



UTE COUNTRY NEWS

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September 2025

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Vol. 17, No. 9

Welcome to Ute Country

**"A rooster will signal
the start of the day,
but it is our choices
that shape it."
— Anonymous**

PEEK INSIDE...



page
6

Colorado Pharmgirl:
Natural Gems



page
9

Park County Sheriff's Office
K9 Program



page
17

Panning for Good:
Exploring Asphalt Application

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The image features silhouettes of six business professionals (three men and three women) in various poses, some holding briefcases. They are set against a background of a stylized mountain with horizontal bands of color: purple, green, yellow, and pink. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the Pikes Peak Workforce Center, which includes a colorful mountain graphic and the text 'PIKES PEAK WORKFORCE CENTER' and 'A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network'.




On Deck

Jeff has been eyeing the roosters on the cover for a while, thinking it might make a great cover photo and bring attention to the many artists in our area. Finally, last month our timing and lighting were perfect, so we pulled over to get the photograph. The quote fits quite nicely and serves as a great reminder that every day we are awake, we make choices that can make or break that day or those to come.

Our daily choices do, in fact, create our future." Read how limited funding and making a creative choice helped to staff the "Park County Sheriff's K-9 Program." Those aware of how the seasonal change can invite illness will enjoy reading *Oyate Herbs* "Spice Up Your Immunity and Take Charge of Your Health." "Catholic Daughters Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking" is an inspirational piece about how these fine ladies provide support to those victims. Learn how Craig Harms was inspired by his father in Victor, CO to become a musician and see how "Big Band with a Big Sound: Working with local schools to bring back the music!" Property owners will be interested in "Fire Mitigation and Forest Health" as they learn how the NoFloCo organization continues to train residents and provide choices to prevent wildfires from consuming their property. We ALL make choices about how we see ourselves. *Life Enhancing Learning exists to see the benefits of our group*

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

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Oyate Herbals

Spice up your immunity and take charge of your own health

by Tammie Lowell, PhD, CMH, founder of Oyate Herbals

Han (Greetings!) Welcome to Ptanyétu “Autumn” the Moons of Change and the moon cycle of Chaŋwápe Gí Wí (Brown Leaves Moon).

In preparation for the cold winter months coming, the women of the tribe took time to prepare buffalo meat that the men hunted. Large quantities of firewood were gathered and stored. Before winter arrived, enough dried meat and fruit were collected to fill multiple underground storage caches. We, too, are getting a little busier with changes to school and work schedules, fall and holiday events, while also preparing to settle in for the darker and colder months ahead. Make sure you continue to move, rest, and eat as best you can to keep your body going until the sun comes back our way.

This is also a time when we really want to boost our immune system and get ready for cold and flu season.

This is also a time when we really want to boost our immune system and get ready for cold and flu season. Kids have gone back to school. The germs and viruses are getting passed around and brought back home or spread to many different places. For prevention, I recommend my Immune Boost tincture. It contains black elderberry, echinacea, astragalus, osha root and maca root. This custom blend is rich in Vitamin C and A, has antioxidant and adaptogenic properties, strengthens the body's defenses, particularly against respiratory infections. It contains many of our essential minerals such as: calcium, potassium, iron, zinc, phosphorus and magnesium. It is essential to have on hand during this time of year, and it can be used by the entire family.

Something else to have on hand or start making at this time of year is Fire Cider. Fire Cider is an age-old immunity health remedy for the cold and flu season. It is packed with everything you need to ward off those nasty viruses. So, this month I thought I'd share a tried-and-true recipe that many of you have asked me for in the past. This Fire Cider recipe is packed with nutrients, vitamins, antibacterial and antibiotic herbs, and so much more. I love this Fire Cider recipe because it is simple, it works, can be made and altered to fit your family's needs, and contains ingredients you can find at your local grocery store. It can be used for preventative measures or during illness.

You will need:

- Two large quart size jars (one a little bigger may be easier to work with), parchment paper, cutting board, a sharp knife, cheese grater or food processor. If you have excellent knife skills, you may not need this. I use a sharp cheese grater. It has a strong, pungent smell. If you are sensitive to horseradish, you may find using a food processor is better.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup fresh grated organic ginger root.

Ginger is helpful for muscle aches and nausea, anti-inflammatory, and gingerol, the bioactive substance in fresh ginger, can help lower the risk of infections.

- 1 cup fresh grated organic horseradish root; when you grate with it, you may need to wear goggles and a handkerchief over your mouth. It is potent and can cause the eyes to sting. Most “wasabi” products are made from horseradish, so if you have had wasabi, you will know what I mean.
- 1 cup fresh chopped organic turmeric root. This herb is a powerhouse for inflammation. It offers many health benefits and has a long history of use. I love using the fresh root, it really has the best medicinal purposes fresh instead of powdered.
- 1 medium organic onion or organic shallots chopped. Onions contain sulfur compounds and are rich in vitamin C and potassium. Onions can fight potentially dangerous bacteria, such as *Escherichia coli* (E. coli), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (S. aureus), and *Bacillus cereus*. Additionally, the extract of onion has been shown to inhibit the growth of *Vibrio cholerae*, a bacterium that is a foremost public health concern in the developing world.
- 20 cloves of organic garlic crushed or chopped. You don't have to add as much garlic as I do, but I love garlic, and the sulfur in garlic acts as a natural antibiotic. This herb contains high doses of allicin, alliin, and diallyl sulfide, as well as phytonutrients.
- 3 organic Jalapeños peppers. Jalapeños are rich in Vitamins A and C and potassium. The peppers also have carotene, which is an antioxidant that may help fight damage to the cells, as well as folate, Vitamin K, and B Vitamins. Moreover, capsaicin is a compound linked to its many health benefits.
- 2 organic lemons, 4 Tbsp. of fresh rosemary leaves (I use a few sprigs of fresh rosemary from the greenhouse). 1/4 tsp. organic cayenne powder
- Apple Cider Vinegar with the mother. The mother appears as a cloudy substance floating in some bottles of vinegar. This “mother” is rich in health-boosting natural protein, healthy bacteria, and acetic acid. The mother forms naturally as raw organic vinegar ferments, producing a murky, brownish-colored vinegar. A brand like Bragg's is a perfect choice or Eden. You can find both at the grocery store.
- 1/2 cup or so of local raw honey. Add honey to taste. You can use orange blossom honey that tastes lovely. Raw honey is honey that is unaltered, unprocessed, unpasteurized, and straight from the beehive. Raw honey is what bees produce directly in the hive.



Fire Cider

Directions:

Grate, chop and prepare all your ingredients. You can use a food processor if you want for ease. Just a reminder, horseradish is very potent and will clear out your sinuses. Have two-quart jars sterilized for use. Mix all your chopped and graded ingredients and fill your jars until about 3/4 full. Then fill the jars with the herbs almost to the top. Pour in the apple cider vinegar to cover the herbs. Cover with a piece of natural parchment paper and screw on the lid. The parchment paper keeps the lid from coming into contact with the vinegar. You can use a plastic cover if you want too. Shake well and gently agitate every day. After a month, strain through cheesecloth. Squeeze the pulp to get all that goodness out. Pour into a clean, sterilized jar. Next, add the honey. Stir well until it is all mixed in. Taste and add more honey if needed.

Herbal ingredient variations for your Fire Cider:

Star anise, rosehips, hibiscus, burdock, citrus peels, different types of onion, peppers, or peppercorns can be added. You can use fresh or dried herbs; with dried, the ratios will be different. I prefer fresh, because I like working with fresh herbs, but it is a personal preference. I know there are other variations and additions other people have used. Feel free to share them with me as I enjoy hearing others' ideas and experiences.

Wishing you all the best during this fall season. Enjoy the beautiful colors and remember to take care of your bodies, your mind, your spirit and your emotions. Please reach out to me if you need anything or have questions.

Anpetu Waste Mitakiye Oyate (Good day relatives)
Many Blessings and May you walk in balance

You may reach Tammie at 719-661-0410 or via website: oyateherbals.com

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Big Band with a Big Sound

Working with local school to bring back the music!

by Tracie Bennett

Over 25 years ago the City of Woodland Park asked Woodland Park Wind Symphony conductor Craig Harms if he could provide a band for a local dance. Finding a friend with arrangements for dancing, the "Swing Factory" was born.

As time went along, players from Teller County and Colorado Springs were attracted to join the talented artists of Swing Factory. Currently the band is an 18-piece group including a vocalist playing jazz, rock and swing music.

Current director Ron Stinson started out as a trumpet player in the band. Earlier this year he took over the reins from Craig as director of the Swing Factory. "We actually went to the same college," Craig recalls. "He's a trumpet player, so he 'gets' the music."

Craig has roots in the area as his parents had a house in Victor when he was a kid. "My dad played big band in the Cripple Creek area when I was young," he said. "It is important to me to bring the sound back to the community."

Famous players including Bill Watrous, one of the finest trombone players in the country, and Steve Watts of Dotsero have both played with the band in the community in the past.

"One of those concerts was a dedication to my dad and the work he did with bands in the region years ago," Craig added.

As a firm supporter of music in the county, Windy Symphony and Swing Factory have provided music in the region, including fundraisers for local groups. "Swing Factory is honored to be raising funds for the newly established music program at the school," stated Director Ron Stinson. Meeker Music has done repairs on instruments donated to date. The Cripple Creek Baptist Church with assistance from CC Fire Department donated and delivered and organ to the school music department. A community effort, Two Mile high Club and Mark Green have assisted with flyers and banners for the event.

Autumn Leaves benefit concert is a fundraising effort to bring music back to the Cripple Creek-Victor School District. September 27, Swing Factory will be playing at the Butte Theater to raise monies for reconstituting the music department and providing instruments for the school district. The event will kick off at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids 17 and under, and available at www.buttetheater.com.

Catholic Daughters Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking



Catholic Daughters in photo: Dawn O'Malley, Julie Hatch, Evelyn Irving, Kay Fritz, Anna Fisher.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Our Lady of Peace #2728 in Woodland Park, Colorado, adopted Sarah's Home and Daniel Academy as one of their Circle of Love projects under "Quality of Life."

Sarah's Home is a faith-based residential home in Peyton, Colorado that gives a home to girls 12-17 who are survivors of human trafficking, giving them emotional support, therapy, education, and a safe place to live while they get on their feet.

They are in the process of establishing Daniel Academy near Florissant, Colorado on land that has been donated on a ranch property. This is a home for boys who also are survivors of human trafficking, which hopefully will be open by the end of this year. There are no other homes like this for boys anywhere.

On July 19, 2025, the Catholic Daughters met in Divide in front of the Divide Market, campaigning for donations for Sarah's Home and Daniel Academy for household goods, laundry items, personal and hygiene items — items that can make their home comfortable and work for them. While we were there in Divide, what a surprise to meet two Board Members with their wives (Eric Apodaca and Glenn Covert) who were excited we were there getting donations for their two homes. There was a second campaign on August 10, 2025, in Woodland Park in front of Vectra Bank.

If you would like more information about Sarah's Home and Daniel Academy, please go to info@sarahshome.us or call 719-347-3026.



Catholic Daughters: Anna Fisher, Julie Hatch, Brenda Sambo, Chris Schwester, Evelyn Irving.

Colorado Ascent

by Steven Wade Veatch



*Sky-bound ridges beckon,
drawing the Earth into sharp relief,
each peak a timeless mystery etched in stone.*

*Granite boulders pierce the clouds,
their solemn silence roaring like thunder,
their immensity carved by the breath of time.*

*Pine forests unfurl, rooted deep,
while alpine lakes reflect the heavens
with clarity unsurpassed.*

*Faintly gleaming in forgotten veins,
gold murmurs of a bygone frenzy,
yet the mountains endure,
unyielding to the grasp of greed.*

*This is the land of rising —
where the damp soil breathes renewal
and birdsong arcs toward open skies;
where rivers leap from cliffs,
their spray soaring toward light.*

*As you climb, the trails coil upward,
the air thins to whispers,
each breath a praise to the heights,
each view a call to reach beyond.
Colorado—where the mountains stretch skyward,
and our spirits follow, ever rising.*

First published in *Colorado Life*, May/June 2025.

Call for Artists!

Submit your artwork for the cover of the 2026 Manitou Springs Visitor Guide

Visit Manitou Springs is thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for artists to showcase their talent and contribute to the vibrant spirit of Manitou Springs. We are inviting all artists to submit their artwork for consideration to be featured on the cover of the 2026 Manitou Springs Visitors Guide. The Manitou Springs Visitors Guide is an annual publication that serves as a vital resource for visitors seeking information on attractions, events, and local businesses. With a distribution of 65,000 guides, this is a chance for your artwork to make a lasting impression and represent the essence of Manitou Springs.

Artists are encouraged to unleash their creativity and capture the spirit of Manitou Springs in their submission. The artwork can be in any medium, including paintings, illustrations, photographs, or mixed media. The artwork must convey the overall message of what Manitou Springs represents, its history, art, outdoor adventures, healing waters, or the unique energy that draws people to our town. Be creative and show the true quirky, beautiful, and fun side of Manitou Springs.

To be considered, please ensure that your artwork meets the following specifications:

- Vertical design: trim 5.5" x "8.125 with a .25" bleed.
- Dead space for Manitou Springs logo at top.
- Dead space for text "2026 Visitor Guide" at the bottom.

- Suitable for scanning and reproduction in print.
- Reflects the spirit and essence of Manitou Springs.
- Submissions should be sent as high resolution, 300 PPI and CMYK
- Files accepted: .JPEG, .PDF, and .TIFF
- You the artist are encouraged to have a connection to Manitou Springs.
- Can be any medium: paintings, illustrations, photographs, or mixed media
- The overall message should encompass everything Manitou Springs offers.
- NO business logos or text for businesses of any kind.
- NO AI will be accepted. We will run the artwork through programs.

Only artwork that meets these parameters will be accepted. Please send artwork to marketing@manitouchamber.com as the deadline for submissions will be Friday, October 17, 2025. Please include your name and contact information.

The chosen artist will receive recognition in the 2026 Manitou Springs Visitors Guide, exposure through our promotional channels, and \$200.

For more information, please visit our website at manitousprings.org or contact Jesse McCoy at Marketing@manitouchamber.com or call 719-685-5089.

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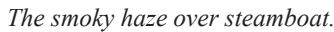




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*Peggy Badgett is an artist and writer. She has several years' worth of adventures you can read for free on her website pharmgirl.org and can be reached at coloradopharmgirl@gmail.com. Her book *Rooster in the Drive Through* is available for sale at *Shipping Plus in Divide*.*



Barbara Pickholz-Weiner, RN, BSN, CACI-MAC, EMDRII is the program director of Journeys Counseling Center, Inc. At Journeys, we teach you tools, skills and help you discover resources to live the most effective life possible. We guide, support and coach you along the path you desire, to become the best version of yourself. To contact Barbara, call 919-510-1268 (cell) or email Journeyscounselingctr@gmail.com.

A woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a green and gold historical costume with a large red flower in her hair, holds a long-haired tabby cat. The background is a gallery with various framed artworks. The text 'Arts & Antiques' is written in a cursive font at the top. The main title 'Maudie's INCREDIBLE EMPORIUM' is in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts, with decorative flourishes. Below it, 'Over 45 Artists!' is in a bold, sans-serif font. The address '363 E. Bennett Ave. Cripple Creek, CO' is in a bold, sans-serif font. The website 'https://www.facebook.com' is in a bold, sans-serif font. The name 'Maudiesincredible Emporium' is in a bold, sans-serif font. The entire advertisement is enclosed in a decorative border with corner ornaments.


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Registration: Adults' \$25, Children 12 and under: \$10

The Museum will need a signed registration paper AND a signed release paper. These pages can be downloaded and mailed to: Florence Pioneer Museum, P.O. 131, Florence CO 81226

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Tales From the Big Sky Ranch Bed and Biscuit

Charming Bear

by Kendra Lee Hall

Bear, a handsome black Lab with a gentle spirit and a charm that won over humans and dogs alike, was one of the very first guests at Big Sky Ranch Bed and Biscuit. Back then, when the business was just starting out, the model was different. There wasn't yet a large play yard. Instead, there were mountain adventures — long hikes through meadows thick with wildflowers, shaded trails beneath rustling aspens, and exuberant runs beneath cerulean skies.

Exploring those trails was one of Bear's favorite things. His ears flapped joyfully as he bounded down the paths beside his canine friends and a handler. His best friend was his spirited sister, Lulu, a coonhound, whose baying always made Lindsey laugh. Every time Lulu arrived at the ranch, her head would be sticking out the vehicle's window, tilted to the sky, letting out her classic deep-throated, "Aroooooo!"

Bear would be right next to her, his head out the same window, squeaking with joy and excitement. Lulu has since passed on and is missed, but those memories of her bounding beside Bear are never forgotten.

As the business grew and the fenced play area was added, the long hikes became less frequent. But Bear didn't mind. He loved the play yard too — romping with friends, chasing squirrels with boundless delight or simply lounging in a sunny spot with his paws elegantly crossed, nose lifted to catch the scent of pine and sage in the breeze.

From day one, Bear had mastered the art of endearment. He was irresistible — and he knew it. Not in a prideful way, but in the gentlest way possible. His signature move? Lying on the floor, paws crossed just so, chin tucked



Romping together is great fun!

sounds. Long, dramatic sighs that said *Life sure is good*, or a higher-pitched moan that translated to *I know I'm irresistible*. He wasn't putting on a show — he simply loved being loved. In return, he gave that love freely, openly, and with a depth that warmed everyone around him.

Every move was intentional. Every glance seemed calculated for maximum adorableness. It always worked. Bear was doted on by caretakers and admired by his fellow dog guests. Lindsey, one of the very first caretakers and his forever friend, held a special place in her heart just for him.

But there was more to Bear than charm and theatrics. Beneath that sleek coat was an exceptional heart.

He noticed things. If a newcomer was nervous or unsure, Bear would be the first to approach — always careful not to get too close or encroach on their space. He'd simply lie nearby, paws crossed, a quiet presence that said, "*You're safe here.*"



Teaching the younger how to sit with paws crossed.

Lindsey watched this happen time and again. Timid pups would keep their distance at first. Bear never pressed. But over hours or days, they'd drift closer, drawn by his calm energy or perhaps his celebrity status. Eventually, you'd see them curled up near him... or better yet, mimicking him, paws crossed just the same way. Some even tried the belly rub pose.

Bear didn't seem to mind the imitation. In fact, he looked quietly pleased. He'd glance over with those deep brown eyes, give a slow tail thump, and bask in the company of a new friend.

Humans loved Bear for his charm. Dogs loved him for his steadiness and his heart. And Bear? Bear loved them all right back.

down, and eyes looking up — just enough so the whites showed. This usually earned him a pat on the head or a scratch behind the ear. Once he had that, he'd slowly roll over, inviting belly rubs with a mischievous glint in his eye. During those belly rubs, Bear would purse his lips in utter contentment, squinting his eyes in pleasure. It was comedy. It was art. It was Bear.

Bear also had a whole repertoire of happy

He knew he was irresistible, yes. But more than that, Bear knew how to use his gifts, not for attention or praise, but to make people smile, to help other dogs feel safe, and to bring warmth into the world in the gentlest of ways.

You can reach Kendra Lee Hall at Wag-StoRiches1234@gmail.com. FMI about dog boarding you can visit www.BigSkyRanch-BedandBiscuit.com

Adopt Us

by TCRAS

Stella

Hi there! My name is Stella. I am a big love bug who is not only beautiful, but smart! I haven't been at the shelter a long time and would like to keep it that way. I have lived with another big dog before, and would like to meet my new dog friends before going home with you. I am ready for my new beginning, and I have a good feeling about it! I am 1-year-old, spayed female Mastiff mix. Please give TCRAS a call 719-686-7707 to set an appointment to meet me! You will see for yourself how sweet I am!

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



I

Fire Mitigation and Forest Health

Actions remain critical components for achieving a fire adapted community

by Don Moore

The NoFloCo Fire Mitigation Posse continues to grow and ramp up their efforts to assist private property owners with fire mitigation and forest health related issues. Local, regional, national, and international attention has been achieved by this local non-profit organization. Since its inception in October 2019, NoFloCo has remained consistent in its mission: To assist private property owners within the Wildland Urban Interface footprint with fire mitigation, fire awareness, & forest health; implement the tenets of the Cohesive Strategy; make the community safer from wildland fire danger; improve property appearance; and have fun.

In March of this year NoFloCo was awarded the 2025 Fire Mitigation Award. The Wildfire Mitigation Awards program was established in 2014 by the USDA Forest Service, the National Fire Protection Association, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the National Association of State Foresters. The recipients of this award are based upon how their local efforts have made national impacts, earning them the highest commendation for innovation and leadership in wildfire mitigation.

Also in the spring of this year, NoFloCo has been selected as one of 12 innovator teams as finalists with a chance to win a share of over \$1,000,000 in prizes and support as part of the Conservation X Labs (CXL) Fire Grand Challenge for Western North America.

Across the planet, fires are increasing in severity and frequency, bringing destruction to fire-adapted regions and previously unaffected ecosystems. Western North America is now facing its own fire crisis, existentially threatening the region's ecosystems and communities. In collaboration with the Gordon and Betty

Moore Foundation, The Coca-Cola Foundation, Esri, and Planet, the Fire Grand Challenge called on innovators and place-based communities worldwide to submit solutions that bring together technological innovation and place-based knowledge to transform how we manage and live with fire. CXL received 92 technical applications and over 50 place-based community applications from 20 countries.

The finalists were chosen based on their innovation's feasibility, scaling potential, and potential to achieve transformative environmental and social impact. Finalists will participate in a tailored acceleration, testing, and scaling program over a nine-month period. An external panel of judges will evaluate their progress and impact as they compete for an additional \$200,000 worth of prizes to be awarded in January 2026. Teams will work closely with place-based communities to prove the technical performance of their solutions through a rigorous acceleration program.

"The increasing severity and complexity of wildland fire demands innovative solutions and improved collaboration to address ecosystem stewardship and how communities live with fire. Conservation X Labs' Fire Grand Challenge is pivotal in removing barriers to combining technical expertise and local knowledge, providing challenge participants access to experts and communities, mentorship, field testing, and funding. Sagebrush Capital is excited to support finalists as they build innovative, impactful, and economically-sustainable solutions to preserve communities and landscapes."

— JB Beyer, Principal, Sagebrush Capital

The "2025 Midland Days" Symposium

Cripple Creek Adventures

by David Martinek

There's only one Cripple Creek, and there will never be another. That goes for all the railroads serving the gold district, as well — namely the Midland Terminal, the Florence and Cripple Creek and the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek District (the "Short Line") lines.

During the 2025 symposium, coming up on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at the John Wesley Ranch and Retreat just south of Divide, a comprehensive history of each of those three railroads will be revealed. In addition, while we're talking about history, there'll be a presentation on the legacy of John Wesley Ranch and its beginnings as a roadhouse, and certainly a highlight of the day will be a presentation about the Midland station in Leadville.

You see, there's an interesting aspect about that depot in Leadville that has been a mystery to the present day. There are no readily available records or photos of the "other side" of that building, except for one photo showing only one face. Until now, that is. Railroad historian, Art Hundhausen, will finally reveal what the entire depot looked like back in the day, through a remarkable adventure of deductive reasoning and sleuthing, not to be missed.

Midland Days at Divide, Inc., along with its partners, the Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition (T.H.E. Coalition) and the Divide Chamber of Commerce, and its sponsors, proudly announce the 15th annual gathering of the Midland Days symposium, to be held again at the historic John Wesley Ranch south of Divide on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 9-4 p.m. The event will begin, as usual, with a social gathering at 9 a.m. followed by introductions and announcements.

The agenda will include presentations (including numerous historical photographs) and conversations with railroad author and historian, Mel McFarland, historian Art Crawford, Zack Waller, David Martinek, president of Midland Days at Divide, Inc., as presenter and moderator, and historian and special guest, Art Hundhausen.

Seating for the symposium will be limited, as always. Reservations, at \$50 per person, are strongly encouraged, and should be made on

or before Wednesday, September 10, 2025, by calling David Martinek 719-213-9335 or by emailing your RSVP to MidlandDays@yahoo.com. A reservation fee may also be mailed to Midland Days, P.O. Box 1088, Divide, CO 80814.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day; a light breakfast and lunch will be served. Walk-in attendees are welcome for the same attendance fee, but seating and lunch cannot be guaranteed. According to the tradition established at the first symposium, all those with reservations will receive a limited-edition railroad print (ink on parchment) especially drawn and provided courtesy of Mel McFarland, the 15th in a series. Additional copies of the print, and prints from past symposiums, and other special items and memorabilia, will also be available for purchase.

The John Wesley Ranch is operated by the First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs who once again have graciously opened their historic lodge facilities to host the symposium. The ranch is located south of Divide at 21285 Highway 67 just before the entrance to Mueller State Park. There is ample parking. Directions from Colorado Springs: Take U.S. 24 west up Ute Pass for 25 miles, through Woodland Park, to Divide. Turn left on Highway 67 South. The entrance to the John Wesley Ranch is 3 miles on the right (look for the Midland Days sign).

Midland Days at Divide, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit Colorado corporation formed in 2013 (EIN 46-4067659). Midland Days devotes its assets and operations to the protection of the historic legacy of the Colorado Midland Railway and the Midland Terminal Railroad, as well as other related railroads, and those cultural and natural resources affecting the continued preservation of such history. Midland Days at Divide, Inc. also owns the Midland Depot at Divide property and complex.

The Teller Historic and Environmental Coalition, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit Colorado corporation formed in 2000 (EIN 84-1552939). T.H.E. Coalition's mission is to facilitate preservation of the historic, envi-

Each finalist team is composed of both a technical applicant and a place-based community. Many teams were brought together through the Challenge's matchmaking process, designed to create strong partnerships that merge technological expertise with deep local knowledge. NoFloCo has partnered with Wildfire Robotics from Alberta, Canada and has been working with them since April. Wildfire Robotics has developed a fire containment system with advanced locomotion, intelligent fluid distribution, and semi-autonomous control systems that self-deploys long-distance fluid in distribution lines across challenging terrain. As part of the planning and field testing, NoFloCo's current priority is to completely mitigate and harden a Teller County neighborhood against wildfires. While Indian Creek, the largest land mass neighborhood in Colorado, was an initial consideration, its scale necessitates a longer-term effort. Currently, NoFloCo is actively collaborating with Forest Glen, a 70-acre subdivision with 60 parcels and highly motivated residents, to achieve this milestone.

To date, NoFloCo and the residents of Forest Glen have focused on the mitigation efforts in the common areas, approximately three acres. Numerous planning meetings and property assessments have led to a significant amount of actual fire mitigation. The work completed to date has resulted in the removal of over 450 trees, the clearing of forest floor debris, ladder fuel removal, and biomass elimination. A tremendous amount of firewood has been created, and this will be given to the residents of Forest Glen for home heating. Phase 2 of the Project will be focused on the individual property units, including education on Home Hardening and

Assessing Structure Ignition Potential, as well as fire mitigation and biomass removal from these private properties.

In October, NoFloCo will be speaking at the 17th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit in Calgary. This summit provides a fantastic opportunity for professionals in the wildland fire community to gather, share insights, and discuss advancements in fire safety and human dimensions related to wildland fire management.

NoFloCo is also in discussions with Pine Strawberry Fuels Reduction Organization in Arizona to collaborate on both education and fire mitigation activities in the two communities.

Even though the NoFloCo Fire Mitigation movement is growing and expanding, the organization remains focused on the fire mitigation and home hardening needs of the private property and homeowners in Teller County. NoFloCo maintains a commitment to ongoing learning and best practices. They consult recommendations from leading authorities such as the International Cohesive Strategy, US Forest Service, National Fire Protection Association, Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS), and Colorado State Forest Service, along with other forest health professionals. They prioritize implementing effective strategies, sharing valuable information, and crediting the expertise of others.

In fact, they will be hosting a NoFloCo University Session on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Woodland Park Library. The information shared at this session will be important for anyone interested in learning about increasing the chances of your home's survivability during a wildland fire. FMI visit www.nofloco.org.



ronmental, recreational and scenic resources in and around Teller County, and to broaden public understanding regarding the significance of those resources. T.H.E. Coalition is actively working to preserve the Midland Depot at Divide.

The Divide Chamber of Commerce, a partner of T.H.E. Coalition and Midland Days at Divide, Inc., is a 501 (c)6 non-profit corpora-

tion supporting local businesses in the Divide community.

All proceeds, sponsorships and contributions (less meal costs) from the "2025 Midland Days" symposium will help support Midland Days at Divide, Inc., future symposiums and the Midland Depot at Divide Preservation Project, and its partnering organizations.

Keep Your Butts In Your Car!

Save our forests and homes!



NO NEED TO DRIVE TO THE SPRINGS!

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TAKE MOST
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PACKAGES IF
YOU ONLY HAVE
A QR CODE!!**

**YOU COULD STILL DROP OFF YOUR FEDEX,
UPS, AND USPS PACKAGES WITH A LABEL**

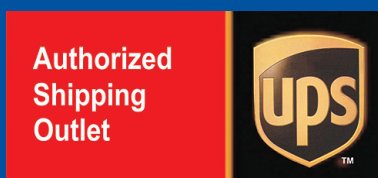


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A Legacy of 60 Years of Service to Teller County

by Tracie Bennitt

Way back in the late 1800s John and Mahlon Thatcher left Pennsylvania and migrated to the plains of Pueblo, Colorado. The brothers had a small safe they called "a bank" and offered loans to entrepreneurs and prospectors in the wilds of Colorado. By 1920 they had banks from New Mexico to Wyoming.

John Thatcher built the 24,000 square-foot Rosemount Mansion at 14th and Greenwood in Pueblo in 1891. That home is now a museum in the community as a gift from the family. The family of Mahlon Thatcher endowed monies to the Western Museum of Mining. Family members are still associated with Park State Bank today.

This was the beginning of the banking industry that eventually led to the development of Park State Bank & Trust in Woodland Park 60 years ago. A community bank, Park State Bank was developed with the idea of a bank supportive of the local community then and now. Those qualities helped the bank support local business owners through during the economic downturn in 2007. That attitude helped to support economic activity in the community when small businesses were struggling nationwide. President/CEO Tony Perry has worked diligently to hold the bank accountable to its

shareholders and to the community during his tenure at the bank.

Park State Bank & Trust has been a vital resource to the community during the last 60 years. In 2003, an area in the new bank building was designated at the Eichman Gallery to honor Bob and Karen Eichman for their years of service to the community. Gayle Gross, owner of Reserve Our Gallery in Woodland Park, managed the Eichman Gallery while working as Relationship Development Coordinator at the bank in 2006. Her position was to increase market share in the community by doing special events at the bank. She also was active with the annual Fine Art Scholarship that awarded money to student artists in the past.

The Eichman Gallery is still going strong today. A fall exhibit will be held this month honoring the Eichman's with a special watercolor painted by local artist Virginia Shippey who recently passed. Quilts from Quilters Above the Clouds, featuring work from Eileen McMilland and Mary Ann Sperry, will be exhibited as well as art from other local artists. Watch for details regarding a special art reception to be held during the month.

A special anniversary block party will be held at the bank, 710 W. US Hwy 24, on

September 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Events include hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by American Legion Post 1980 based in Woodland Park, lemonade, tea, and drinks provided by Banana Belt Liquors, ice cream from Roy's BBQ, Eichman Art Gallery Reception, kid's activities and hourly prize giveaways.

Message from President/CEO Tony Perry:
Founded in 1965, Park State Bank & Trust is an independent, locally owned community bank in Woodland Park, Colorado, committed to delivering personal, dependable, and innovative financial services. With a family legacy in Colo-

rado banking since the late 1800s, the bank supports individuals, families, and small businesses through tailored solutions, including checking, savings, business loans, and mortgage services.

Park State Bank & Trust prioritizes data security, safeguarding customer information and systems with robust measures. By advancing its digital strategy, the bank enhances customer experiences while maintaining local decision-making and keeping deposits in the Ute Pass region to fuel community growth through loans, donations, and volunteer efforts. FMI, visit www.psbtrust.bank or call 719-687-9234.

Victor Heritage Days

Join us in celebrating the second annual Victor Heritage Days, September 6-7, 2025, in historic Victor, Colorado.

Victor is located at nearly 10,000 feet elevation on the southwest side of Pikes Peak in the Cripple Creek and Victor Mining District. We are located one hour west of Colorado Springs on Highway 67 and only five miles south of Cripple Creek on the Gold Belt National Scenic Byway.

Victor Heritage Days will commence at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 6 with a first time ever "Show and Tell" at Pinnacle Park Plaza. Participants are encouraged to share their knowledge of the memorabilia/historical artifacts they have acquired from Victor or the Gold Camp District. Come hear the stories, the history, and the "lore." The "treasures and tales" should entertain! A picnic lunch will be provided in the Plaza immediately following at 11:30-12:30 p.m.

The always anticipated Historic Home and Building Tour will take place within the city from 1-4 p.m. Tickets for this event can be purchased at Twin Flame Gallery (102 S. 4th) and the Victor Artists' Co-Op (southeast corner of 2nd and Victor Ave). A docent guided interior tour will be provided at all of the selected sites. Specific locations and addresses will be announced on victorheritagesociety.com or on Facebook as the date draws near. All proceeds from this event benefit sponsored activities of the Victor Heritage Society nonprofit.

On Sunday, Sept 7th at 10 a.m. a free Victor Walking Tour will take place in downtown Victor. This tour will have a special emphasis on the citizens who not only lived but helped form the history of Victor. All participants will meet in front of Victor City Hall to start the tour. Come join in on an early Sunday morning stroll! The walk will end at 11 a.m. in Wallace Park as we dedicate the newly placed walking tour sign and the historic Washington school bell by the Teller County WWII Memorial.

At 1 p.m. on Sunday, La Jean Greeson will be presenting "Gillett and Cameron, the Entertainment Towns of the Gold District" at the Cripple Creek Heritage Center. La Jean is the creator, administrator, and historical researcher of the very popular Facebook site "My Obsessions, Family History and Victor Colorado." She is also an active board member for the Victor Heritage Society.

More details for all scheduled events are available on Facebook at Victor Heritage Society. Email communication is available by reaching out to victorheritagesociety@gmail.com. The 2025 Victor Heritage fundraising calendars will be available throughout the event.

While in town, check out our merchants, museums and eateries located in the designated National Historic District. Take a little trip and step back in time! If you decide to stay over there are several lodging accommodations available.

BLOCK PARTY CELEBRATING 60TH ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers – grilled by WP Post 1980 American Legion
Lemonade, Tea, and Drinks – Banana Belt Liquors
Ice Cream - Roy's BBQ
Eichman Art Gallery Reception
Kid's Activities
Hourly Prize Giveaways



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719.687.9234



EVERYONE WELCOME

Our Team Is What Makes Us Different

AT THE BANK

710 W US Hwy 24
Woodland Park, CO

~OUT AND ABOUT~

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

AVAILABLE ONLINE

- NAMI Colorado: <http://www.nami-colorado.org>
- Suicide prevention: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> or dial 988

CAÑON CITY

- 6-7 The 950 Junktion 10-4 p.m. 43880 W US 50. Antiques, vintage, hand-crafted, vendors food trucks, music and more! FMI 719-784-1172.
- 27 Celebrate National Doodle Day — Pet Fair and Fundraiser, not limited to Doodles! Featuring pet-related products and services 11-2 p.m. at Canon City Dog Park on Reynolds Ave. 100% of profits donated to Fremont County Humane Society. Hosted by Mountain View Homes.

LIBRARY

- 6 Sherry Sky Stuart presents Forgotten Female Felons 2 p.m. at the Steeple Event Center.
- 18 Free Legal Clinic by appointment 2-3:30 p.m. 719-269-9020
- 1st Friday Lego Club 3 p.m.
- 2nd Friday Breakout Box 3 p.m.
- 3rd Friday Creative Crafting 3 p.m.
- B.O.O.K. (Babies on our knees) story time Mondays 10:30 a.m.
- Cañon City Gardening Club 4th Saturday 1-2:30 p.m.
- Chess Club Wednesdays 2 p.m.
- Cribbage Club Fridays 10 noon.
- Dulcimer Club for kids 2nd and 4th Wednesday 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- Mahjong Club Tuesdays 1-4 p.m.
- Metaphysical Group Saturdays 10:30 a.m.
- Rummikub Club meets 3rd Monday of each month 1 p.m.
- Saturdays D&D Club game 2-4 p.m.
- Story Swap Book Chat 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 3 p.m.
- Story time and craft Tuesday and Thursdays 10:30 a.m.
- Story time at the Farmers Market every Saturday 9-9:30 a.m. All at 516 Macon Ave unless otherwise specified. FMI 719-269-9020 www.ccpil.lib.co.us

COLORADO SPRINGS

- MUSIC ON THE MESA
- 6 The United States Air Force Academy Band 4-8 p.m.
- 13 Wirewood Station 11-2 p.m.
- 20 Countywide 11-2 p.m. FMI see page 9.

- Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging presents a series "Retirement Reimagined: Strategies for a Meaningful Future" each is on a Thursday, 4-5 p.m. You may attend in person or virtually.
- 4 Finding Purpose. The workday alarm clock is gone... now what? Explore how to bring meaning, joy, and purpose into your retirement years with intentional life planning.
- 18 Estate Planning. Protect your assets, secure your legacy and gain peace of mind. Learn the essentials of estate planning whether you're starting fresh or updating your plan.
- 25 Caregiving with Compassion. Discover tools and understanding to navigate aging, changes in cognition, and grief while staying connected with your loved one, and yourself as a caregiver.
- Save the dates for Oct 2 — Medicare 101 and on Oct 9 Staying Connected. FMI 719-471-7080 x 135.

CRIPPLE CREEK

- 4 American Legion Post 171 meets the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 400 Carr St., Food and refreshments at 5 p.m.
- 6-7 Cruise Above the Clouds Car Show
- 6-Oct 7 Ghost Tours Saturdays by reservation only 719-689-9540
- 13 Double Down Disc Golf Tournament
- 18 Third Thursday of the month is Two Mile High Club meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Double Eagle Casino complex 442 East Bennett Ave.
- 20-21 Gold Camp Victorian Society Mt. Pisgah Speaks
- 20-21 Craft Fair at Heritage Center, Rocky Mtn Rambler
- 26 Oct 5 Fall Art Show at Heritage Center
- 27 "Autumn Leaves" a benefit concert for CC-V schools music department 7 p.m. \$20 adults, \$10 children under 18. Ticket at buttheater.com

ASPEN MINE CENTER

- 9 Groundbreaking for "A Place for Kids" 2 p.m. 142 W Bennett Ave.
- 26 Commodities distribution 9-11 p.m.
- Tuesdays BINGO 10:30 a.m. for seniors.
- Tuesdays Moral Reconation Therapy 5-7 p.m. at ACCC building.
- Wednesdays Luncheon 11:30-1 p.m. upstairs dining room, every Wed, donations greatly appreciated, but not required.
- Mexican Train on Thursday 10:30 a.m.
- First and third Adult Children of Alcoholics 6:30-8 p.m.
- Interested in ESL? Please contact Ann 719-493-0867.
- All programs at 166 E Bennett Ave. FMI 719-689-3584 x112.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

- GED Classes Mondays & Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. New students (min. age 16) may join GED classes after completing orientation and \$40 registration fee. FMI Katy@cpteller.org
- Playgroup Fridays 9-10 a.m. No Playgroup September 12. Cripple Creek Parks & Recreation Learn, grow, play, and have fun! Join us to meet other children and caregivers, participate in fun and educational activities together, and nurture your child's development. Playgroup is for families with children 5 years and under and their caregivers, older siblings are welcome. Walk-ins welcome. FMI Aimee@cpteller.org

CC DISTRICT MUSEUM

- Saturdays Through October CC District Museum Ghost Tours 4 p.m. 719-689-9540 for reservations or FMI. Come learn about the spirits who never left Cripple Creek on this walking tour along Bennett Avenue. Tours leave the District Museum at 4 p.m. Cost is \$10 each.
- The District Museum Scarecrow Contest is coming this autumn... More categories! More prizes! Watch the CDDM Facebook page for details.
- SAVE THE DATES — Oct 4, 5 Fall Fest 2025 11 a.m. — 9 p.m.

DIVIDE

- 8, 22 Little Chapel Food Pantry distribution.
- 10, 13 Yoga & Pilates 6-week classes to benefit TCRAS at Pikes Peak Community Club. Pilates starts on Wednesdays, Sept 10 at 6 p.m. and Yoga is on Saturdays, Sept 13 at 9:30 a.m. Each 6-week class is \$89 or BOTH for \$149. FMI 720-951-4511.
- 12, 26 Teller Senior Coalition BINGO! 10-11:30 a.m. at Little Chapel Church 69 CR 5. RSVP 719-687-3530 ext. 6. Please call to set up a ride 719-687-0256 and join us for doughnuts, coffee and FUN!
- 13 The "2025 Midland Days" Symposium — Cripple Creek Adventures see page 13.
- 13 "Mexican Fiesta Fundraiser" at Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center 4-6 p.m. Feeding tour, meet & greet, seasonal treats, refreshments & adult beverages, vegetarian & meat chili, and other festivities! Reserve your spot today 719-687-9742.

FAIRPLAY

- 11 Free Legal Clinic 2-4 p.m. by appointment. Call 719-836-4297 via the library

WIZARDS OF THE PEAKS

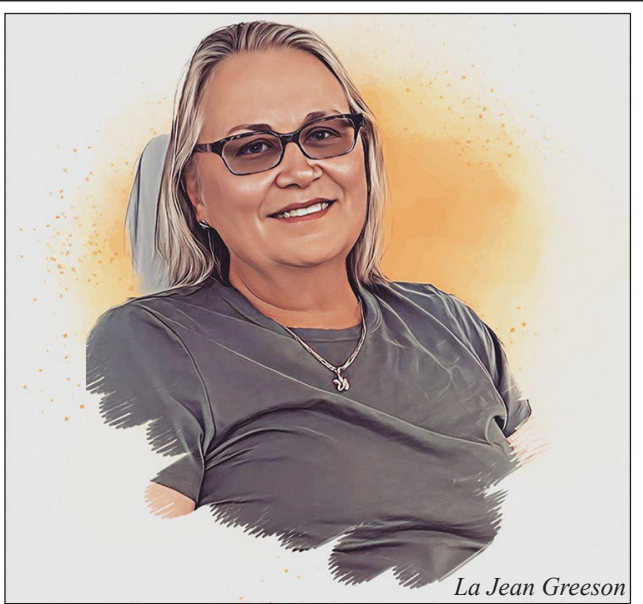
- 6 All Ages Pokemon 3-5 p.m.
- 7 Catan Group 2 p.m.
- 13, 27 Youth and Teen Dungeons & Dragons 4-6 p.m.
- 14, 28 Amtgard Park Days noon FREE 14 Chess Group 2 p.m.
- 21 Amtgard Arts and Science Day noon FREE
- 28 World Game Group 2 p.m.
- Sundays Amtgard Park Days Bi-weekly noon
- Mondays Cribbage Group Bi-weekly 6 p.m.
- Mondays Boozy Board Games Bi-weekly 6 p.m. FREE
- Tuesdays TTRPG 7 p.m. different each week
- Thursdays Learn to Play 6 p.m. Game: Splendor
- Fridays Night Magic 7 p.m.
- Saturday Adult RPGs 7 p.m. different each week

FLORENCE

- 13 Tour de Coal Towns 9 a.m. register at the Florence Pioneer Museum for a leisurely bike ride through the coal camps west of Florence. Along the way, play the Poker Run and see who has the best hand at the end of the ride. Last stop is Pioneer Park. Lunch provided at the end of the tour. Registration \$25 adults, \$10 children 12 and under. The Museum will need a signed registration paper AND a signed release paper, along with a check made out to the Florence Pioneer Museum.
- 13 The Blue Spruce Gallery is proud to host an exhibition of Marianne "Moonbeam" Schuren's newest photography. The opening reception is 4-6 p.m. at 205 West Main St. Moonbeam is a multi-talented artist, with skills ranging from jewelry making to painting, to photography. This show will feature some of her newest and favorite photographs, as well as some of her paintings. Love of nature and animals are her inspiration, and it shows in every picture that she takes. She spends part of the year in Portugal and her newest photos of the beauty there are well worth seeing. The back garden area will be open and there will be light refreshments and good conversation. The exhibit hangs through Oct. 7.

JOHN C FREMONT LIBRARY

- 4 Reverse coloring craft 2 p.m. Instead of using color on a lined coloring page, those attending will add lines to a colored coloring page!
- 8 Movie for adults 2 p.m. Popcorn will



La Jean Greeson

CRIPPLE CREEK

- 7 History Talk by La Jean Greeson, "Lost Places" on the towns of Gillett and Cameron, once part of the Cripple Creek Mining District 1 p.m. Admission is free. Light Refreshments will be served. Proceeds benefit Victor Heritage Society.

be provided. Bring your own drink.

- 12 Cañon City Workforce Center 11-1 p.m. to help people with career related questions.

- 15 Basic Troubleshooting Computer Class 2 p.m.

- 16 Bank of the San Juans presents Money Smarts 2 p.m. topic: financial exploitation prevention for older adults.

- 23 Fremont County Master Gardeners 10 a.m. topic: how to save seeds.

- 26 BINGO! 2 p.m. All ages welcome!

- 30 Fremont County Clerk and Recorder, Justin Gramham 2 p.m. "Life on a Ballot."

- Thursdays Yarnia! 10-12 p.m. Craft and share your knitting and crocheting love with others!

- The second and fourth Tuesday of each month join us for Hooks and Needles, an additional club for crafting! 10-12 p.m.

- Storytime with Friday at 10am FMI 719-748-3939

GUFFEY

- Bakery hosts a Farmer's Market every Saturday 9-2 p.m.
- 13 Respiratory Diseases & The Impact of Stress 10-noon at SPFPD FMI rebaskillam@gmail.com

LIBRARY

- 2 Walking, Talking Tuesdays 1-3 p.m.

- Meets every first Tuesday of the month. Take a nice brisk walk around Guffey Town and meet back at the library to crochet, knit and talk away.

- 6 Socrates Café 6-7:30 p.m. Please come and join us as we exchange philosophical perspectives based on personal experiences. Everyone is welcome regardless of age or background. This will not be a class, lecture or debate, just simply community dialogue. Socrates Cafes take place in many cities and towns around the world. The concept was started by Christopher Phillips using his method that involves discussing a set of ideas and learning how to think rather than what to think, and getting consensus by asking questions. FMI Craig cconrellis@gmail.com

- 11 Free Legal Clinic 2-4 p.m. by appointment. Call 719-689-9280

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

- Guffey Literary Society 1-3 p.m. Book choice for September is *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom. The Guffey Literary Society is a wonderfully dynamic and diverse group. All are welcome to join. FMI 719-689-9280 or Guffey. Library@parkcountycogov.

LAKE GEORGE

- 11 Free Legal Clinic 2-4 p.m. by appointment, Call 719-748-3812.

MANITOU SPRINGS

- 20, 21 Pikes Peak Marathon and Ascent FMI <https://www.pikespeakmarathon.org/>

VICTOR

- 5-7 Victor Heritage Days

- 13-14 Steampunk Soiree 2025

- Victor Lowell Thomas Museum open daily 10-5 p.m.

- Victor Sunnyside Cemetery Tours Check VictorMuseum.com

WOODLAND PARK

- 5, 6 Munchkin Market is a HUGE consignment sale of gently used children's items: Clothing (size 0-junior 16), shoes, baby gear, strollers, high chairs, toys, media, healthy and safety, accessories, maternity, and more! Volunteers run the sale and benefits go to MomCom Village Group in Woodland Park. If you'd like to consign, we'd love you to join us! You can receive up to 70% off the selling price of your items. FMI munchkinmarket.net

- Friday sale is 10-7 p.m.

- Saturday 9-2 p.m. (1/2 price day, all items 50% off)

- We are located at 1061 Rampart Range Rd.

- 6 Cruise Above the Clouds Pancake

Breakfast 8-11 a.m. at the WP Senior Center, SE corner of Pine & Lake Ave. A breakfast guaranteed to keep you going throughout the Car Show Day. Fill up with all you can eat fluffy pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit and the best biscuits and gravy around! Your hometown seniors will be flipping pancakes and scrambling eggs to be served with juice and coffee or hot tea for only \$10. Kids 6 and under eat for free. We can make take out meals for you! Our open to the public event helps to support the programs and activities of the WP Senior Center. We appreciate the support of each one of you!

- 13 Second Saturday Reserve Our Gallery gala 6-8 p.m. FMI <https://reserveourgallery.square.site/> or calling 719-401-2301.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

- 2 Crossroads Co-Parenting Seminar 4:30-7:30 p.m. Teller County court approved parenting and divorce class seminar. \$35 fee. Pre-registration required. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org

- 11 In Full Bloom A Garden Celebration 3:30-5:30 p.m. Join us at the Community Garden, 220 W South Ave. Enjoy garden tours, tasty snacks made with ingredients from our themed gardens, scavenger hunts, and kid-friendly activities, plus sign up for the 2026 garden season and CP's fall cooking classes. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org

- 15 Family Law Divorce, Custody, & Protection Order! 4-5 p.m. Colorado Legal Services will offer general guidance on filing, representing yourself, understanding the statutes, and navigating the court system. No specific legal advice. No attorney-client relationship will be established. Childcare provided. FMI 719-471-0380.

- 16 Practical & Positive Parenting Workshop 5:30-7:30 p.m. During this interactive workshop learn how to understand and communicate with your child effectively and connect with other parents who have been through similar experiences. You don't have to do it alone! Childcare and a hot meal are provided for all in attendance. Pre-registration required, call 719-686-0705 or email michelle@cpteller.org.

- 20 Family Movie Night — showing Encanto! Doors open at 5:45 p.m., Movie starts at 6:30 p.m. Come make a snack, grab popcorn and a drink, and get comfy! Bring a mat, blanket, pillow, or chair. RSVPs appreciated but not required. Walk-ins welcome. Aimee@cpteller.org or call 719-686-0705.

- Addiction Support Wednesdays 9-4 p.m. Face It TOGETHER provides peer personalized, nonjudgmental free coaching for those impacted by addiction. 18 yrs and older. Walk-ins welcome. FMI www.wefacetogether.org

- Career Center Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-3 p.m. Pikes Peak Workforce Center helps with job searching, resume assistance, and unemployment applications. Walk-ins welcome or schedule appointments with George@cpteller.org

- Community Garden Work & Learn Day Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-12 p.m. Meet us at Woodland Park City Hall! Hands-on gardening, helpful tips, and community connection — open to all ages and no experience required. Get involved with building, planting, watering, or to learn something new. Want to help with watering? We're looking for helping hands to keep the garden beds happy and healthy this season! FMI Michelle@cpteller.org

- Family Café Monday through Thursday 9-4 p.m. Enjoy coffee, free Wi-Fi, Kid's Corner, and a space for parents and caregivers in our community to connect.

- Foundation Training Innovative Exercise Program Wednesdays 7-7:45 a.m. 45 minutes of activation, breathing and stretching. Feel stronger and more connected with your body after just one class. Bring your mat. FMI bethfoundationtraining@gmail.com

- GED Classes Mondays & Wednesdays 10-12 p.m. New students (min. age 16) may join GED classes after completing orientation and \$40 registration fee. FMI Katy@cpteller.org

- Pearson VUE Testing Center Mondays 9:30-5:30 p.m. Schedule your certification or licensure exam at www.pearsonvue.com. Fees vary. FMI Katy@cpteller.org

- Playgroup Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m. Learn, grow, play, and have fun! Join us to meet other children and caregivers, participate in fun and educational activities together, and nurture your child's development. Playgroup is for families with children 5 years and under and their caregivers, older siblings are welcome. Walk-ins welcome. FMI Aimee@cpteller.org

- Telehealth Location Monday through Thursday 9-4 p.m. Comfortable private rooms and equipment available for any virtual appointment including health care, therapy visits, interviews, parent-teacher conferences, and more.

- Yoga with Leah Mondays 10-11 a.m.

No yoga Sept 22 First come, first served, no late entry. Bring your own mat and props. All levels welcome. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org

- Yoga with Leah Wednesdays 5-6 p.m. First come, first served, no late entry. Bring your own mat and props. All levels welcome. FMI Michelle@cpteller.org

- All programs at Community Partnership programs at Community Partnership 701 Gold Hill Place unless otherwise noted. FMI 719-686-0705.

SAVE THE DATES!

- Oct 1 GED Orientation 5-7 p.m.

- Improve your education and employment opportunities by earning your GED. We will help you every step of the way, from enrollment to graduation, with our small classes and on-site testing center. New students (min age 16) may join GED classes after completing orientation and registration fee. Dinner provided, childcare available on request. FMI Katy@cpteller.org

- Oct 2 Cooking Classes 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- Leave the shopping and cleaning to us; take a night off and enjoy hands-on cooking fun with your family! Learn to prep and cook healthy meals, grocery shop on a budget and nutrition. Enjoy a family style meal together at the end of class. Each week, participants take home a bag of groceries to recreate the meal at home or get creative and customize your own meal. Pre-registration required 719-686-0705 or email michelle@cpteller.org.

- LIBRARY

- 2 Woodland Park Book Club 10:30 a.m. Check our book clubs' page to see what we're reading next!

- 3 Kids Craftroom from 3-5 p.m. Join us for a craft and downtime to read, work on homework or projects!

- 3 Evening Adult Fiction Book Club 4:45 p.m. A book club for those looking for an evening group!

- 3 Evening Tarot Club at 7 p.m. Join us for an afterhours edition of tarot club! Sep 18 we're reading "Devotion."

- 5 Coffee Chats 10 a.m. Join us for free coffee, donuts and conversation. Meet new friends in Woodland Park!

- 6 Spill the Tea for Teens at 10 a.m. Join us for an hour of casual hanging out and donuts!

- 8 NoFloCo is hosting a University Session at 6 p.m. FMI page 13.

- 9 For the Love of Writing Writers Club blankit, pillow, or chair. RSVPs appreciated but not required. Walk-ins welcome. Aimee@cpteller.org or call 719-686-0705.

- Addition Support Wednesdays 9-4 p.m. Face It TOGETHER provides peer personalized, nonjudgmental free coaching for those impacted by addiction. 18 yrs and older. Walk-ins welcome. FMI www.wefacetogether.org

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- Yoga with Leah Mondays 10-11 a.m.

The Ghosts of Mt. Pisgah Speak Again

by Kris Wallen

Once again, the ghosts of the World's Greatest Gold Camp will speak... Can you hear them?

Please join The Gold Camp Victorian Society (GCVS) of Cripple Creek on Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st for our twenty-fifth annual presentation of Mount Pisgah Speaks, an historic tour of Mt. Pisgah Cemetery, Cripple Creek's historic resting place for its endless host of characters from days gone by.

The Gold Camp Victorian Society members will again be portraying many of the most colorful characters of the World's Greatest Gold Camp of the 1890s. It's as if the dead are rising from their graves to entertain all who come to visit with their riveting, hilarious and often heart-rendering stories.

The 2025 cast of characters may include:

- Pearl Devere, the most beloved Madam of the gold camp and the only Madam to be buried in the cemetery.

- The Ghost of the Potter's Field, and the unknown and unnamed buried there.

- Johnnie Nolan, the man who banished temperance crusader, Carrie Nation, from Cripple Creek, forever.

- Mabel Barbee Lee, Cripple Creek's most beloved teacher and author of Cripple Creek Days.

- Doc Susie, the famous female doctor of the frontier.

- Digger O'Dell, the man who dug the graves of Mt. Pisgah (in a creative way).

These famous ghosts, as well as the com-



mon folk who lived and worked in the gold camp, will tell their tales of life in one of the most active mining districts in the world where gold is still mined today. You will see the apparitions come alive as they stand at their own graves to tell their stories. This remarkable historic production portrays some of the gold camp's most famous, infamous, nefarious and lovable characters in an entertaining and slightly spooky atmosphere.

Tours leave the Cripple Creek District Museum parking lot (510 Bennett Avenue) in Cripple Creek every 30 minutes beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. on Sunday and run until 1:30 p.m. Saturday and 12:30 p.m. Sunday.

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