



WOODMEN • EDITION

Life, Business, News in Rockrimmon, Peregrine, Pinecliff, Woodmen Valley, Yorkshire, Brookwood, Briargate, Pine Creek and Wolf Ranch

The Woodmen Edition 620 Southpointe Ct. Ste 235, Colorado Springs, CO 80906 578-5112

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Spreading the Word



These Briargate kids participated in a local walk to raise awareness and research funds for the disorder apraxia of speech.

See Page 2

Festival Hitting its Stride



For the third year in a row, the Chapel of Our Savior in the Broadmoor area has put on a family friendly beer festival which raises money for charity.

See Page 5

Ute Indian Prayer Trees



This tree was modified long ago by the Ute Indians to be a burial tree. A hike next weekend will point out such historic trees in Fox Run Park.

See Page 3

Local Students Experience Government in Action

Seven D20 Girls Among Those Chosen for Statewide Camp



The details of government, including making and changing bills to become laws, took center stage for a group of girls from Academy School District 20 who were selected for last week's American Legion Auxiliary Girls Camp in Greeley, Colo. Photographed here are some of the seven D20 participants with other Colorado campmates, including, left to right, Alana McNerney from Rampart High School, Emilie Cunnington of Legacy High School in Broomfield, Danielle Dickerson from James Irwin Charter High School, Claire Brockway from Rampart High School, Megan Cho from Pine Creek High School, Emilyanne Kuykendall from Liberty High School and Ellie Roberts from Liberty High School.

By GAIL HARRISON

"It was interesting to gain insight on how the legislative branch works, from real experience, instead of from a textbook," said Rampart High School student Claire Brockway about last week's American Legion Auxiliary Girls State.

Brockway was one of seven School District 20 rising seniors who participated in the June 7-12 event at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. She joined Ellie Roberts and Emilyanne Kuykendall of Liberty High School, Alana McNerney of Rampart High School, Megan Cho of Pine Creek High School, Hadleigh Swarts of Air Academy High School and Sarah Hiryak of Discovery Canyon Campus.

"The girls were selected from applications they submitted to their respective school counselors and from interviews we conducted," said American Legion Auxiliary district president Linda O'Riley. "We pay half and the girls pay half. We will assist girls

where there's a financial need. We want every qualified girl to participate," she said.

In order to meet the selection criteria, girls must have completed their junior year in high school, be keenly interested in government and current events, have high moral character, show strong leadership abilities and be above average in scholastic achievement.

According to the nationwide organization's website, Girls State began in 1937 as an experiential learning program, furthering the group's mission "to honor those who have brought us our freedom" with a "commitment to develop young women as future leaders grounded in patriotism and Americanism." The goal is to help the participants learn about the democratic process and how the U.S. form of government works at the state and national levels.

Each summer, some 20,000 young women participate nationally in the weeklong Girls State programs. In Colorado, 140 girls from across the state were divided

into seven "cities" of 20 girls each.

"It was so fun getting to know the girls in my 'city,' Snowmass. We stayed in dorms, four girls to a room, and spent a lot of time together during meals and in our committees and just hanging out. We had time to really bond. We plan to get together again later in the summer," said Roberts.

The girls were assigned to one of two political parties, "Federalists" and "Nationalists," through which they campaigned in elections for mayors and county and state officials. The curriculum for the week was nonpartisan and patriotic.

Each party was separated into nine committees which then worked to decide on an issue for a bill. The girls learned to write bills and amend bills written by others. Roberts said one of the bills they wrote was a proposal to cut funding for prisons and appropriate the funds to schools.

The exercise in running the government was a learning process

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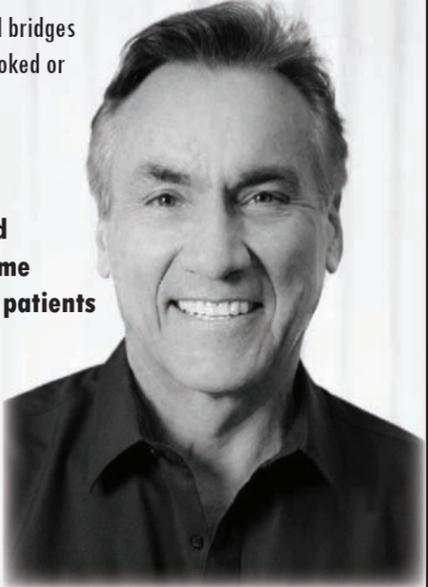
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Raising Awareness about Apraxia of Speech



Briargate residents Melissa LaFrenierre, right, and her five-year-old daughter, Lindsey LaFrenierre, center, posed with the Sky Sox mascot at the Apraxia of Speech Walk this month at Fox Run Regional Park. Lindsey was diagnosed with the verbal disorder at age two, and recognized at the event as a “Super Star” (a child affected by the disorder).

BY MELISSA ROLLI

“I had to Google what apraxia of speech was at first,” said Briargate resident Melissa LaFrenierre.

Her daughter Lindsey LaFrenierre was diagnosed with the disorder at the age of two. “It was shocking but we knew how strong she is and that she could get better,” said Melissa.

“It is amazing how far she has come,” said the mom about her daughter’s progress since her diagnosis about three years ago.

Apraxia of speech affects the messages from the brain to the mouth, delaying or causing an inability of the movements necessary for speech, Melissa explained.

“When Lindsey was two, my husband and I noticed that

she was hardly speaking.... When I took her to her two-year check-up appointment, the pediatrician said she should be in speech therapy,” said Melissa. That was when Lindsey was assigned to speech therapist Tonya Jones who diagnosed Lindsey with a mild case of verbal apraxia.

“Amazed at how hard the kids work” with this disorder, Jones, also a Briargate resident, created a local event three years ago to raise awareness about the condition and to honor the kids and families affected.

This year, about 150 people participated in the Apraxia of Speech Walk in Fox Run Regional Park on Saturday,

June 6. Jones said it raised just over \$5,000 for the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America which funds therapy services and apraxia research and programs. She said that association is the only non-profit group exclusively dedicated to children with verbal apraxia and their families.

“I’ve worked with some great children and their families in our community. The children work so hard and deserve to be recognized,” said Jones, noting she had attended an apraxia walk in the Denver area and wanted there to be one for Colorado Springs. She plans to spearhead it again next year.

“Each year it gets bigger and better,” said Melissa.

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Same Day Appointments Available

Bike to Work Wednesday

The 22nd annual Bike to Work day is Wednesday, June 24 with breakfast offered from 6:30 – 8:30 a.m. at various locations including Acacia Park downtown, the Briargate YMCA at 4025 Family Place and the Southeast & Armed Services YMCA at 2190 Jet Wing Drive. Mayor John Suthers is also hosting a Mayor’s Ride with City Council member starting at Goose Gossage Park at 6 a.m. For details and registration, see www.mmtransit.com or email kheider@springsgov.com.

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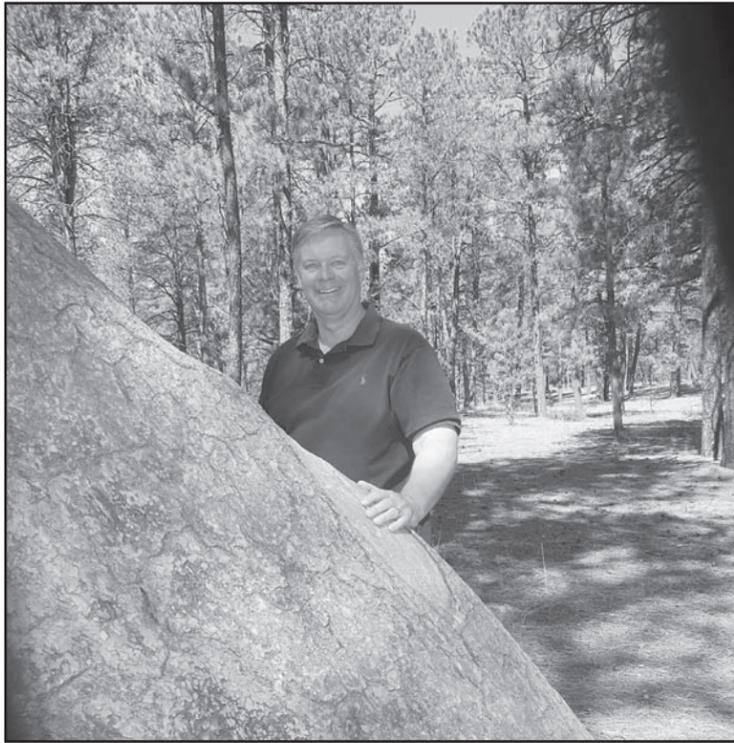
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John Wesley Anderson Shares Ute Indian Culture

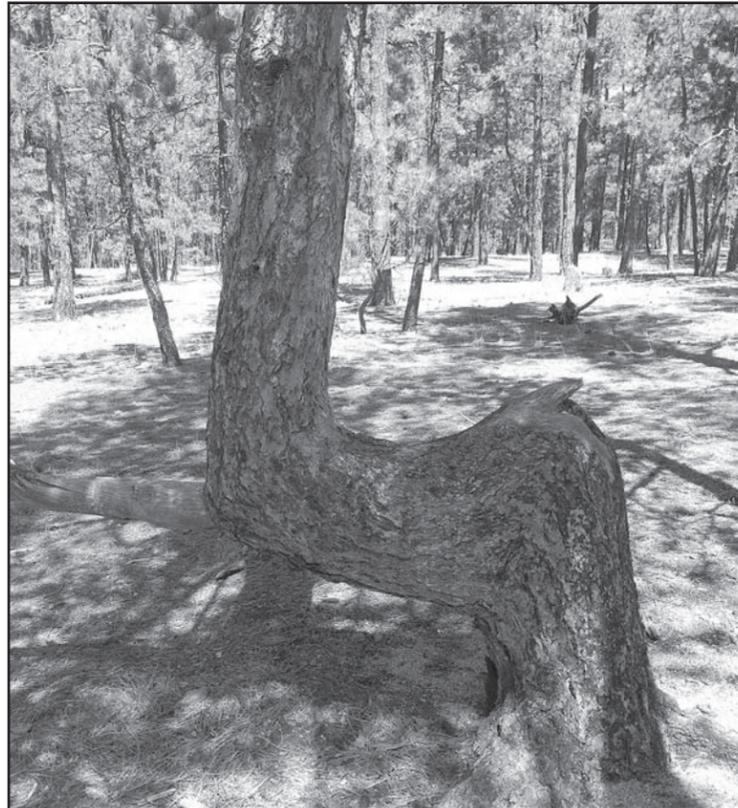
By JANET ROSE

If you were to spend an hour or two in conversation with John Wesley Anderson or enjoy a leisurely tour conducted by him through nearby forests, you'd detect that he was a serious scholar and lecturer of local/regional history and culture, and an outdoorsman with an intimate knowledge of and respect for nature.

You'd never suspect that Anderson had spent a lifetime (30 years) in law enforcement, including two terms as sheriff of El Paso County, as well as in the private sector. It was while researching the life and times of Rankin Scott Kelly, the first sheriff of El Paso County and of the Colorado Territory from 1861-1867, that Anderson was introduced to the culture of Ute Native Americans. Their practice of culturally modified trees, sometimes referred to as bent trees or scarred trees, with



Leading a guided tour through La Foret in the Black Forest recently, John Wesley Anderson identified ponderosa pines modified by the Ute Indians long ago for special and sacred purposes. Anderson will lead a three-mile hike in Fox Run Regional Park highlighting such trees and their history from 9 – 11 a.m., Saturday, June 27.



John Wesley Anderson identified this culturally modified tree as a burial tree at La Foret in the Black Forest.

a spiritual dimension, piqued Anderson's curiosity.

Now a respected authority in these living artifacts, Anderson is invited to speak at historical societies, libraries, schools, colleges and informal gatherings

of those interested in Colorado and Native American history and culture. Among Anderson's favorite nearby "classrooms" are Fox Run Regional Park, La Foret in Black Forest, and Stratton Open Space in southwest

Colorado Springs.

The culturally modified trees, cultivated from 150-450 years ago, were designated by the Utes according to their function and purpose, each one with a spiritual dynamic. On a guided walk in La Foret, Anderson explained the various categories, such as medicine tree, message tree, burial tree and prayer tree – pointing out the living proof. Some trees were cultivated as directional instruments, pointing to water or the way along a trail.

The medicine or peeled bark tree, so called because the bark would be peeled from the ponderosa pine allowing deeper probing to reach the cambium inner layer for medicinal purposes, is administered in a sacred ritual. It is amazing that man recognized the value of the inner substance long before proven by modern scientific studies.

Continued on page 8

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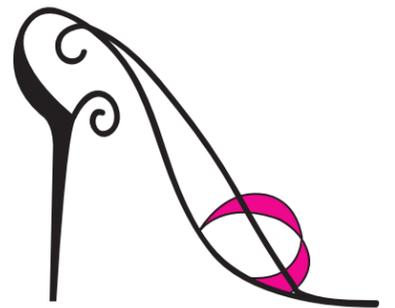


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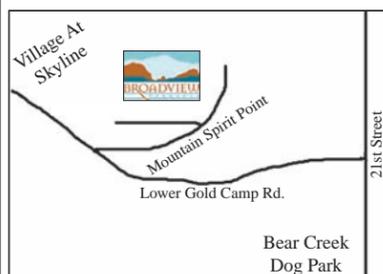
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OBSERVATIONS

BY HENRY WALTER

Noah's Ark Would Never Have Sailed

Modernity most certainly has its uses. Okay, that doesn't contain great profundity, I admit, but sometimes progressivity can lead to futility. (I use those itys to describe the fundamentals of looking before we leap or premeditate the impacts of our actions.)

Most of the time in our human discourse we suffer from what I call "impulse solving," our tendency to jump to conclusions before the birth, in a manner of speaking. And then about as often as we hapless consumers end up diligently flushing our EPA-approved water saving toilets, our leaders end up writing supplementary regulations to regulations to legislation that don't ever work the first time. With all the addendums, they will never know if they ever do get it right.

Imagine if Noah had had to work with a bureaucracy when building the ark. That boat wouldn't float. It never would have passed official inspection because somewhere there is a rule that says "If it works right the first time, it must be politically incorrect." Or more concisely, whom does it offend?

Then, very, very frequently no one gains more than they lose. It's like treading water while wearing a straitjacket; you can kick all you want but your options are limited.

The water problems in Colorado Springs offer a good example. We've, in the past, always had shortages and so we pay more in utilities to buy, steal, beg...or pray for more water. And when we get it, if it rains, (and we now know it does rain in Colorado) utilities can't sell enough water to pay the bills for the earlier improvements needed in dry times. Whatcha gonna do?

Now is a good time to admit my wailing against government foolhardiness is not always proper. Sometimes the rulers must be right but no one cares; we still protest! But old habits are hard to resist; for instance, the calls years ago for more citizen involvement.

If Noah's ark had been designed by the people, it never would have sailed. There would have been so many holes in the design (agendas?) or some bureaucrat would have so meticulously been checking IDs, some animals would have been left on the shore.

We are, indeed, a country of, by and for the people. But people come in different flavors. And when you ask us to get involved in decision-making, government or otherwise, the challenge is diversity. The more folks involved, the more "solutions" are offered. Everyone has a different idea on saving the sinking ship: put a plug in it, abandon ship, rebuild the ship before it sinks, or swim with the tide. Citizen involvement, a wonderful thing in theory but really it is a crusade that will never end with satisfaction for all. Ever heard of too many cooks?

Then, as always, there is the education system, that boundless "unbounded" movement toward making equality a level playing field. Today's educational system very often produces scholars who believe benchmarks are bun prints. And citizens still worship efforts such as no-student-left-behind programs that ensure no student will get ahead.

We're tolerating methods that are assembling an accumulation of fools' gold, not a treasure of values, substance or how right or wrong something might be.

Just to further the negativity of this column, how about considering capitalism vs. socialism? Somewhere between the two dogmas an answer must lie. Capitalism means profit for the profiteers while socialism weaves a labyrinth of unfulfillable dreams: No matter how fast you run, you can't win. The premise of capitalism seems to be that it is fair to make a profit through the labor of others, but socialism persuades the labor of others to just getting by.

Arthur Bloch said it well: "Every solution breeds new problems."

The solution to all the world's problems, whether government, terrorist, dictator, trading woes, unhappy marriages, etc., etc., will come when we accept that mankind, with all our flaws, will produce flawed ideas and we've not yet found the algorithm for replacing nature. And to keep our eye on the assurance that Noah's boat did float.

Hc2walter@comcast.net

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Park Place

An Honor, Some History and a New Trail



Sarah Bryarly of the Colorado Springs parks department, left, acknowledged efforts of the Friends of Ute Valley Park at a meeting of the City Parks Advisory Board in April. The friends group was named the 2014 Friends Group of the Year. With Bryarly were, left to right, Bruce Hutchison of the Pinecliff Homeowners Association, Friends board members Dave Grossman, Kris Kaltenebach, and Dan Woods, along with Parks Advisory Board chair Jackie Hilaire.

A column from the Friends of Ute Valley Park

BY PHILL EMMERT

Welcome back to Park Place where we focus on all things pertaining to the spectacular Ute Valley Park.

Recognized as the 2014 Friends Group of the Year, the Friends of Ute Valley Park was recognized for their incredible fundraising and volunteer efforts to help expand the park and develop the park master and management plan by the City Parks Advisory Board in April. From where I sit it has been amazing to be a part of and witness to the widespread efforts of so many people that care so much as they focus on the expansion, maintenance, and long-term care and planning for our beloved park.

At a recent Friends group board meeting we had the pleasure of hearing from long-time Colorado Springs resident Bill Ruskin about the formation of the park. In 1976, as a manager in the city parks department, Ruskin helped secure land and cash donations to pull everything together to create the park. Forty acres of land was purchased from developer Dave Sellon by the City of Colorado Springs and Digital Equipment Company. Golden Cycle Land Corporation also sold land to Digital Equipment Company for their complex. That eventually became the Hewlett-Packard property. At that time, Golden Cycle Land also donated 160 acres earmarked as park land. Other players around the table included Russ

Wolfe, Chuck Helenberg, Dick Dodge, Eggie Vrooman, Steve Schuck, and then-Mayor Bob Isaac. Academy School District 20 which built Eagleview Middle School at the edge of the area was also a contributor in the original effort. Ruskin said a team of geologists confirmed that the Ute Indians had chipping stations along the north ridge where they would chip out arrowheads. That information was key in the decision to apply the Ute name to the property. It is simply amazing to me that all those who helped in the creation of the park had such great forward thinking to assemble the property for future use when there was very little development in the area at that time.

Very exciting news is that the East Loop Trail identified in the park master plan as a priority, will now become a reality through the generosity of a \$20,000 grant from REI. "Working together, we hope to build greater awareness of the Friends of Ute Valley Park's effort to care for and increase access to the outdoor recreation places where our members and customers play," said REI Colorado market coordinator Darin Fearday.

In closing, we want to remind everyone that your volunteer help in the park is always needed and appreciated. If you go to friendsofutevalleypark.com and hit the Volunteer button, you can confirm the upcoming trail work schedule and learn how and when you can provide your time to ensure our park continues to be well-maintained. The significant amount of rain this year has taken a toll on our trails and that makes your decision to provide volunteer work more important than ever.

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Beer Festival Proves a Blessing to Westside Cares

By JANET ROSE

Defying the cosmic realities of time and space, the sainted Bishop of Metz, 580-640 AD, now an experienced time traveler, has done it again!

Looking a lot like Steve Brown, executive director of the nonprofit Westside Cares, the Bishop arrived predictably on time and in robust health last Saturday to be honored again at the third annual Feast of Saint Arnold on the spacious, historic grounds of the Episcopal parish of Chapel of Our Savior in the Broadmoor neighborhood.

There is an apt connection between the presence of Bishop Arnold and this family friendly beer festival, since it is said it was he who recognized the healthful properties of this ancient brew. During his time, much of the water supply was contaminated; people were



Sixth graders, on the left in the back, Erin Goodwyn, left, and Grace Finlay gathered a group of younger children to meet Saint Arnold, the Bishop of Metz, on right in back, at last weekend's Feast of Saint Arnold.



In a cool, shady spot, friends enjoyed the Feast of Saint Arnold on the grounds of Chapel of Our Saviour in the heart of the Broadmoor neighborhood.

dying of the plague. With foresight, apparently the Bishop Arnold preached, "Don't drink the water. Drink the beer." In time, he was proclaimed the patron saint of brewers.

Running from noon through 4:30 p.m., the festival day proved to be a perfect one for the outdoor event. Earlier in the morning, there were 5k and 10k "Volksmarches," through the neighborhood. Stan VanDerwerf, a church festival committee member, contacted Lynette Reagan, coordinator for the Colorado Springs Walking Club, to create this added dimension to the festival.

"We were delighted with the response. Everyone had fun enjoying the neighborhood and viewing the flowers in bloom," said Reagan in reporting 66 walkers, including five children in strollers and a nine-year-old girl. She said the Colorado Springs Walking Club schedules weekly walks throughout the county and welcomes inquiries at lynwalks@hotmail.com.

The eight acres of the church grounds were in gala display. Canopies sheltered myriad booths of Colorado craft brewers, winemakers and distilleries, a tasting party in moderation, complete with food vendors. Tables and seating were placed in tree-shaded areas where friends relaxed or became acquainted with other patrons. There was never a moment without music, including such ensembles as Tom Taylor's Jazz trio, a gypsy jazz quartet Mango fan Django, and Big Jim Adam's duo, the Big Blues Machine.

Self-declared VIPs paid a larger admission fee to park on the grounds and partake of a sit-down luncheon in the large hall of the former Allen family manor house. Westside Cares board member Libby Kinder, a busy first-time festival volunteer said, "I'm having a good time serving at the VIP lunch." For VIPs Janelle and Harry Loper, it was a return visit. "A great event for a great cause," Janelle remarked. "Wonderful time!

Keep it up."

The large Kid's Zone provided entertainment with magic shows, animals fashioned from balloons, bubble blowing, face painting, hula hoops, and for the truly active, supervised gymnastic feats. One of the youthful volunteers, Carolyn VanDerwerf, explained that she began volunteering in the eighth grade. "I've gone from selling pretzels and T-shirts," said VanDerwerf, "to this year helping kids with back flips. I've been a part of this church since I was eight. Celebrating the Feast of Saint Arnold with Westside and other volunteers always brings me closer to the community and our church family."

Guests were invited to tours of the Chapel, the manor house and campus throughout the afternoon. Volunteering as a tour guide, with many historical details to share, Brittany Joerger, recalled how she was raised in "this loving church family."

Continued on page 8

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Plan for Edible Landscaping

All El Paso County residents are invited to participate in planning for an edible landscaping program through the county parks. The idea is to contribute to environmental sustainability while providing educational opportunities and an additional source of fresh food for wildlife. Anyone inter-

ested can attend the initial planning session at 5:30 p.m., Monday, June 22 at the Pikes Peak Regional Development Center, 2880 International Circle.

Stair Climb Race Next Weekend

The area's first-ever Climb for Courage stair climb event takes place at the U.S. Air Force Academy's Falcon

Stadium on Saturday, June 27. Individuals or teams can register to climb more than 2700 stairs in a timed race or in a "fun wave." The activity is a fundraiser for Children's Hospital Colorado and includes a free family festival with games, vendors and food from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information and to register, see <http://www.childrenscoloradofoundation.org/events/climb-for-courage/>.

A Successful Shredding



About 40 volunteers helped collect and shred unwanted documents at the "Fight Fraud – Shred Instead" event on June 13 at the Black Forest Lutheran Church. The Black Forest chapter of the AARP hosted the activity, reporting that more than 400 people dropped off about 9500 pounds of unneeded personal documents which were shredded in about three hours. The shredded paper and cardboard containers left behind are to be recycled.

Through the event, participants also donated almost 900 pounds of non-perishable food and almost \$700 to the Black Forest Cares food bank. Volunteers wore bright shirts provided by the AARP Foundation's ElderWatch program which listed basic rules about protecting against identity theft: "Shred, Shred, Shred, Check Your Credit Report, and Keep Your Social Security Number Private."

The Black Forest AARP welcomes members of all ages. For more information about the group, see <http://aarppchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com/> or call Chuck at 749-9227.

Share Tales about Original Cimarron Intersection

The first I-25/Cimarron interchange was built in 1960 and the Colorado Department of Transportation is trying to gather stories from people who lived in Colorado Springs at that time and remember the interchange being built. Anyone with such a story to share, can email it and contact info to dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us. Work has started on the new renovation of the interchange. To find out more about the large project, see <https://www.codot.gov/projects/i25cimarronDB>, call 302-6781 or email dot_i25Cimarron@state.co.us.

Weigh In About City Spending

The City of Colorado Springs has launched a short online survey to determine priorities for the 2016 budget. All residents are invited to answer seven questions about which programs, services and investments matter most. Find the survey at coloradosprings.gov/2016budgetsurvey or in the

City Clerk's Office, 30 S. Nevada Ave, Suite 101 and in the City Council Offices at City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Ave.

New Art on the Streets

The 17th annual Art on the Streets sculpture exhibit has just opened with 13 new large-scale sculptures throughout downtown Colorado Springs. Additional information is available at www.DowntownCS.com/AOTS.

Celebrate 20th Anniversary at St. Mary's Saturday

In celebration of the organization's 20th anniversary, the Friends of the Peak is planning work on the St. Mary's Falls Trail and then a dinner and program for volunteers and partners. The trail project runs from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Saturday, June 20, meeting at the road intersection at the top of North Cheyenne Canyon Road. A program with music and dinner is scheduled from 4 – 6:30 p.m. in the picnic pavilions behind the Starsmore Visitor and Nature Center. Registration needed for the dinner. Details available on the Projects page at www.fotf.com or by e-mail at info@fotf.com.

Talk about Aging Thursday

Research about aging in the Pikes Peak region will be the focus of a free presentation and discussion from 3:30 – 5 p.m., Thursday, June 24 at Library 21c, 1175 Chapel Hills Drive. For more information, see www.innovationsinaging.org or call 231-7803.

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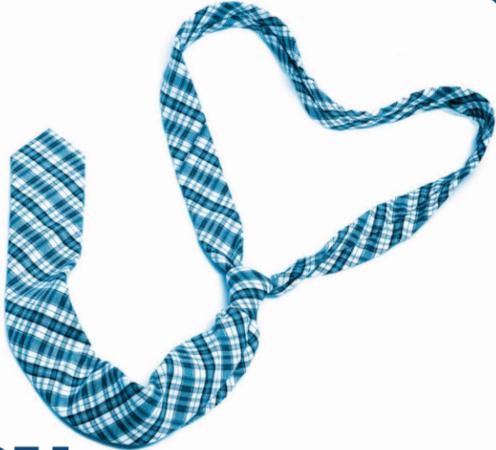
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Talk Raised Issues about Marijuana Use and Teens



Michael Van Dyke from the Colorado Department of Health spoke about marijuana and the teenage brain at the Ivywild School earlier this spring as Ali Maffey also of the Colorado Department of Health, left, conferred with Krista Lisdahl of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, right.

By WILLIAM J. DAGENDESH

One in six teenagers who try marijuana will become addicted and 88 percent who try marijuana before the age of 17 end up requiring treatment, according to University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee associate professor of psychology Krista Lisdahl who has conducted research into the consequences of drug use.

Lisdahl was one of a panel of speakers discussing marijuana and its negative impact on the teenage brain at a free community forum at the Ivywild School Auditorium on Tuesday, May 12.

Titled "Marijuana and the Developing Brain: Why Teens Should Wait," the event provided information about marijuana's effects, and how adults can get involved in helping teens refrain from using it. About 20 people attended the LEAD (Learning and Educating About Disabilities) Foundation-hosted forum.

Lisdahl along with Michael Van Dyke and Ali Maffey from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment agreed that the brain isn't fully developed until age 25, and that marijuana may have long-term and greater consequences in teenagers than in adults.

Also, they said that teens who use marijuana occasionally most likely will try alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Marijuana is legal in Colorado thereby making the issue relevant for students, parents and teachers, according to the panelists.

Marijuana is a complicated plant containing chemicals that alter perception, and cause anxiety and paranoia, Lisdahl said, adding that research shows the IQ of a teen user can drop several points by the time they reach adulthood.

"That person can experience problem-solving, processing speed, sustained attention and verbal memory loss," Lisdahl

said. "The good news is that most teenagers don't use marijuana regularly."

Maffey added, "However, data shows that teens get into marijuana at an early age."

"I ask you, is this scary or not?" Van Dyke asked. "To me, if marijuana interferes with your daily life and you don't know how to stop, you're addicted."

Still, opinions differed. Sarah Warren said she believes more research is warranted. "I don't think we have enough evidence to tell if marijuana has a definite positive or negative impact," Warren said.

Bob Archibald added, "Marijuana might have a negative impact, but probably no more than alcohol."

For her part, Meghan Holaday worries that marijuana legalization could pose future problems for Coloradans. "I would hate to see other drugs become legalized because marijuana is legal," she said.

"Although people have the right to vote for what they want, I disagree with legalizing marijuana for other than medical purposes," said Aaron Jalovec.

In a brochure, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment encourages adults to talk to teens about marijuana and help them understand the risks involved, including that marijuana use can aggravate learning issues.

Ever involved with such topics, the 501(c)(3) LEAD Foundation offers support and education to families and individuals in the community dealing with issues related to learning disabilities and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, said Foundation executive director Salle Howes.

To learn more about LEAD, see www.leadcolorado.org or contact Howes at leadfoundationco@gmail.com. For more information on laws and consequences for youth marijuana use visit: bit.ly/CDE_under21-penalties.

Free Sandbags and Sand Available

Empty sandbags are available at four Colorado Springs fire stations and sand is available in the parking lot of Wilson United Methodist Church, 6460 Flying W Ranch Road, for anyone wanting to fill sandbags to protect their property from flooding. The free items are available as long as supplies last. Up to 100 of the sandbags are avail-

able per address per day at Fire Station 5, 2830 W. Colorado Ave.; Fire Station 9, 622 Garden of the Gods Road; Fire Station 12, 445 Rockrimmon Boulevard and Fire Station 13, 1475 Cresta Road. Sandbags should not be placed in the public right-of-way. For information on potential flooding visit www.ColoradoSprings.gov/floodinfo.

Biking Event Supports Trails Coalition

This year's Starlight Spectacular begins at 10:30 p.m., Saturday, June 20. The ride through the Garden of the Gods, Old Colorado City and Colorado Springs attracts more than a thousand riders and benefits the Trails and Open Space Coalition. For more information, see www.starlightspectacular.org or call 633-6448.

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Girls State

from page 1

that piqued the interest of some of the attendees who are now considering getting involved in government in the future. "I planned to major in the biomedical field in college," Roberts said. "But after attending Girls State, I'm also interested in getting into political science, possibly at UCCS (University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)."

"I thought it was interesting to see how a primary ballot is created. Taking part in the process is not like looking at a piece of paper with names on it. We were able to see a candidate's traits," said Brockway.

"I was a nominee for Regent for the University of Colorado. We didn't have any preparation time. We spoke from the heart," she explained about her campaign effort.

Brockway said she also liked the patriotic theme. "We made patriotic city flags and wreaths to decorate our dorm rooms and centerpieces for the banquet." She said they also made fleece blankets to donate to a veteran's home.

Ute Indian Prayer Trees

from page 3

With the message or story tree, depicting significant events, arbor-glyphs, or Ute signs - often cat faces - were carved into the bark particularly of the aspen. The burial tree, usually a cedar or juniper, marked the passage of an important tribal figure, perhaps the medicine man or the chief. There is also the rare braided prophecy tree. However, impacting Anderson's research most extensively, is the prayer tree; a form cultivated by selecting a young sapling, bending it parallel to the ground, tying it to a stake with rope made of the yucca plant, with the knowledge that from that point on, it would grow upward again toward the sun, thus creating a bent effect.

"Not every bent tree in a forest is a prayer tree," Anderson cautioned. Careful investigation, along with the counsel of friend and mentor Ute Tribal elder James Jefferson, serve to verify Anderson's research. Believed to be the oldest of the ponderosa pine prayer trees in La Foret, Anderson said one approaches its "Grandfather Tree" from the west, quietly, to reassure the tree spirit that one comes in peace. The tree, he said, pointing in the direction of "Tava," or Pikes Peak, has been serving for hundreds of years as a conduit, ever carrying the prayers of the people to the creator.

The Active Adults Nature Club is hosting a moderate, three-mile Ute Prayer Tree Hike with Anderson in El Paso County's Fox Run Regional Park from 9 - 11 a.m., Saturday, June 27. Participants (adults only) will meet at the Roller Coaster Road Trailhead parking lot and the cost is \$4 for nonmembers. For more information, see www.elpasocountyparks.com.

janetrose30@yahoo.com

Saint Arnold Festival

from page 5

Westside Cares is the major beneficiary of this charitable festival. Last year, with hundreds attending, the nonprofit received \$6,000 for its work with the needy in the community. This year, with the same enthusiasm, a great harvest is again anticipated.

Inspired by a challenge from Father Freeman, church members Brian and Becky Bennett have served as co-chairs through the genesis of this project. Brian credits his wife Becky with her original idea of a family friendly beer festival. Planning began with a 15-member committee in 2011 and approval to proceed from the church membership.

"It was most significant to discover at our first event in 2013 that we would be welcoming people with joy inside the high walls surrounding this magnificent piece of property," said Brian Bennett. "A week before that first festival, in attempting to open one of the padlocked gates, we had to actually cut open the locks. It was a symbolic, transforming moment in the life of our parish."

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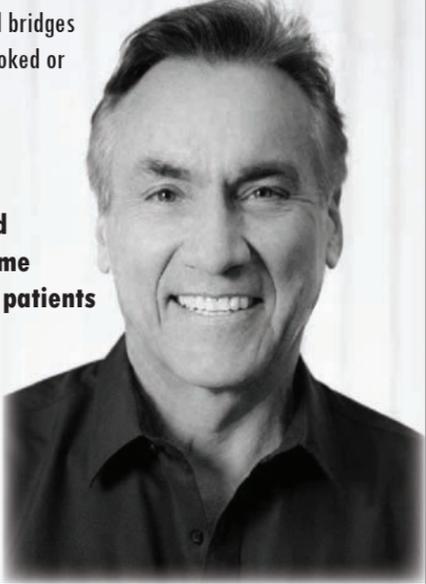
Take the Woodmen Edition with you when you travel this summer. Snap a photo holding the paper and send it to Pattye@WaltPub.com with a bit of info, including the names of those in the photo and where you are. We will publish as many travel photos as we can.

Free Events Continue During Music Festival

The 31st annual Colorado College Summer Music Festival is under way which includes free musical presentations by festival fellows in Music at Midday at 12:15 p.m., each weekday next week June 22 through June 26, except for on Tuesday. Those events are set for Packard Hall, 5 West Cache La Poudre Street. For more details on the entire festival, see www.coloradocollege.edu/music-festival/.

More Work Planned in Garden of the Gods

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is working on trail maintenance and repair, trail restoration, soil stabilization, gully and bare-area restoration, seeding, and planting in the east side of Garden of the Gods Park. Volunteers aged 16 and older (or age 13-15 with a parent volunteer) can participate on the following days from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. by registering at molly@rmfi.org or by calling 471-7736, ext. 4. The days include Saturday, June 20, and Sundays, June 21 and 28.



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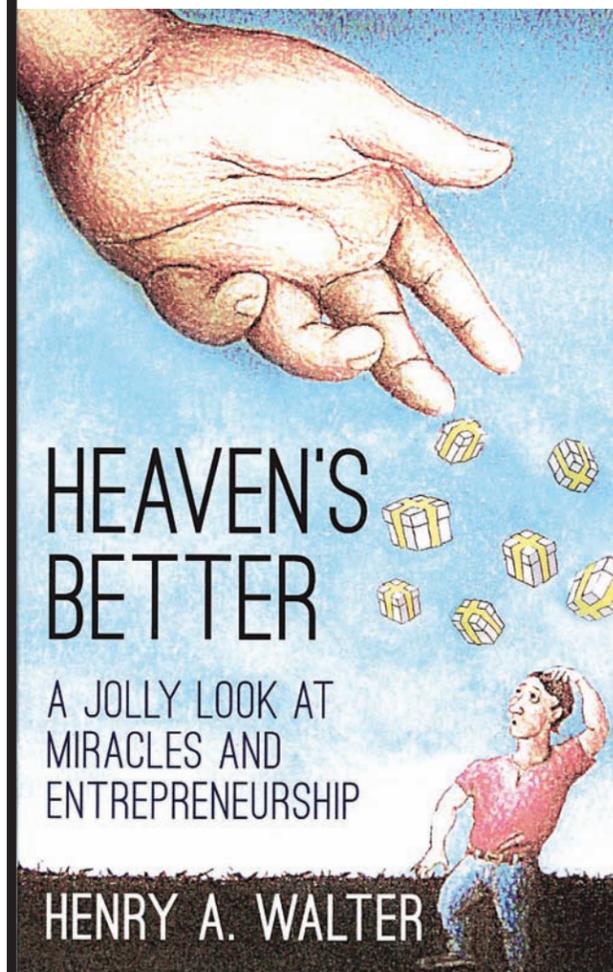
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