



A Half-Century of Ministry



It was June 1965 when a group of Benedictine sisters founded the Benet Hill ministry which is now celebrating its anniversary with a year of activities.

See Page 5

A Legislative Look



Colorado House District 20 Representative Terri Carver discussed issues from the recently ended legislative session as well as priorities ahead during a public meeting this week.

See Story 2

Ute Valley Getting Some Help



Volunteers are pitching in to improve trails at Ute Valley Park. More assistance is still needed.

See Story 3

Slow Going in Earthquake-Damaged Villages

Local Young Man Helping to Rebuild in Nepal



Former area resident Stephen Groves unloaded rice from a truck in Nepal recently. Groves was already living in Kathmandu when the historic earthquake hit in April. He is spending his days helping to restore the area and the people.

By **PATTYE VOLZ**

Just now setting emergency relief tasks aside, Stephen Groves said his current priority near Kathmandu, Nepal is to help people rebuild and get employment to finance the needed construction.

Raised in Colorado Springs, Groves, now 28, has been living and working in Kathmandu for about two years. When the devastating earthquake hit on April 25, he was riding his motorcycle and suddenly “lost control.”

“I thought I had a flat tire, so I stopped quickly, and then all of a sudden I realized I was in the middle of an earthquake. I dropped my bike and ran to the middle of the road away from any buildings,” said Groves by email from Nepal. “You could see dust rising up all over the city from collapsed buildings.”

Since that 7.8-magnitude quake, the death toll has climbed to almost 9,000 and the whole region has been shaken by numerous aftershocks, plus another substantial jolt on May 12. For Groves the last six weeks “have been a blur

of traveling to villages, working to procure relief supplies, talking with people who have lost everything, and trying to do whatever we can to help them.”

Groves works with a social business called Five14 that focuses on the prevention of human trafficking in Nepal. He said they help people develop small businesses as “an alternative to being forced into a difficult and vulnerable situation.” They also work with local schools to improve education about the risk of trafficking.

But when the quake hit, they instead worked around the clock providing emergency relief for people in villages where Groves and his co-workers already had relationships - about 60 remote villages on the southern edge of Langtang National Park, north of Nepal’s capital, Kathmandu.

“The people there have lost everything. Because their homes are made of stones and mud, they had no chance of withstanding the earthquake,” said Groves, noting people in those villages lost family members, shelter and their food stores which ended up being

buried.

He said it’s been really difficult to witness – seeing “people scared, crying and lost,” but he’s also “seen the incredible spirit of the Nepali people....During the distributions, people were showing up at 5:30 a.m. after walking for several hours from their villages, just to get a bag of rice.”

Now, he said, the larger relief organizations are handling supply distributions, so he and his team are focused on rebuilding. They are planning construction of a school and trying to help people get jobs in order to afford home reconstruction – all while the impending monsoon season threatens to limit outdoor work and living with torrential rains.

It’s actually been a bit of a family affair in Nepal for Groves. His parents, Doug and Diane Groves, have been helping with the relief efforts. “They’ve jumped in to work, and have been a comforting presence to many of our staff,” said Stephen Groves who graduated from James Irwin High School in 2006 and from Taylor University

Continued on page 12



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Changing School Testing Requirements Still on Carver's Agenda

New Representative Reviewed Her Priorities at Public Meeting

BY **PATY VOLZ**

"I hope to bring it up again – to get us out of Common Core and PARCC," said Colorado House District 20 Representative Terri Carver in discussing state-mandated school testing at a town hall meeting Monday night, June 8.

"I think it's an accountability issue... We've given up too much control," said the Republican who just wrapped up her first session representing the House district which includes the portion of the Woodmen Edition readership on the west of I-25. Carver said she believes having Colorado committed to going along with the testing determined by the regional consortium Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) moves the decision-making responsibility too far from the people it impacts.

"We have no authority to change that testing because we outsourced it... It should be a Colorado Board of Education decision and then they are accountable," said Carver during the meeting at the Cheyenne Mountain branch library on Eighth Street.



Colorado House District 20 Representative Terri Carver spoke with about 20 constituents at a town hall meeting this week.

She said the much-debated compromise bill about student testing that passed in the final hours of the regular session last month makes some positive changes but doesn't go far enough. That legislation which has been signed into law by the governor reduces some testing requirements in high school and opens the door for school districts to pursue alternative assessments. Carver thinks local school districts and charter schools should have a "menu of testing choices approved by the Board of Education."

Data security is also something Carver said she wants to look at more as a state legislator. One of the bills which she sponsored in the last session that passed is designed to allow more confidentiality for domestic violence victims in having personal data, like addresses, revealed in online government databases.

She said the county assessor's office brought the problem to her attention and she believes it's important to make more efforts to protect "the privacy of data."

Three other Carver-sponsored bills that passed this year included one to expand who can be helped with financial support from the state Military Family Relief Act Fund. Another allows flood mitigation efforts, such as those related to the Waldo Canyon fire, some protection

from water-rights lawsuits. And, the third exempts older, small homeowner's associations from state regulations which already do not pertain to newer, small associations.

Looking at what's ahead, the attorney and retired U.S. Air Force Reserve Colonel said she believes it's important to go back and review existing regulations. "I hear over and over that we have too much regulation that is burdensome for small businesses to start and grow... Expanded legislative review is our job," she said.

Carver's committee appointments include the judiciary committee and the transportation and energy committee for which she was the Republican liaison to the Colorado Department of Transportation. She was elected to this current two-year term as House representative in November of last year, although it was her victory in the Republican primary race last June which really sealed her position since there were no Democratic contenders for the seat. Republican Bob Gardner formerly held this seat but was term-limited.

Carver said at Monday's meeting that she appreciates input from constituents as she makes decisions on a wide variety of legislation. For more information, see terricarverforhd20.com. She can be reached at terri.carver.house@state.co.us or repcarver@yahoo.com or 425-7590.



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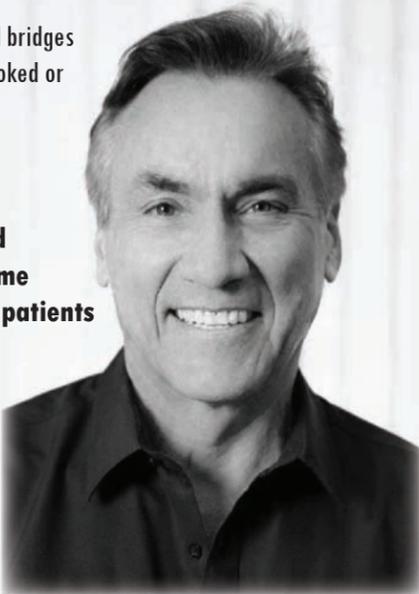
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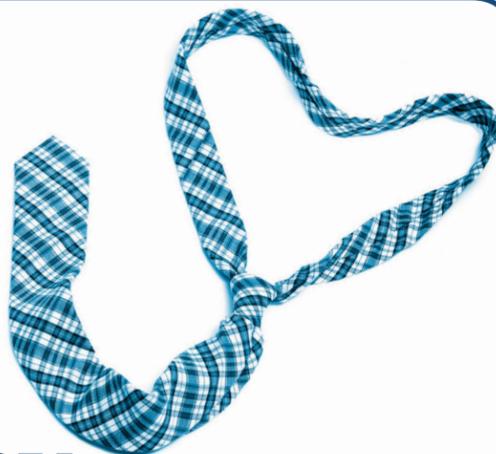
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Art on the Streets Launch Party

A party will celebrate the opening of the 17th annual Art on the Streets sculpture exhibit from 6 – 8 p.m., Thursday, June 18 at the City Auditorium, 221 East Kiowa Street. The free event will include a dance performance, a video premiere, music, art activities and mini guided tours of the new exhibit which includes 13 large-scale sculptures throughout downtown Colorado Springs. Additional information is available at www.DowntownCS.com/AOTS.

Volunteers Celebrated National Trails Day Working at Ute Valley Park

By MELISSA ROLLI

"I'm very excited about this project," said Tilah Larson, volunteer coordinator for the City of Colorado Springs Park, Recreation and Cultural Services, about trail work completed at Ute Valley Park on June 6.

Approximately 65 volunteers of all ages came out to help with trail building and rehabilitation. They worked to close some social trails and start an improved alignment for the Ridgeline Trail. First the workers gathered at Eagle View Middle School, receiving instructions and safety guidance before dividing into different groups for the work.

"I wanted to organize this volunteer effort while there was a lot of new energy behind the master plan and while it's all still fresh in everyone's minds," said city park ranger Melissa McCormick who spearheaded the activity for National Trails Day. The new master plan for

the area was just approved at the end of the first quarter this year, she explained.

Seven different crews worked on various projects to "create a more sustainable connection to access the ridgeline and consolidate and formalize the trail systems," said McCormick. Larson said a \$20,000 grant from REI is making it possible implement features of the master plan more quickly. She said some machine work will begin in the next few months and another major volunteer effort is being planned for National Public Lands Day in September.

McCormick and Larson said last weekend's work was part of an on-going effort. Volunteer trail work times are from 5:30 -7:30 p.m., on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Email Nick Cirincione at nickbike1@gmail.com or Larry DeWitt at larry.dewitt@gmail.com to volunteer or meet at the park's parking lot off of Vindicator Drive.



Volunteers gathered at Eagle View Middle School before beginning trail building and rehabilitation work at Ute Valley Park last weekend.

Free Events at Colorado College 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 events at 12:15 p.m., Mondays, June 15 and 22; Wednesdays, June 17 and 24; Fridays, June 19 and 26; and Thursday, June 25 – all at Packard Hall, 5 West Cache La Poudre Street. There are also free pre-concert lectures on some evenings and a Children's Orchestra Concert at 11 a.m., Thursday, June 18 in the Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 North Cascade Avenue. For more details, see www.coloradocollege.edu/musicfestival/.

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OBSERVATIONS

BY HENRY WALTER

The Plague that Will Not Go Away

There comes a time in life where one has to admit some things will not cure themselves or outgrow their demons. That is especially true when mentors, role models, “officially regulated” trendsetters of conduct are able to think only up to a point but not through it to resolution have become de rigueur behavior on the diverse theories of equality for every being, including your hungry pet alligator.

Through my almost four score years of observation I have been dismayed by the throwaway attitudes regarding empirical experience and the dismissal of cultural values that encourage good behavior; i.e. empathy toward our fellows. Empathy that stops short of letting our space be invaded. (Facebook, I will admit, is the exception, although discussing your weaknesses and fears with strangers seems a bit like self degeneration of your soul.)

For a couple generations our keepers on the throne of we-know-better have been theorizing and experimenting with the minds of children in an effort to make sure no one is left behind. What that really means is if your child is challenged by some intellectual problems, he/she must be placed in an exceptional position: not good enough to compete. Others who are exceptional as well must be placed in a demeaning position of restraint so that others won't feel left out.

The solution is “equality of purpose,” the goal being not to educate but to alleviate all feelings of challenge that might be stressful to a delicate personality. Of course this “challenge” will have an opposite effect on the flowering of bright minds that must be slowed in order to avoid a comparison of difference. If everyone can be alike, contentment will prevail, don't you see.

Let's take a f'rinstance. I know of math students who when faced with some of the “new” methodology will solve problems the old way and then go back and struggle with the new path to perfect mathematics. The new will be forgotten because it is easier to remember that two plus two equals four and be damned with the values of family resemblance—or whatever. And it's quicker to boot.

I also know of former students who are failing to find their way to purposeful achievement as adults in a competitive world that values performance over putzing. Many, many former students have learned that it's easier (and often more profitable) to just ask the government. And after “all else has been tried” giving up is attractive when government beckons with handouts and perks. Government gifting has become accepted as an inalienable right.

State and federal handouts for doing nothing have become part of daily expectations and the reflection of some that welfare could be ignominious is sneered at as being insensitive.

The miserable outcome of this “no one left behind” is no one will surge ahead because it may be politically incorrect. If you show up your peers, you don't belong to the union. The fear of not belonging can lead to alienation and loneliness and can be devastating to an otherwise healthy and gung ho personality.

No one can say the purveyors of equality at the price of individuality are wrong in their motives. But outcomes beginning to reveal themselves seem not to be the comforting conformity envisioned by the promoters of fundamental egalitarianism. In God's eyes, all are equal and important but God obviously sees more clearly than do we humans. And so as we dumb down more and more aspects of life in the sacred purpose of unleavening the bread of life for all, the dumber we get. Parents who have been taught faulty reasoning pass it on to their children.

This making the world flat for everyone can only lead to equality on a lower level than we are capable of in searching for knowledge. New can be good if it leads forward. Some gentleman by the name of Hull one said, “He who trims himself to suit everybody will soon whittle himself away.” Do we need fewer whittlers and more sculptors?

Hc2walter@cmcast.net See my blog at observationsofanoldnewsman.com

Thank You for saying “I saw it in The Woodmen Edition”

Trail Notes

Opportunities for Outdoor Summer Fun



A monthly column from Susan Davies, executive director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition

Colorado Springs parks staff will soon tell the public

when Red Rock Canyon Open Space might re-open. The questions is, will the park open in stages or “all at once?”

The new Mt. Muscoco Trail is finally finished. Friends of Cheyenne Canon were hoping to complete it before Memorial Day but weeks of wet weather made that impossible. Truly a trail worth checking out, this new alignment is far safer than the old and will take hikers to the tallest point in the city's park system. You access it off the Mt. Cutler Trail from North Cheyenne Canyon Road in the city park.

National Trails Day drew 70 eager volunteers to Ute Valley Park for a morning of closing social trails and building a new more sustainable trail along the southern ridge. The Friends of Ute

Valley Park received a sizable grant from REI to support trail-work outlined in the new Master Plan.

When you reflect back on the “summer of 2015”, what will make you smile? What adventures or new experiences will set this summer apart?

I have a suggestion, especially if you have a bike and/or like pirates. Grab your bike and helmet, make sure your lights are working, and join the longest running/largest community bicycle ride in the region. It's the 21st annual Starlight Spectacular and this years' theme is pirates. The ride begins at the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center at 10:30 pm on June 20.

You'll have a rare opportunity to ride through the Garden among moon-illuminated rocks. Starting at 9 p.m. there's live music, pizza, plus a costume and decorated-bike contest. There are three course options (14, 17 or 21 miles long) with rest stops and “route captains” along the way. One hundred percent of registration fees goes to the Trails and Open Space Coalition.

The 26-year-old, non-profit Trails and Open Space Coalition is dedicated to the preservation of open space and parks and the creation of a network of trails and bikeways and greenways for the Pikes Peak region.

The Fulcrum of Fly Fishing

Robert Younghanz, known as the Bug Guy, will discuss aquatic entomology as it relates to fly fishing at this month's Science on Tap from 6:30 – 8 p.m., Monday, June 15 at Jack Quinn's Pub, 21 S. Tejon Street. The monthly casual science discussion is put on by the Colorado Springs Science Center and sponsored by the Cheyenne and Woodmen Editions. For more information, see www.cssciencecenter.org.

Gold Camp Road to be Closed Some Monday

Rock scaling work is planned for the two normally open tunnels along the gravel Gold Camp Road in North Cheyenne Canon Park on Monday, June 15. City park planner David Deitemeyer said

the work means the tunnels will be closed to all users at various times between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. that day, and the work could possibly last into Tuesday, June 16. The goal is to remove loose rocks and boulders from the entrances of the tunnels for the safety of people using the road. City staff is advising that people use alternate routes on Monday and possibly on Tuesday.

City Wants Input About Budget

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.

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Benet Hill Monastery Gearing Up for Jubilee Celebration

July 18 Community Picnic Will Help Kick Off Special Year

By JEFF HOLMQUIST

The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery are marking 50 years of ministry in the Colorado Springs area with a year-long celebration.

Sister Clare Carr, prioress at the Benedictine Community in Black Forest, said a Jubilee Year is a significant milestone found throughout the Bible.

“In Jewish tradition, every 50 years people forgave debts and people were invited to go back to their land and were reunited,” she explained. “Jubilee is a time of reconciliation and reconnecting.”

Carr said she hopes the same holds true for the monastery’s anniversary year. She notes that old and new friends are invited to take part in a number



The members of Benet Hill Monastery, comprised of 77 Catholic sisters, posed for a photograph on June 14, 1965 as they marked the official founding of their independent monastery in Colorado Springs. The Benedictine sisters operated Benet Hill Academy, a Catholic girls’ high school, on Chelton Road until 1982.

lished ministries in the San Luis Valley, Canon City, Alamosa,

and women, Catholic faithful and visitors from all faiths.

Today, the monastery is comprised of 33 sisters who have taken a vow to live a life based on the Benedictine Rule, which stresses the importance of prayer, hospitality and relationship in one’s life. The sisters are rooted in more than 1,500 years of Benedictine tradition founded by St. Benedict and St. Scholastica. The women are committed to a life of simplicity, celibacy, reverence for all creation and a communal life of prayer, contemplation and discernment.

Twenty-six sisters call the Black Forest monastery home, while seven sisters live throughout Kansas and Colorado where they conduct various ministries.

Three additional women are completing the training necessary to officially join the Benedictine sisters and one more candidate is likely to start training this summer.

“That’s a healthy sign,” Carr said. “We are growing.”

The monastery’s classes and programs also have been expanding in recent years. The sisters now offer an intensive,

Continued on page 9



During Benet Hill Monastery’s Jubilee year, Clare Carr, prioress, hopes the community will discover the many educational, spiritual and artistic opportunities offered at the facility at 3190 Benet Lane in the Black Forest.

of special events designed to remember the past and look to the future.

Carr added that she hopes that the community discovers the monastery facility, its programs and its grounds for the first time and begin to take full advantage of the many opportunities offered for spiritual growth and connection with God.

“I think everybody is looking for God ... and to find a quiet place that is out of the rat race that we all live in,” she said. “We have 45 acres here. This is a place where people can find themselves, and a place for them to be still and know God. People need to know that they are loved by the spirit of Jesus, and I’m not sure they know that.”

A legacy of love

When the Benet Hill Monastery was officially founded on June 14, 1965, the Benedictine sisters who were previously based in Atchison, Kan. had already been ministering throughout Colorado’s Front Range for decades. In 1914, the sisters began teaching in public and parochial schools in Walsenburg. They later estab-

Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver.

The sisters opened Benet Hill Academy college preparatory school for girls in Colorado Springs in 1963 and quickly cemented their connection to the community.

The Benet Hill Priory, with 77 original sisters, became an independent Benedictine Community in 1965 and expanded their work throughout Colorado.

“We had about 15 to 20 sisters who ran the girls’ school,” Carr recalled. “The other 50 or so were all over the place doing ministry.”

The Benedictine sisters also began purchasing property in Black Forest for a cemetery and a retreat space.

When they closed the girls’ academy in 1982 due to declining enrollment, the sisters continued to provide educational opportunities and spiritual training throughout the region.

In 2009, the Benedictine sisters moved into their new monastery and spirituality center in Black Forest. Carr said it has become a peaceful sanctuary for the sisters, lay men

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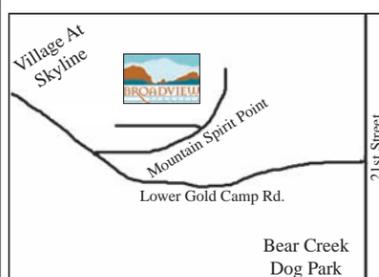
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Climb for Courage

Local child's story inspires a community to take action

FROM CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO

For a military family, moving to a new city is almost second nature, but six-year-old Conner's move from Texas to Colorado Springs was anything but normal. The day the movers came, Conner's parents took him to urgent care for what they thought was a respiratory infection. But further testing revealed something far more serious. Conner had a tumor in his upper chest wall. He was soon diagnosed with a rare and highly aggressive form of bone cancer.

"At first we thought it couldn't possibly be cancer," said Conner's father, Eric. "He seemed so young and so healthy."

The family drove through the night from Texas to Colorado and began treatment at Children's Hospital Colorado the following morning. For 10 months, Conner underwent a rigorous course of chemotherapy. Halfway through, doctors performed an intricate surgery on his chest wall to remove what remained of the tumor. To fully remove the mass, they also had to remove several of Conner's ribs. It was a low point for the family.



"He recently told me there were times when he thought he was going to die," said Conner's mother, Cristie.

As difficult as his cancer battle was, there was one thing that Conner always looked forward to at Children's Colorado.

"They have Xbox with WiFi," explains Eric. "Every chemo session, he'd download a new game. It sounds so simple, but it was really important to him – especially during the times when he was doing chemotherapy eight hours a day, several days a week."

Now that Conner has been deemed cancer-free, the family has turned their attention to giving back.

On Saturday, June 27, Conner and his family will participate in the inaugural Climb for Courage stair climb. For one day only, Falcon Stadium at U.S. Air Force Academy will become home to Colorado Spring's only stair

climb race. Participants can register as individuals or as part of a team to climb more than 2,700 stairs to help raise funds for patients and families served by Children's Hospital Colorado in Colorado Springs and Southern Colorado. The first race wave will start at 9 a.m. and the event will conclude with an untimed fun wave.

"We are so grateful for all Children's Colorado has done for our family," said Cristie "And we're happy to be able to give back through Climb for Courage."

After the climb, participants and community member alike are invited to attend a free Family Festival (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.) with vendors, a climbing wall, a giant bounce house, Olympic-themed activities, food and much more.

For more information or to register visit www.childrenscoloradofoundation.org/climbforcourage.

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BY JULY 10

Bike Repair Clinic Saturday

As a part of Colorado Bike Month a bike repair team will be available from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 13 at the Westside Community Center, 1628 West Bijou Street, offering free, simple adjustments and repairs for recreational bikes.

Next County Parks Concert is Wed.

The Pikes Peak Jazz & Swing Society will perform at Bear Creek Regional Park off of 21st Street from 6-8 p.m., on Wednesday, June 17 as part of El Paso County Parks annual summer Concerts in the Park series. People are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets, coolers, food and pets on leashes, but no alcoholic beverages. For more information, see www.elpasocountyparks.com or call 520-6983. The rest of the schedule includes live music at Bear Creek Park from 6-8 p.m., on Wednesdays, July 22, August 19, and August 26, as well as at 5 p.m., Saturday, June 27. There will be a concert at Fountain Creek Regional Park off of Highway 87 in Fountain, Colo. just south of Colorado Springs from 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, July 15.

Friends of the Peak 20th Anniversary

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.fotp.com or by e-mail at info@fotp.com.

Learning from the Past



Woodmen Edition area resident Katharine Larson, middle, took third place in the individual documentary category of the statewide National History Day competition in Denver earlier this spring. Larson went to the state event with four other Colorado Springs School students, left to right, Lewis DeCarolis, Connor Jarolimek, Larson, Natalie Richardi, and Shannon Sweeney, as well as their history teacher, David Denson, standing in the back.

Events

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 12, 13 and 14 - Rough Writers Play Festival at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Staged readings of new original plays relating to the life and works of painter Georgia O'Keeffe from local, national and international playwrights. Full-length plays Friday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Four short plays Saturday at 8 p.m. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale Street. Visit <http://www.csfineartscenter.org/tickets/> or phone 634-5581 for \$5 single day passes or \$20 festival passes.

Friday, June 12 - The Story Project - True Personal Live Storytelling without a Script. Featured Storytellers: Bill Baxter - Toastmaster Award Recipient, District Champion of tall tales 2014; James Divine - Music Educator & Author; Patrick McConnell - Writer, Storyteller; Doug Zinn - Musician. \$5 suggested donation. Manitou Bindu, 513 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs at 7:30 p.m. Host and Producer: Sharon Friedman with Patrick McConnell.

Now thru June 24 - Pack-n-Go Girls Adventures Kickstart. Visit <http://kck.st/1HJznEF> to learn more.

Saturday, June 13 - Annual Rose Show. Presented by Pikes Peak Rose Society. Fount of Life Lutheran Church, 6650 Omaha Blvd. from 1 - 3:30 p.m. (East off Powers onto Omaha (no light at intersection). Church approximately 3/4 mile on left. Visit PikesPeakRoseSociety.org for more information.

Saturday, June 13 - Sinatra - Up Close and Personal: An Evening of Cabaret Style Entertainment. Featuring Rick Blessing, Frank Sinatra tribute artist. Stargazers Theatre, 10 S. Parkside Dr. Doors open 7 p.m. Music at 8 p.m. Phone 475-2200 or visit www.stargazerstheatre.com for ticket prices and reservations for both table and theatre seating.

Saturday, June 13 - FREE Document Shredding Event. A community service offered by The Black Forest AARP Chapter, ElderWatch Colorado, Mobile Record Shredders and the Black Forest Lutheran Church at Black Forest Lutheran Church 12455 Black Forest Road from 9 a.m. - noon. (Enter shredding area via Black Forest Road.) Limit: three copy-paper size boxes of material to shred. NO plastic bags or 3-ring binders. A donation is requested in the form of: cash, non-perishable foods for Black Forest Cares Food Bank, beverage can pull tabs, Box Tops for Education and cancelled postage stamps. Refreshments for participants. For more information call Ray at 495-6767 or Stan at 596-6787, or visit the Free Shredding page of the Black Forest AARP Chapter website at <http://aarpchapter1100blackforest@weebly.com>



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Yuri's Space Party Ignites Science Center Support

BY STEPHANIE EDWARDS

The third annual Yuri's Space Party, held at Pikes Peak Library 21c, was an evening of awe-inspiring science demonstrations and learning about what is on the horizon for the Colorado Springs Science Center. Guests were greeted by a suited-up astronaut as they launched into an 'out of this world' experience with interactive scientific exhibits and exciting demonstrations. The evening raised funds and awareness for the Colorado Springs Science Center while honoring Yuri Gagarin, the first human to journey into outer space.

The array of hands-on activities kept attendees fully engaged, from cool robotics demonstrations to a math and science magic show by that captivated the crowd. Library 21c's outstanding venue offered plenty of open space for guests to move about and enjoy the fun activities and demonstrations.

Whiskey tasting and star gazing makes for an exciting pairing. Other attractions included live cooking on salt blocks and space-themed desserts. A wine pull and "marketplace" were in store to help raise funds for the Science Center. Later in the evening, a live auction offered summer camp adventures at Challenger Learning Center, and "Fun with Dry Ice...Lots of Cool Experiments!" donated by Dr. Ron Furstenau, the Springs' very own 'science guy' who will come to the lucky winner's home to conduct a party full of interactive demonstrations.

The Yuri's Space Party fundraiser is a significant step forward in helping to bring the Science Center to fruition, according to Colorado Springs Science Center president Steve Rothstein. "It's about expanding a network and community to celebrate development of the science center and technology in our region," he said of the



Yuri's Space Party Committee Members: Colorado Springs Science Festival director John Poss, Jim Cara, DeeAnn Rothstein, and event co-chair Judy Cara



Becky and Jim Hurley

annual event.

The Colorado Springs Science Center's mission is to "ignite wonder and inspire curiosity about the world around us." Their vision is to bring a landmark, leading-edge science and technology interactive museum to downtown Colorado Springs that would serve the community, as well as become a destination and attraction for thousands of visitors.

"The Colorado Springs Science Center will be a place that creates active learning moments that promote science and technology understanding, a place to come to explore the wonders of the science that is all around us, a place that will spark innovation to help solve our local and global challenges," according to the board of directors' vision.

More specifically, the plans as showcased at the project's downtown Tejon Street headquarters, are to include a 65,000 square foot, state-of-the-art, energy-efficient living structure with a capacity to attract 300,000-plus visitors each year. The expansive venue will allow for hands-on experiential exhibits, lectures and discussions, and scientific research that promise to "highlight our region's deep science and technology ethos."

Rothstein pointed out that the center would become a vital piece of our city's value proposition and an asset to the El Paso County Enterprise Zone, contributing to improving the local business climate, facilitating

growth in quality employment opportunities, fostering strong partnerships with visitors and citizens alike, as well as contributing to workforce development.

Capping the evening, special guest, Jeffery Jensen, was introduced by emcee Stephen Bowers, News 5 Today meteorologist, for an exciting announcement. On behalf of the Edson Foundation, he donated \$100,000 to the Science Center. The foundation's contributor, the late Al Edson, had forty years of experience teaching students with learning challenges. Jensen explained that Edson was a scientist who experimented with design and engineering, an expert in metals, who had a great passion for kids to learn and explore their universe in new ways.

Jensen pointed out that the mission for the Colorado Springs Science Center aligns with Edson's vision, stating, "This gift is a challenge to take it to the next level to get this science center opened. It is a catalyst donation to help accelerate planning and development. The time is now!" With that, he challenged science center board members, staff, donors, and community members to rally behind the effort to help bring the science center to fruition.

The center has made significant leaps already. Rothstein outlined several accomplishments in the past year alone, with measurable goals on the

Continued on page 9

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Yuri's Space Party

from page 8



The Air Force Academy's STEM Club members showcased the Explosive Ordnance Disposal robot, "PACBOT."

horizon. Last June, a re-branding from CSSCP (Colorado Springs Science Center Project) to Colorado Springs Science Center (CS Science Center) launched. Also in 2014, a volunteer program for the age 55+ community to become active in planning and development began, and a feasibility study was embarked upon to help with analysis and projections for the center's revenue and attendance.

A well-constructed plan is currently in phase three of a six-part effort. Currently underway for 2015 is completion of the master project plan and building program requirement planning. By 2016, the Colorado Springs Science Center anticipates having firm cost projections in place to begin a capital campaign. Culmination is proposed to occur in the 2018/2019 time-frame, with completion of the capital campaign, final completion of building, programs, and exhibits, training and hiring of the Science Center staff, and the grand opening of Colorado Springs Science Center to the public.

An impressive, experienced, board of directors is working on the phased strategic plan to bring the world-class science center to our community. Board members include: Margaret (Peg) Bacon, ED. D., Judy Cara, Janet Carlson, Ph.D., Ron Furst-enau, Ph.D., Cathy Grossman, Beau Kelly, Rick Meinig, M.D., Andy Meng, DeeAnn Rothstein, Steve Rothstein, Ph. D., and Pam Van Scotter. Further, a partnership with Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (BSCS), a nonprofit curriculum study committed to transforming science teaching and learning, is instrumental in forwarding the Science Center's program planning.

The event committee that made Yuri's Space Party a wondrous experience were co-chairs Judy Cara and Vicki Taylor, Peg Bacon, Dennis Bagenstos, Karole Campbell, Jim Cara, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Stacey Luce, Kelly Michels, Jean-nie Porter, John Poss, DeeAnn Rothstein, and Lindsay Samora. Other ways that the public

can get involved with Colorado Springs Science Center now is through the monthly science and technology discussions known as "Science on Tap," held every second Monday of the month at Jack Quinn's downtown where a wide variety topics are presented by local scientists for informal discussion.

An exciting nine-day science festival, held each fall, is another opportunity where collaboration of national and local science organizations come together to facilitate and enhance science literacy in our region through informal learning experiences, as well as fun and creative programming. The 2014 fair was a huge success attracting over 15,000 attendees. The annual festival includes a Cool Science Carnival Day at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs as well as film screenings, competitions, explorations, and a newly added Maker Faire. Mark your calendars for October 3-11, 2015.

To learn more about the Colorado Springs Science Center and ways to get involved or support their mission, visit their website at www.cssciencecenter.org.

Benet Hill

from page 5

two-year Benedictine Spiritual Formation Program, a prayer class, scripture classes and Sunday liturgy masses. The facility also plays host to concerts, art shows, a women's film series and much more.

The monastery also has started an online spiritual formation class that has instructed students throughout the U.S., Africa, Australia and Mexico. Carr said the sisters also plan to launch an online prayer class centered on their Contemplative Vision Center curriculum.

A statewide celebration

Because of Benet Hill Monastery's previous ministry efforts throughout Colorado, the sisters are planning celebrations this year in many locales.

A free community celebration with a program beginning at 11:30 a.m. is planned for Saturday, July 18, at the picturesque Black Forest facility. Reservations are suggested by calling Carin at 355-1636.

A "Christmas Extravaganza" also is scheduled at Benet Hill Monastery on Friday, Dec. 18.

"The monastery kind of sits back here and no one knows we're here," Carr said. "We're hoping that with the 50th celebration more people will come to know us. We want to let people know they are welcome. They can come join us for mass, for prayers ... our place is open."

Other Jubilee year gatherings are planned for the San Luis Valley (Oct. 25), Pueblo (Nov. 1), Canon City (Nov. 1), Denver (Jan. 17, March 13 and April 17, 2016) and Walsenburg (May 2016), Aguilar (May 2016), Gardner (May 2016) and La Veta (May 2016). Visit www.benethillmonastery.org for more details and locations.

Help Needed 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 Saturdays, June 13 and 20, and Sundays, June 14, 21 and 28.

Aging Discussion at Library 21c

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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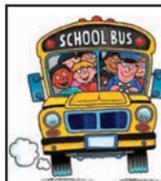
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Deadline For Classified Real Estate Ads is Wednesday by Noon
Deadline For Classified Ads is Wednesday by Noon
Deadline For Classified Display Ads is Tuesday by 5:00pm

The Cheyenne Edition weekly circulation is **8,000**
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Groves in Nepal

from page 1



Stephen Groves took this photo of relief distribution efforts he's been helping arrange in remote villages in Nepal.

in Indiana in 2010.

His parents came to visit in Nepal from where they have been working in Indonesia with the Christian ministry organization Youth

With a Mission (YWAM). When in Colorado, his parents work with the YWAM group based in Colorado Springs off Garden of the Gods Road. Stephen Groves' youngest brother, David Groves, 23, was also in Nepal at the time of the quake – also working with YWAM.

Stephen Groves said it has been “amazing to see the resilience of the Nepali people.”

“I’ve been talking with people scavenging materials from their collapsed houses, and they’ve served me tea as we sat on the rubble of their homes. They are just unbelievably hospitable and hard-working, and they continue to work to rebuild their lives even in the midst of all this.”

For more info on the work Stephen Groves is doing, see five14.biz.

“Growing up here I didn’t think I’d go to UCCS. I thought I needed a bigger school to get the quality education and degree I wanted. But all it took was a campus visit and I found out what a hidden jewel UCCS is. I’m a dual major and the academics are challenging. I also love that I’m just a car ride from my family if they need me for anything.”

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People are Telling Their Stories

StoryCorps is recording interviews with local residents at the Ivywild School, 1604 South Cascade Avenue, through Sunday, June 21. The nonprofit organization celebrates the stories of everyday people and is collaborating with the local NPR radio station KRCC to gather people from the Colorado Springs and Pueblo area for interviews in the StoryCorps MobileBooth. KRCC will air some of the interviews and some may also air nationally on NPR’s “Morning Edition” program. Reservations to tell your story are available through the 24-hour, StoryCorps reservation line, 1-800-850-4406, or online at storycorps.org.

Thank You for saying “I saw it in The Woodmen Edition”