — it will be time well spent.

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

Adopt Me by TCRAS Kunie

Hi there, my name is Kunie and I came to TCRAS scared and hungry. While I am still working on my issues I am getting better. I need to have a big yard with a 6 foot wood fence to keep me contained. I do like to run and because I am so timid I am really hard to catch. I am quite the lover once I get to trust you but it will take me a while to get used to my new digs. I am a playful guy who enjoys being outside and hanging out with you once I am comfortable. 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



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Guffey School Students Learn About Dinosaurs

by Mrs. MacDonald's 2nd - 4th grade class
photo by Lynda MacDonald

It was morning on Thursday, September 26. It was a lovely day for a field trip to learn about dinosaurs and our state fossil, the stegosaurus. Vroom, vroom, clanked the Guffey school bus as it headed up Sky Line Drive. It was so high and skinny.

"I felt like I had butterflies in my stomach," exclaimed Havannah VanEgmond.

Then we saw lumps in the rock wall. We stopped to look at them and realized that they were compressed dinosaur footprints in the rock.

"They were huge. They were bigger than my head," said Aspen Moehe. "Dinosaurs have really big feet!"

We also saw plants that had become fossils. The fossils that we found were millions of years old. We learned that this area had once been part of a huge sea that covered the United States from the Gulf of Mexico up through Canada. We could see the reddish and orange layers of rock that had formed at the bottom of the sea. We learned how they had been pushed up to form the mountains in this area.

"The dinosaur prints were so cool," stated Sheri Medlin. "I love the prints, even though I have seen them a lot of times."

After lunch, we headed for the Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center. Our guide led us around outside and showed us all of the things from our ancestors.

First we saw the bells that were rung for school. They sounded like a soft sound of a special bird chirping. She told us a story about how some boys had led the cow up the stairs. She said that you can lead a cow up the stairs, but you cannot lead them down.

The next thing we saw was a really cool old cabin and a horse drawn carriage that they used to ride in.

"I learned that pioneers took a bath in the same water. The oldest go first, then another, and finally the youngest went last," said Sophia Guiliani. That's where the phrase "don't throw the baby out with the bath water" comes from.



Guffey students enjoy a day of dinosaurs.

Then the class went upstairs to see the fossils. The most important was the stegosaurus. It was big, bulging and spiky. It had all of its bones except one leg! We learned that the fossil was found right here in Canon City by some students and a teacher. We also learned that dinosaur brains were very small. They were as small as a walnut.

We got to see a huge T-Rex footprint. "The T-Rex footprint was my favorite thing to see," stated Tyler Dickens.

We saw a lot of animals in one room. We learned that you can tell how old a big horn sheep is by counting the bumps on its horns. We also learned that there are two kinds of buffalo — the mountain buffalo and the plains buffalo.

"We learned that the buffalo do not have wings," stated Aspen Moehe. "You have to admit that is pretty funny."

We also got to see a fruit bat. His name was Bartholomew. It was as big as a flying cat. It was huge! We learned that the fruit bat eats many kinds of fruit.

In one room, our guide told us how history is preserved through pictures. We learned that in the old days, if you wanted to dance with a girl you had to sign a card. She showed us what the card looked like.

When we were done, we said "thank you," and headed back to school. It was a great trip.

Emergency federal funds for Highway 24

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments' Board of Directors' Executive Committee amended the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to release more than \$8 million in federal emergency funds to repair the damage on Highway 24 during the recent flooding. Work will begin soon and will include rebuilding and flood mitigation.

We will keep you posted on progress.

Dori Mekelburg this year's winner!

by Sandra Tanner

The 2013 Colorado Master Farm Home-maker Award winner Dori Mekelburg was honored at the Annual Homemakers Luncheon in Pueblo, CO on Saturday October 12. Of special note, attending with Dori's family was her grandmother, Mary Campbell of Guffey, CO, herself a Master Homemaker honored in 1969.

With a smile as big as her heart, Dori tends to her family, contributes time and effort to her community, is Dick's, her husband's, partner in an extensive farm/ranch operation and always has time to encourage and support her friends. Dori exemplifies everything that is a Master Homemaker. Dori and Dick's blended family of three teenagers, in two schools, and a busy toddler creates a coordination challenge which Dori handles with efficiency. In true Dori fashion, she tucks three year old Quinn under her arm and attends ball games, FFA, and 4-H activities, after-prom planning meetings and music contests. As a result Quinn is pretty much as unflappable and cheerful as her mom!

Dori is not only very involved in 4-H with her children and their projects, she is also a 4-H leader. Her club has a wide variety of interests and projects, and is very active in the Yuma County Fair, as well as the community.

Dori is an outstanding member of the Yuma County CattleWomen, serving several times as an officer and being an executive board member. She was instrumental in reviving the group's brand quilt tradition after a 10 year hiatus, and now a new generation is depicting the area's cattle industry history in fabric. Always articulate and informed, Dori speaks out for agriculture and is especially effective at working with school children. She represents the CattleWomen at numerous activities on a state and local level from National Western Stock Show's Educational Booth to Old Threshers Days, Water Fest, the local fair, and other venues.

The golf board is lucky to have her as a member as she helps organize tournaments, as well as the league in which she participates.

Dori is very creative. She can make anything she sees and is a very accomplished seamstress in high demand, especially at prom time with a stack of dresses to shorten, take up, or let out. Halloween costumes, hair bows, Christmas ornaments, wall art, decorative painting; she does it all. Her keen eye for decorating, along with her sewing skills, makes her home a very welcoming place. Dori used paint and a bit of instruction to create faux marble surfaces on existing older kitchen counter tops.

The results were truly authentic looking when she up-dated her kitchen for a fraction of cost of a professional. Recently, with the same eye for thrift and style, Dori and a sister-in-law converted a house on the family farmstead to a guest lodge that caters to hunters and other visitors, nights or weekends. Dori does most of the cooking for guests and when others are unavailable, maid duty as well.

Dori recently started a new business as a "party decorator". She can decorate any venue for any event, with any theme. She has an amazing imagination.

One thing Dori does not have in her is the word "no". Doris is a person you can rely on and will do anything she can to help with any project. She believes every problem has a reasonable solution if you are willing to work toward it.

Julie Fransen of Alamosa was also honored as a 2013 Master Homemaker. To qualify as a Master Farm Homemaker, the recipient must receive at least 51 percent of her family income from agriculture and be nominated by an organization. In addition to the Colorado Master Farm Homemaker's Guild, sponsors of the Master Homemaker Award are Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, Colorado CattleWomen, Colorado State Grange, and CSU Cooperative Extension Education.



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Life is a fragile edge

by Kathy Hansen
photos by Jeff Hansen

Beautiful, delicate, and sharp; these are three words that describe the wares for sale at the Fragile Edge in Victor, Colorado. Owners Terry Bartell and Mike Marsack merged their artistic talents, eye for art, and business acumen to launch this incredible venture. The store opened July 4, 2013. The Fragile Edge sells a combination of hand-painted glassware (bowls, vases, candle holders, candy dishes, and more) alongside carved knives, walking sticks, skulls, old glass bottles, and iron-work sculptures transformed out of scrap.

It all began 16 years ago for Terry. She was channel surfing while she was waiting for the spin cycle and came upon a feature about Fenton Glass. Terry looked at the beautiful pieces; she had never seen anything like it and said, "Well, I can do that!" So it began.

Terry had decided this would be the perfect hobby to take her mind of the stress of the corporate world. Considering her next project became her mental escape and primary coping skill. Working on her projects during free time became so consuming; she would, at times, forget to eat.

The artwork really took her mind to a better place. "Life is a fragile edge," she says as she reflects on the Victorian period when life was truly a challenge. To have a beautiful piece to ponder helped to take the mind to a better place. It was a way to tolerate the fragile edge of a difficult life. Terry said, "I just want to

share something pretty with someone else, something to lift the burdens off the shoulders."

There is no question; Terry and Mike are a team sensitive to the burdens of others. Their three favorite charitable organizations happen to be her primary glass suppliers, sometimes buying by the truckload: Goodwill Industries, Salvation Army, and Disabled American Veterans. Terry sees it as a win-win situation: she gets her glass inexpensively and is able to directly support these organizations.

There is yet another benefit of using these



Variety of hand painted vases.

organizations as glass suppliers – she can keep her prices low. Her goal is to have a place for people to shop who are living a fragile financial edge. "The way I determine the price is the "uniqueness" of the glass, complexity and detail of the design, amount and availability of paint and glaze used," said Terry was asked about pricing.

Most of Terry's glassware is priced under \$25 and Mike's knives average at \$15. I can tell you I found beautifully painted vases for \$7 and items as low as \$5. Her themes tend to be nature oriented: a vase with pussy willows that appear to be blowing in the breeze, flowers with butterflies hovering over them, Aspen trees with golden leaves shimmering in the wind, just to name a few. Terry hopes to have some items with the Christmas Holiday theme in time for shopping.

Time is actually crucial to her process. Each piece takes a minimum of two days to paint (not including prepping the surface). Next is the glazing process which takes a minimum of 20 days to cure, depending on temperature and humidity. The glaze is what makes the color really snap out and also makes the paint last a lifetime. The glassware is all dishwasher safe.

Good things are worth waiting for, indeed. Terry spent many years in cycles of painting, storing, and then sharing her wares at local farmer's markets or craft shows. It had been her dream to open a shop. She just needed someone to encourage her and believe in her.



Glassware graces the window.

One day when her brother was encouraging her to "get out more and meet some people," Terry said, "If the Lord wants me to meet someone, He'd better bring him to my door." Funny how powerful words can be.

It wasn't very long after those words were spoken that Terry heard her doorbell ring. She went to see who might be there and found Mike leaning on her doorbell, completely unaware he was ringing it. They met on that doorstep and began an incredible partnership.

Mike encouraged Terry to open a shop to work on and sell her hand-painted glassware. It could also house the knives he sells. The combined "fragile" to refer to her glassware with "edge" to refer to his knives, and together formed the Fragile Edge.

The Fragile Edge is located at 318 Victor Avenue. They are open Sunday from noon to 5 p.m., and on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Their phone is 719-689-3444.

Celestine

by Nathan Gallup

Haiku:
Gully of crystals
Created magically
It is so awesome

Some Quick Facts About Celestine:
Formula: SRSO4 sometimes contains minor calcium and/or barium.

Crystal system: Orthorhombic

Color: colorless, white, pale blue, pink, pale green, pale brown and black

Crystal habit: tabular to pyramidal crystals

Mohs hardness scale: 3-3.5

Luster: vitreous, pearly

Streak: white

Notes: A celestine geode, over 35 feet wide, may be the largest geode in the world and was found on an island in Lake Erie. I got this celestine crystal at the first Pebble Pups meeting I attended. I belong to the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club.



Celestine crystals. Photo © Nathan Gallup, 2013

About the author:

Nathan Gallup (age 9)
Third Grade,
Columbine
Elementary School
Woodland Park, CO



Selenite

by Jerrod Gallup

Haiku:
An orange crystal
Formed by nature's loving hands
In the soft brown ground

Some Quick Facts About Selenite:
Formula: CaSO4 2H2O

Category: Sulfate mineral

Crystal system: Monoclinic

Mohs hardness scale: 2

Luster: Pearly

Streak: white

Color: can be green, brownish, yellow, greenish, gray green and gray white.

Selenite crystals are found in: Mexico and Oklahoma.

Notes: I got this selenite crystal at the first Pebble Pups meeting I attended. I belong to the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club. I researched this crystal and found lots of interesting facts. I found out that it was very unique. This crystal was found in Oklahoma in 1970. You can go to Oklahoma and find selenite crystals in the salt plains there. The hourglass shaped Selenite crystals are only found on these plains. It is also the Oklahoma State Crystal.



Selenite crystal form Oklahoma. Image © Jerrod Gallup, 2013

About the author:

Jerrod Gallup (Age 9)
Third Grade, Columbine Elementary School
Woodland Park, CO
October 14, 2013

The author, Jerrod Gallup is on the left. His cousin, Noah Paul, is on the right. They are collecting rock and mineral specimens in one of the areas of Colorado that were burned in a fire.

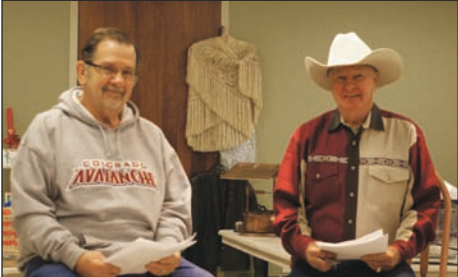


Pikes Peak Historical Society's Auction a success!

One of the benefits of setting a goal is reaching it; even better, is to surpass it. That is exactly what happened at the Pikes Peak Historical Society's Auction held on Oct 12th.

There were many donations of very interesting and unique items for sale, ranging from lamps, to hats, to boots, to books. Auctioneers, Dave Mula and Harold Kaelin, held the crowd's attention and kept the bidders bidding.

The Pikes Peak Historical Society has been paramount in making the history of our area come alive. They help us remember the original people of the land, the Utes, as well as those who came after. If you missed



Auctioneers Dave Mula and Harold Kaelin (above), had a plethora of pickings to offer (left).



the auction and would like to make a donation to the Pikes Peak Historical Society, you may do so by sending your donation to: Pikes Peak Historical Society, P.O. Box 823, Florissant, CO 80816 or call Harold Kaelin at 748-3562.

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~OUT AND ABOUT~

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

ALMA
8 Dewey Paul Band – Alma's Only Bar. For more information call 719-836-2214
15 Jack & Jill– Alma's Only Bar. For more information call 719-836-2214
22 Technicolor Tone– Alma's Only Bar. For more information call 719-836-2214
29 A Mac DZ– Alma's Only Bar. For more information call 719-836-2214

COLORADO SPRINGS
7 Get the 4-1-1 November 7th! CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates, www.casapr.org) invites you to our 4-1-1 Night Thursday, 5:30 p.m. at the CASA office, 701 South Cascade, Colorado Springs. Discover how you can make a difference in the life of a child involved in a case of abuse, neglect or severe domestic conflict. RSVP to Kelly at 447-9898, ext. 1033 or kellyp@casapr.org.

CRIPPLE CREEK
2 The Third Annual "Cup Of Christmas Tea" will be Saturday, at the Aspen Mine Center. This is a fundraiser for the Gold Camp Christmas event. Tea tickets are \$15 each, seven tables with six persons each (second room may be available). Hosts/Hostesses are needed to help with food and serving. Contact Kathi Pilcher at 659-3599 or kathipilcher@yahoo.com
5 Cripple Creek and Victor Christmas event planning meetings will be Nov. 5 and 19, Dec. 10, all at 9 a.m. in the conference room at the Aspen Mine Center. The event is December 12-15, 2013. Please check schedule after Nov. 5 at victorcripplecreek.com and posters, etc.

DIVIDE
11 Divide Little Chapel on the Hill – Food Pantry 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. For more information call 719-322-7610.
16 This year, in partnership with the Summit Elementary School PTO, Christmas in Divide will once again be held in the Summit's gymnasium on Saturday, November 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Summit Elementary School is located at 490 Meadow Park Drive in Divide. Just follow the Santa Claus sign.
25 Divide Little Chapel on the Hill – Food Pantry 4:30pm-6:30pm. For more information 719-322-7610.

FAIRPLAY
21 South Park High School/ Middle School Coffee House Talent Show Fine Arts Fund-raiser 6:30 p.m. SPHS multipurpose room. Call 719-836-4415 or email gwalston@faircountyre2.org

FLORISSANT
8 Thunderbird Inn 7 p.m.

Beneath the Willow band performs. We will be closed Thanksgiving Day.
9 The Florissant Fire Department is having a Chili Supper on November 9 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The meal will include chili, salad, corn bread, and cookies. We will accept your free will donations. Held at Station 1 in Florissant. Call 748-3000 for information.
11 Veteran's Day Service at the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery, Monday, at 10 a.m.

FLORISSANT GRANGE

2 Zentangle Class is coming to the Grange. This is therapeutic doodling. Join us for this very fun class and learn how doodling is fun, good for you, very creative, and beautiful. Creating Zentangle art provides a fun and lighthearted way to relax and intentionally facilitate a shift in focus and perspective. The Zentangle Method of creating art is unencumbered by dogma and cost which can weigh on other approaches. Nevertheless, it is sufficiently structured and organized so you can enjoy and benefit from an activity that otherwise might be considered whimsical. Class begins at 10 a.m. and lasts till noon. As always, our classes and all things at the Grange are by donation. Call 748-0358 for more information.

9 Help U Club Annual Bazaar at the Florissant Grange Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Breakfast: Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Lunch: Homemade Chicken and Noodles, Crafters, Bake Sale and Raffle of Quilt. Please come join in the fun "Help Us Help Others." For more information, contact Joan (President) at 689-2486.
Jam Night - Every Thursday all year the Grange Hall is open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the Jammers Music and Pot Luck. Yoga - classes are held each Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Call Debbie at 748-3678 for more information.

LAKE GEORGE COMMUNITY CENTER

19 Lake George Community Center, Gem Club Youth Program 6 p.m.
Help U Club: We have our meetings the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Lake George Community Center, starting with potluck at noon and our meeting at 1:00 pm. We are all "Good Cooks." We are seeking new members. This would be a good place for new members to the community to meet people while helping out their community.

LAKE GEORGE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIANS

10 We will have a special worship service on November 10 to

honor our country's Veterans. Service is at 10:30 a.m. We welcome everyone to come and join us. Any questions call the church at 719-748-5552. God Bless America and our men and women who protect us. The last Friday of the month, November 29, we will have a movie night at the church for the whole family. It starts at 6 p.m., a light lunch will be served before the movie. Come and join us for a family night out. It is free.

Ongoing
Wed: 9am Low Impact Exercise
1st & 3rd Fri: Lake George Quilters Square 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
4th Fri: 9:15 Friends of the Library – Book Clubs "Tainted Tea" and "Titles" meet afterward.

WOODLAND PARK CEILI CLUB

16 Ceilis (pronounced "kay-lee") are public Irish folk dance social parties. No dance experience is required, and it is open to all ages. November's ceil is the 16th, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Woodland Park Community Church gym, admission is an item of non-perishable food per person to be donated to the Community Cupboard for the holidays. Sponsored by Mountain Eire Irish Dancers, www.mountaineire.org for information, or email Mickie Richardson at mountaineire@yahoo.com.

WOODLAND PARK DINOSAUR RESOURCE CENTER

9, 10, & 11 Celebrate Veteran's Day: Come and visit the Dinosaur Resource Center and get 1/2 off of regular admission with active or retired Military I.D. Time: Sat 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Mon 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Location: Dinosaur Resource Center, 201 S. Fairview St., Woodland Park, CO Website: <http://www.rmrcr.com> Call 719-686-1820 for more information.

23 Thanksgiving Fun at 1:30 p.m. Turkeys, turkeys all around-on the fence and on the ground-Gobble, gobble, what a sound! Strut on down to the Dinosaur Resource Center for a turkey bonanza with puppeteer/story-teller Cathy Kelsey from Fantasy Forest Entertainment! Location: Dinosaur Resource Center, 201 S. Fairview St., Woodland Park, CO Website: <http://www.rmrcr.com> Call 719-686-1820 for more information.

WOODLAND PARK FARMERS MARKET

9 Teller County Farmers Market Association announces the 2013/14 Woodland Park Winter Farmers Market located inside Ute Pass Cultural Center at 210 E. Midland Avenue, Woodland Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information contact Market Managers at (719) 689-3133 or 648-7286

Where to get your feast on

ALMA
24 Alma Community Thanksgiving Feast 4:30 p.m and 6:30 p.m. a pot luck, turkeys and hams provided, please bring a side dish or dessert at Alma Town Hall. Call 719-836-2712 for more information.

CRIPPLE CREEK
27 The Aspen Mine Center's 11th annual Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner, Wednesday, Serving 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Located at 166 East Bennett Ave, Cripple Creek, CO. Our gratitude to this year's sponsors and volunteers! Call 719-689-3584.

FLORISSANT GRANGE

27 FREE Thanksgiving Dinner will be Wed from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. This is sponsored by the Florissant Jammers and the Florissant Grange. Music will be provided by the Jammers. We will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

or email: tcfma@q.com; website: wffarmersmarket.com; Facebook: Woodland Park Farmers Market.

23 Teller County Farmers Market Association announces the 2013/14 Woodland Park Winter Farmers Market located inside Ute Pass Cultural Center at 210 E. Midland Avenue, Woodland Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Autumn/Winter Harvest (seasonal) includes: Fruit & Vegetables, Eggs, Cheese, Jams, Organic Meats, Bread & Pastries, Pasta, Holiday wreaths, Alpaca Yarn & Knits, Soaps, Hot Food & Drink. For more information contact Market Managers at (719) 689-3133 or 648-7286 or email: tcfma@q.com; website: wffarmersmarket.com; Facebook: Woodland Park Farmers Market.

WOODLAND PARK HISTORIC UTE INN

1 One Eleven performs, Halloween Party with prizes! Call 719-687-1465 for more information.

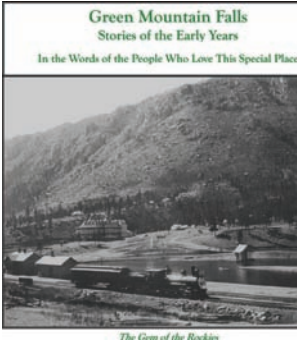
WOODLAND PARK LIBRARY

19 The Wholistic Networking Community invites you to meet area practitioners and learn about holistic wellness from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Rampart Public Library, Woodland Park. "Wholistic" in our name includes all who pursue conscious living, a healthy lifestyle and desire a peaceful, natural world. There is no charge for your attendance, so be sure to mark your calendars for our regular meetings on the third Tuesday of every month. This month, Dr. Bill Koppari, Woodland Park's newest and most experienced Chiropractor will present "Attitudes That Keep You from Becoming Healthy". You will learn about the problems we face in today's health care system to restore health, and some of the principles that activate the human potential within each of us for our return to healthy living. Please RSVP to Barbara Royal at 719-687-6823 or miraclesofwellness.com

CHIPITA PARK

November 16 & 17 The Ute Pass Historical Society's Traveling Bookstore will be at the Chipita Park Association's Annual Arts and Crafts Fair, featuring the new "Green Mountain Falls" book.

The authors, Mary Ann Conn Davis and Claudia Eley will be around to sign the book both days. The 2014 UPHS Calendar will also be available. The Crafts Fair is held every year at Marcroft Hall in Chipita Park--9105 Chipita Park Road--across from the Chipita Inn Lodge. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday. UPHS: 719.686.7512 or utepass-historicalsociety.org.



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Come to Christmas in Divide

by David Martinek

Every year, for the last 22 years, the Divide Chamber of Commerce has sponsored a craft fair on a Saturday in November during the week of Veterans' Day. It is called "Christmas in Divide" and usually marks the beginning of the Christmas holiday season in Teller County – at least that's how one local newspaper penned it a few years ago.

This year, in partnership with the Summit Elementary School PTO, Christmas in Divide will once again be held in the Summit's gymnasium on Saturday, November 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Summit Elementary School is located at 490 Meadow Park Drive in Divide. Just follow the Santa Claus sign.

The craft fair is a fund-raiser for the chamber, as well as a much anticipated annual event. It also provides an opportunity for local residents to start their Christmas shopping and receive an early dose of Christmas spirit. In addition to the host of crafters displaying and selling their products, arranged in rows of booths on the gym floor, the fair schedule includes a bake sale, a silent auction, live music and entertainment and a visit from the jolly old Christmas saint himself. Santa always makes a joyful entrance during each fair and welcomes one and all. Children and adults alike may sit on Santa Claus' lap and have their picture taken. Santa will be available from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.

The proceeds from the fair helps the Divide Chamber of Commerce maintain its presence in the community and support the continuing renovation of the Midland Depot at Divide, sponsored by the chamber's non-profit partner organization, the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition.

The highlight of the fair is always the entertainment provided by the children of the Summit Elementary School, as well as other performers, arranged and led throughout the day by Mrs. Brenda Baker, the school's music teacher. The emcee for the event will be the Summit Elementary School's new principal, Ms. Katie Rexford.



Holiday season hustle begins at the Christmas in Divide.

The event is planned, coordinated and managed by a whole group of chamber and school volunteers. The PTO will provide and sell a light lunch, and the chamber will also provide coffee and breakfast donuts for a donation.

Crafters who are interested in joining the fair may still register, although space is becoming tight. A registration form may be downloaded from the chamber's website or obtained at Shipping Plus or Ancestral Arts in Divide. Booth fees range from \$30 to \$40 (chamber members vs. non-members) and there are extra charges to provide tables and/or electricity (and these are available in limited quantity – first come, first served). Each crafter is also asked to provide an item or gift certificate for the silent auction.

For more information about the Christmas in Divide Craft Fair, go to the Divide Chamber's website at www.dividechamber.org or call Lisa Lee (Shipping Plus) at 719-686-7587, or Joe Kain (Ancestral Arts) at 719-687-2278.

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