



the mountain states collector

DEVOTED TO
ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES,
FURNITURE,
ART, DESIGN
AND HISTORY.

50TH ANNIVERSARY — ESTABLISHED IN 1972
Volume 50, Number 10 October 2022



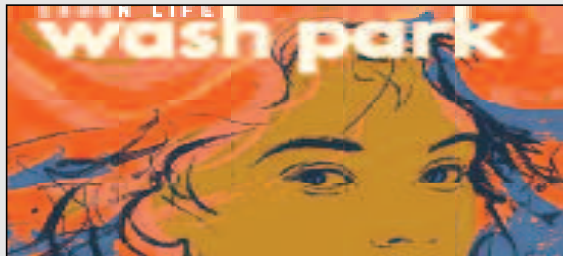
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October Brings So Much Fun!

There are so many Harvest Festivals, Corn Mazes and Halloween events during the month of October. Here are just a few examples:

Miners' Pumpkin Patch – Bring the whole family out to the Western Museum of Mining and Industry for a day of pumpkin patches, hay rides, face painting, and games. Saturdays in October, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Zip lining – Soar over arcs of Colorado Springs by zip line along the Royal Gorge plateau! This epic journey lasts 2 hours.

Telluride Horror Show Festival – This 3-day film festival showcases the latest horror, fantasy, and sci-fi films. The dates are October 14-16th.

Emma Crawford Coffin Races in Manitou Springs– October 29th and 30th will begin with a parade at noon, followed by coffin races with over 70 teams in costume racing for titles like “Best Entourage” and “Best Coffin!”

Día de los Muertos Exhibit – Día de los Muertos, Spanish for “Day of the Dead,” is a celebration of life Oct. 8, in downtown Longmont and the Longmont Museum and Cultural center is offering a free exhibition through Nov. 6 to learn and experience this Spanish holiday. Other similar events take place in Breckenridge and Denver.

Events in Denver include **Denver Zoo's Wild Fall** every day in October and the **Trick-or-Treat Trail**, **Elitch Gardens Fright Fest** is Oct. 21-22 and



Denver Botanical Gardens' Glow at the Gardens is Oct. 18-23. (This event encourages guests to don costumes and come experience the gardens at night, illuminated by glowing lights and jack-o-lanterns.) **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo** in Colorado Springs also hosts a family-friendly Halloween event for 7 nights Oct. 21-23 and Oct. 28-31. Families get to experience the zoo at night, seeing animals in a whole new way. You'll also get the chance to collect candy, enjoy a pumpkin patch and tour a specially-decorated haunted house. All guests are encouraged to sport their best Halloween costume.



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2022 Rocky Mountain Literary Festival

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LITERARY FESTIVAL
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RMLF
Saturday, October 15

Mount Vernon Canyon Club
24855 Glen House Circle, Boulder, Colorado

RMLF
An annual gathering of authors and readers to provide scholarships for local high school seniors in pursuit of their occupational dreams.

MORE INFO AT
RockyMountainLiteraryFestival.org

BOOKS AND MORE
Bootsnaps, a local nonprofit, will have a booth with their award-winning books. \$10-\$15, will receive a book from the festival. Bootsnap is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Authors & Book Selections

*Fare Thee Well, Sweet Queen!
Thank you for your devotion and
your dignity. Thank you for a
lifetime of service.
The world will miss you.
Sleep, Dearie, Sleep*



The Gallery is ready for Autumn with our *Miles of Aisles* filled with vintage Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations. Find that item to deck out your spooky party or dress up your dinner bash.

Our 285 dealers add merchandise daily, such as sparkling jewelry, mid-mod furniture, rustic wares and shabby chic decor.

If you find that special holiday gift for someone, just use our easy layaway plan. Have an item in mind? Talk to our friendly and knowledgeable staff — they have decades of experience.

Stop by and check out the Gallery during October!



Weddings, birthdays or hostess gifts — a Gallery Gift Card is the perfect gift for anyone.

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Old Crows Fall Festival October 1

featuring: Cars for Christ, 10-2, Bronco Great Randy Gradishar, 11-2, Bronco Talk with Scott Perry



Old Crows' Antiques Road Show

Saturday, Oct. 1, 12 - 3 p.m.
(First Saturday Every Month)

Get estimates on your favorite
treasures. Talk to experts about your
antiques, art, vintage and collectibles.

Limit 1 item per person



CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW FUNDRAISER

When
Saturday
October 1st
10am-2pm



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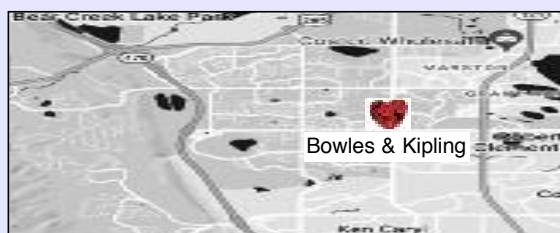
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Saturday, October 8
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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home decor & more... 

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Show Calendar — October '22 - July '23

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OCT. 1: **OLD CROWS' CARS FOR CHRIST**, 10-2 p.m. Randy Gradishar 11-2 in the Root Beer Bar signing autographs, and Scott Perry - "The NFL Since 1970" author with one-on-one chats and conversation about all things NFL. 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Call 303-973-8648 for more information.

OCT. 1-2: **FRONT RANGE GLASS SHOW & SALE**, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 10-3:30. Quality Dealers from across the U.S., Hourly Door Prizes, Featuring American Made Glassware, pottery, and dinnerware. Show is at The Ranch Event Center Complex, McKee Building, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538, Exit 259 off I25 at Crossroads Blvd. Contact Mark & Jodi Uthe for more information, 319-939-3837 or go to frontrangeglassshow@gmail.com

OCT. 1: **TIMBER DAN FALL TOY SHOW Antiques and Collectibles**, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., First National Bank Exhibition Bldg., Larimer Country Fairgrounds, The Ranch, Exit 259 off I-25, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO, Thousands of collectibles, vintage and antique toys on display and for sale, Kids of all Ages, more info, call Loveland Lyons Club, Sherlyn Sampson, 970-663-9392.

OCT. 8: **LITTLETON CAR SHOW** 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., weather permitting, at Old Crows Antique Mall, 10081 West Bowles Avenue, Littleton. Featuring vintage and collectible vehicles. Last month there were over 70 vehicles. An event that is fun for the whole family. Call 303-973-8648 for more info.

OCT. 8 & 9: **PUMPKIN PIE DAYS**, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 11 - 4. Sponsored by the St. Vrain Historical Society, to be held at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building, 9595 Nelson Rd., Longmont, CO 80501. Call 303-776-1870 for more info.

OCT. 20: **WITCHES NIGHT OUT** - An evening of Bewitching fun! Wear your favorite witch hat or costume, enjoy festive treats, special sales and a special gift with purchase. Sugar Mill, 13788 Pacific Circle, Mead, Colorado, will donate a portion of all proceeds from the evening to a local Non-Profit supporting women. **October 30th Halloween Donuts**, trick or treating and more! Call 720-899-5570 for more information.

JAN. 20 & 21: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW**, Friday 11-6, Saturday 9:30 to 4. at the Holiday Inn Lakewood, 7390 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood, Colorado, \$5 admission - good for both days. More info, www.denverpostcardshow.com or camobley@ephemeranet.com.

APR. 8: **TIMBER DAN SPRING TOY SHOW Antiques and Collectibles**, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., First National Bank Exhibition Bldg., Larimer Country Fairgrounds, The Ranch, Exit 259 off I-25, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO, Thousands of collectibles, vintage and antique toys on display and for sale, Kids of all Ages, more info, call Loveland Lyons Club, Sherlyn Sampson, 970-663-9392 or email her at sherlyn@sampsong.net or visit website at <http://www.loveandlionsclubs.org/sites/ToyShow.htm> or Facebook at Loveland Lions Clubs/events.

MAY 26 & 27: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW**, Friday 11-6, Saturday 9:30 to 4. at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds, \$5 admission - good for both days. More info, www.denverpostcardshow.com or camobley@ephemeranet.com.

JULY 14 & 15: **DENVER POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW**, Friday 11-6, Saturday 9:30 to 4. at the Holiday Inn Lakewood, 7390 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood, Colorado, \$5 admission - good for both days. More info, www.denverpostcardshow.com or camobley@ephemeranet.com.

TIMBER DAN TOY SHOW

- ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES -

Saturday, Oct 1st, 2022
9am to 3pm

First National Bank
Exhibition Bldg • North Hall
Larimer County Fairgrounds
'The Ranch' • Exit 259 off I-25
5280 Arena Cir • Loveland, CO

ADMISSION: Adults \$5⁰⁰
Children (12 and under) FREE

1,000s of Collectible, Vintage, & Antique Toys on Display & FOR SALE • Kids of All Ages!

Farm Toys	Construction	Cast Iron	Star Wars
Pressed Metal	Matchbox	Litho	Toy Guns
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	Racing	Action Figures	Stuffed toys
	Airplanes	Windup	And more....

Early Bird Entry \$10 Fee: Saturday 7-9am (NO FRIDAY HRS)
Table Spaces Available • Sponsored by Loveland Lions Club

LovelandLionsClubs.org • Sherlyn Sampson • 970-663-9392

The St. Vrain Historical Society Presents

Pumpkin Pie Days

Vintage & Antique Market

Saturday, October 8, 2022
10am-5pm

Sunday, October 9, 2022
11am-4pm

St. Vrain Historical Society Members Get Early Entry on Saturday-9:30am!

Boulder County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building
9595 Nelson Rd. Longmont, CO 80501

Admission: \$10.00 per person (children under 12 free)
(303) 776-1870

*Admissions & Café Sales Support The St. Vrain Historical Society's
Mission of Historic Preservation & Education in the Community!*

www.stvrainhistoricalsociety.com

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AND

DENVER BRONCOS GREAT

RANDY GRADISHAR

In Person

Saturday, October 1, 11 - 2

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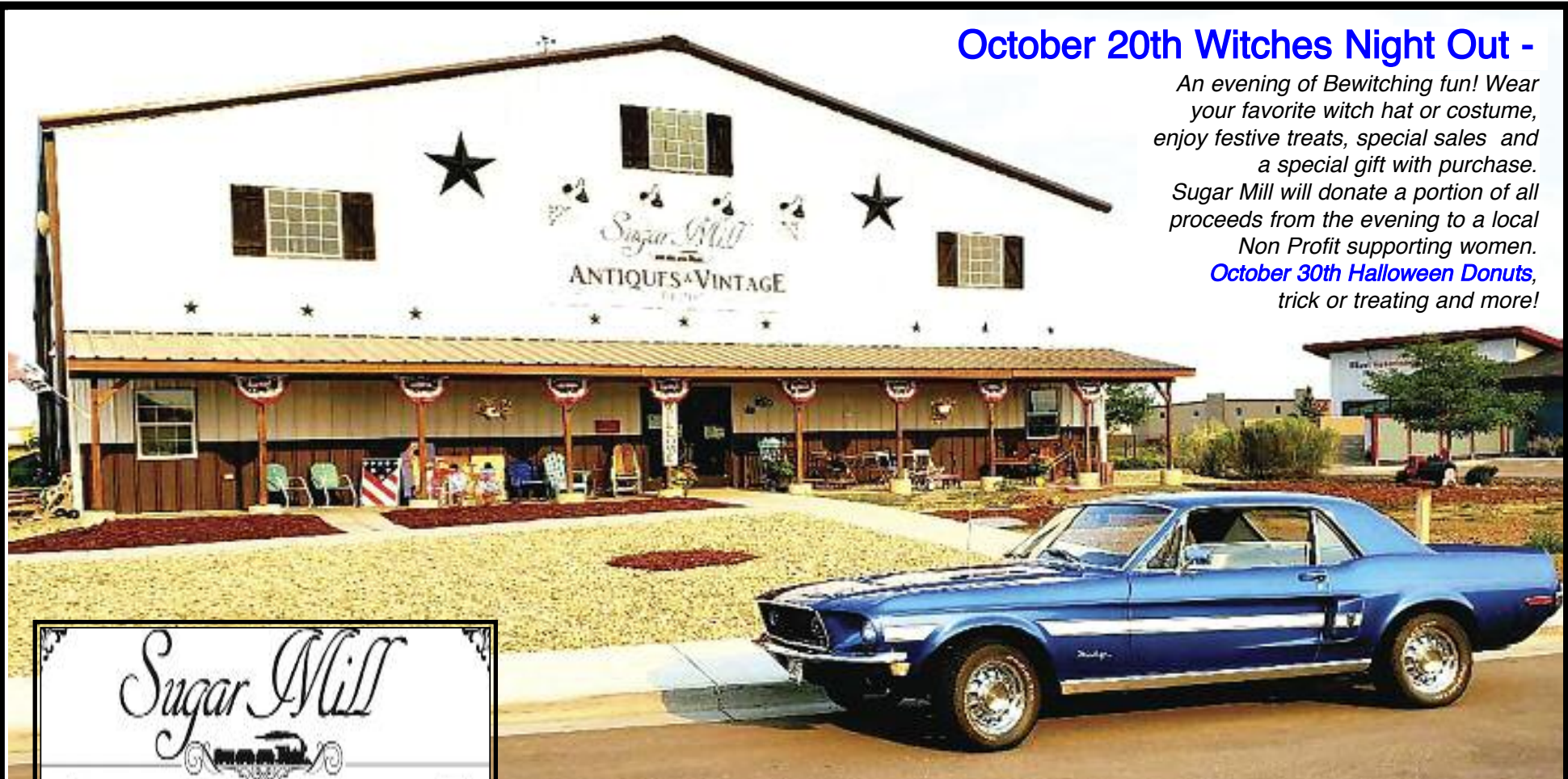
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Exit 259 off I25 Crossroads Blvd.

For more information call 319-939-3837 or frontrangeglassshow@gmail.com
www.frontrangeglassshow.com



October 20th Witches Night Out -

An evening of Bewitching fun! Wear your favorite witch hat or costume, enjoy festive treats, special sales and a special gift with purchase. Sugar Mill will donate a portion of all proceeds from the evening to a local Non Profit supporting women. **October 30th Halloween Donuts,** trick or treating and more!



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Sugar Mill Gets Ready for Gnome-vember

Gnome-vember features a month long scavenger hunt as well as having the famous Gnome Naughty Norman getting into a little mischief daily as he roams through the store causing havoc.



Norman constantly turns things upside down, hides clues. He is a naughty little gnome and it's a fun scavenger hunt, changing every week. Kids love it because they find the gnomes hiding all over the store and every week, Sugar Mill gives out little prizes and gifts when the Gnomes are found.



The Barn That Produced More Hits Than Abbey Road from 1974-76

By Nick Wills

NEDERLAND, Colo. (KDVR) – A property that sits 30 minutes west of Boulder was at varying instances the home of the country’s largest privately owned Arabian horse stud farm, a motion picture set and the refurbished barn that from 1974 to 1976 produced more musical hits than Abbey Road.

That property, which according to the Colorado Music Hall of Fame arguably outperformed the British recording studio for a few years, is known as the Caribou Ranch.

According to the Colorado Encyclopedia, it was purchased in 1971 and molded by a Columbia Records employee who had grown tired of the industry’s production habits that held efficiency above creativity.

That music producer’s name was James William Guercio, and according to the Colorado Music Hall of Fame, he bought roughly 4,000 acres outside of Caribou near Nederland with a plan in mind to create a one-of-a-kind recording studio that aimed to cater to the creative side of musical production.

The man who merged record producing and the Rocky Mountains

According to the Colorado Encyclopedia, Guercio would go on to help produce albums that accrued more than \$100 million in record sales, 18 Grammys, 20 No. 1 Billboard hits and 45 top 10 albums through focusing on the creative aspect of musical production.

The Colorado Music Hall of Fame said that while producing in Los Angeles and New York, Guercio had found his creative efforts constrained by the record label’s union regulations.



One rule that he found specifically bothersome, according to the Colorado Encyclopedia, said that a sound engineer employed by the studio was in charge of running the controls during recordings, which could stand in the way of what the artists and their producers were aiming to achieve.

So, with the property purchased and the barn under renovation, Guercio would soon find out if his revamped approach to music production was going to catch fire. The guest ranch wouldn’t even be up and running before he’d find the answer to that all-important question.

One man’s blown-out mixer is another man’s good fortune

According to the Colorado Music Hall of Fame, just three years before he would join the Eagles, Joe Walsh was starting production on his inaugural album, an effort he was attempting to manage out of his home.

Fortunately for Guercio and the future of his Caribou Ranch recording studio, Walsh’s in-house mixer blew out leaving him to figure out where to move his recording efforts.

The Caribou Ranch was still being built, but when Walsh heard about the recording studio under development, he wanted to check it out along with his producer at the time, Bill Szymczyk. According to the CMHOF, once the pair arrived at the Caribou Ranch, the two knew that the ranch would be the perfect fit for the project.

“My answer is serendipity,” Szymczyk said according to Best Classic Bands. “It was a case of once two or three people came, other people heard there was something going on. When [Guercio] built the studio – game over.”

After Walsh completed “Barnstorm,” the first album recorded at the Caribou Ranch, Szymczyk would bring another of his performers to the Nederland-adjacent studio, Rick Der-

Continued on page 8



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Caribou Ranch Studio — A Musical Memory

Continued from page 7

ringer, who would record his hit “Rock & Roll, Hoochie Koo.”

Elton John would soon hear the unique tonal qualities of the Caribou Ranch studio present in Derringer’s work, which sound engineer and physicist Tommy Dowd said was the result of the thin air, and decided to visit the property after a Denver show. The property sits at an elevation of 8,600 feet and that, mixed with the analog equipment used at the recording studio, was creating a detectable sound, according to the Colorado Encyclopedia.

“It really is luxurious,” John said according to Colorado Music Experience. “The only thing you can’t get used to is that it’s so high up, you keep gasping for breath all the time.”

John would name the first album he recorded in the barn after the ranch, entitling it “Caribou.” He would go on to record his following two albums at the ranch, setting off the wave of legendary performers that would come in and out of the barn doors.



Stephen Stills with his guitars

nearly 15-year existence.

“You’re kinda immersed into the wild, wild west,” Earth, Wind & Fire’s Philip Bailey said, according to Best Classic Bands. “The quiet, the music of the mountains became so obvious, so loud, that you kinda got caught up in that whole experience. I remember me and Maurice [White] writing the lyrics to ‘Sing a Song.’ We’re singing the same thing at the same time, getting the same ideas at the same time. It really was a magical time.”

Artists didn’t visit the ranch in order to produce music exclusively. The property, which Michael Jackson reportedly tried to buy off of Guercio when the King of Pop visited after his Thriller tour wrapped up, was also a retreat for artists who wanted to “escape the hustle and bustle of their paparazzi-filled lives,” according to the Caribou Ranch artists page.

During an interview on Jimmy Kimmel Live, Elton John revealed that he let Stevie Wonder, the musical legend who has been blind since birth, take his snowmobile out for a drive during some downtime at the ranch.

“I was at the Caribou Ranch...I was recording...It was thick snow and Stevie wanted to go out on the snowmobile...(He went out) by himself...We thought, ‘OK, that’s another rival gone! That’s him out of the way.’ Just needed to get Phil Collins and Rod Stewart up there,” John said to Kimmel.

In all over 150 artists came through the val-

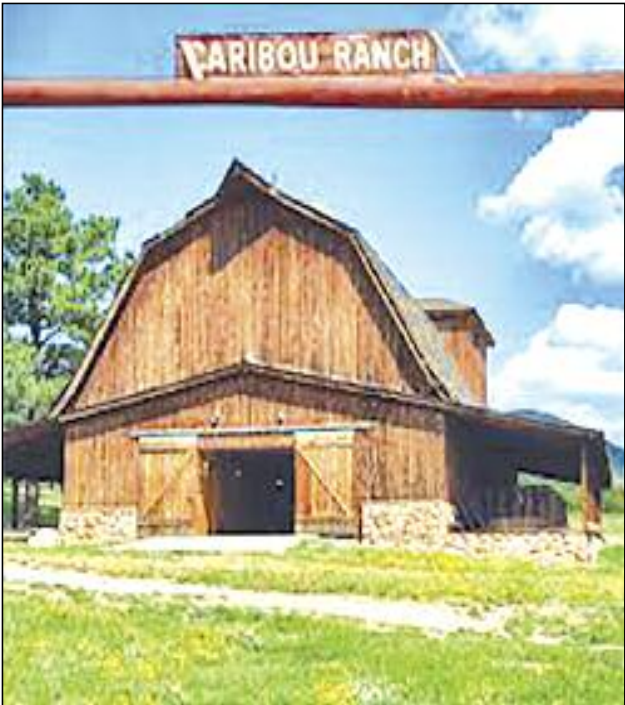
ley outside of Nederland to get away, partaking in hiking through Colorado’s backcountry, horseback riding the nearby trails, wildlife gazing and more.

How this musical haven came to an end

Unfortunately for Guercio and the generations of artists who never got to visit the studio, the studio came to an end in March of 1985 while he watch television with his family nearby.

According to the Colorado Encyclopedia, a space heater ignited a blaze that took out a third of the barn that housed the legendary studio. Guercio decided to not repair and rebuild as the music industry had moved on, leaving behind the analog recording practices of old and instead transitioning to digital recording equipment. Another reason for choosing not to replace the lost studio was that the scene surrounding rock-and-roll in the 1980s was not one to raise children around.

There were once talks of the ranch being redeveloped, but those never came to fruition. Now, the Caribou Ranch is just a property where musical memories remain and a location that can be heard in a list of albums that were created with the help of 8,600 feet of elevation, and a music producer who knew the importance of creativity in an artist’s creative journey.

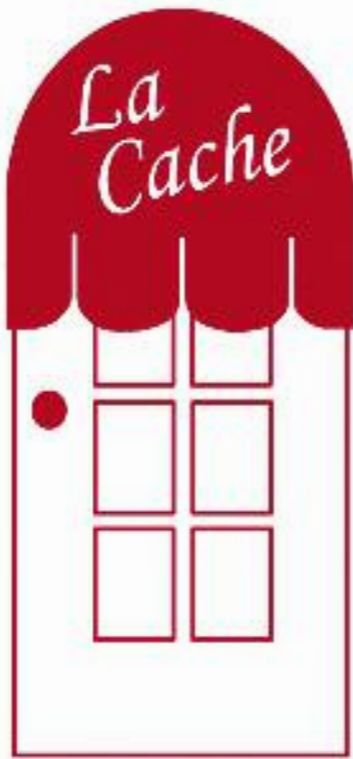


According to the Caribou Ranch’s homepage, Stevie Wonder, Stevie Nicks, John Lennon, Chicago, Carole King, the Beach Boys, Rod Stewart, America, Kris Kristofferson, Earth, Wind & Fire, Jerry Lee Lewis, Sheena Easton, Eddie Rabbit and War make up just a portion of the pool of legendary artists who visited the recording studio at Caribou Ranch during its



Elton John and friends

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Balloon Festivals on the Horizon

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<https://go.festivalticketing.com/?c=festivalticketing&e=4ywojcbh>
The direct link for the Music Fiesta Ticket Cart is: <https://go.festivalticketing.com/?c=festivalticketing&e=4yblmnzaw2>

Colorado Balloon Festivals

Most of the festivals in Colorado occur in September. There is still a chance to get in on all the fun of balloon watching in October. With Colorado's high altitude, it's perfect for sending hot air balloons into the Colorado skies. Here are hot air balloon events happening in October across the state.

Servando y Florentino
Sun, Oct 2 – Mon, Oct 3
2430 S Havana St
Aurora, CO

Find tickets for Servando y Florentino showing at the Stampede - Aurora



Glow at Dusk -
Animas Valley Balloon Rally
Fri, Oct 14 – Sun, Oct 16
Durango Downtown Inn, 800 Camino Del Rio
Durango, CO
Durango & Silverton
Narrow Gauge Railroad.

The Durango Business Improvement District is sponsoring the Downtown Durango Balloon Glow. This free portion of the Animas Valley Balloon Rally welcomes friends of all ages to come to watch.

Yuma Balloon Festival
Sat, Nov 19 – Mon, Nov 21
Colorado

The Colorado River Crossing Hot Air Balloon Festival is the most popular hot air balloon festival in Colorado, organized by the Caballeros de Yuma.

Balloon pilots from across the country and the world fly their "airships" at Colorado hot air balloon events. Chilly mornings with coffee and majesty and "glows" at night make living in Colorado great.

According to HotAirExpeditions.com, you only have to be 14 years old to obtain a student balloon pilot's license. You wouldn't be able to carry any passengers, but still, that would be very fun at 14.

Those wonderful hot air balloons that you see with the gondolas that hold the pilot and four passengers can run \$35,000 to more than \$45,000. Add in the hours of travel and setup time, you know that these pilots really love hot air ballooning. That's why when you attend a festival or rally you should try to thank those pilots, as courtesy.

Why not go to a Balloon Festival? Seeing the colorful balloons is truly an uplifting experience!

DENVER



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PUBLICATIONS

When your children grow up you wonder if any of them will follow in your footsteps. My husband Jon and I are so proud of our two oldest children, Sam and Jon and Sam’s wife Shaleen and Jonny’s partner Krysti Jomei. They actually went into the publishing business! Their magazines are really way beyond what we ever did. So the thought that your children will be better than you in the same field seems to hold true here. (Our two youngest children Joey (and his wife Suzy) and Katie (married to Dr. Paris Loyle) are world-class teachers, following in their father’s footsteps.) We thought our readers would like to see what sprung out of *the Mountain States Collector* experience in our family.

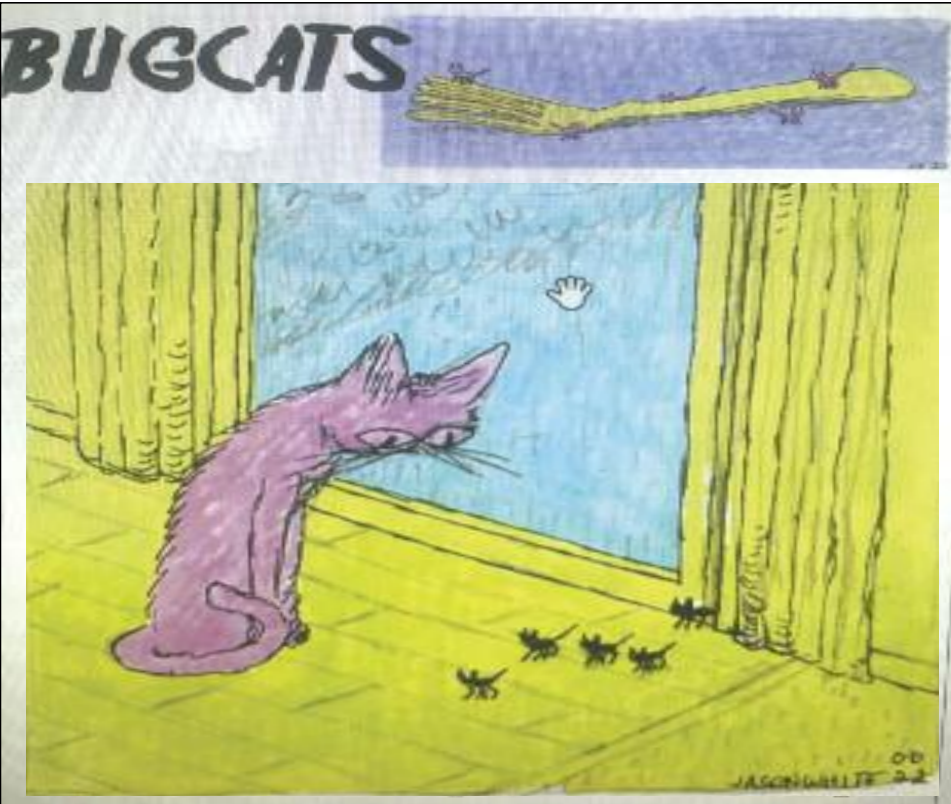




"I want everybody to live very close. I want to borrow. I want to bike over in house shoes for a game of cards on the porch with some tea or digestif. I want animals around and wind chimes above our heads. Somebody is cooking. I brought the bread. Players come and go. A candle is lit to keep away the bugs. Dogs need to be fed. "Turn the record over!" Song plays through the screen door. Chatter trickles out from the kitchen. There is little distinction between what's mine and yours. Where we sleep tonight and under whose robin matters not very much. When we part, we see each other again walking to the mailboxes. When we stay together, on the sofa, on the floor, into deep listening and burning midnight oil, then in the morning one of us will rise and cut some fruit. Make some coffee and tea, but not the same person who did it last time because in this house we take turns. In this house we dance." - Anna Husco

I hear wishing you a fall filled with nights of gathering with friends and family. Riding your bikes to the inviting, open doors of good company, where there will always be music and bread.

**Your Neighbors,
Sam and Shaleen DeStefano**



The cartoon to the left is a sample of some of the fun cartoons, articles, artwork, interviews and editorials you will find in Denver’s premier arts magazine **birdy**. produced by Jonny DeStefano and Krysti Jomei. Go to birdymagazine.com to learn more about this fascinating publication.



CALENDAR LISTINGS

Calendar Listing Information

Promoters: send us your calendar information. We will publish it free (and in bold-face type) with your display ad. Otherwise the cost is \$35 per issue. Calendar entries are published on a three-month basis (month of show and two months previous). So send in your info as soon as possible. It’s never too early. Stories and features about shows are provided free with your display ad.

Dates of Show: _____
City, State: _____
Name of Show or Event: _____
Hours: _____
Other Info: _____
Phone: _____

____ Send information about advertising.

For more information,
call **720-276-2777**.

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Dolls by Ideal

By Robert Reed

A Jewish immigrant working from a small shop in New York City gave the world one of the most successful and productive toy companies of the 20th century.

Morris Mitchtom, probably better known for his pioneering with the teddy bear and his letter to President Teddy Roosevelt, was the founder of the Ideal Toy Company.

Mitchtom and his wife were making toys in the early 1900s but did not formally establish the Ideal firm until 1907, five years later it became the Ideal Novelty & Toy Company.

Teddy bears were a strong seller from the start, which enabled Mitchtom and his small company to finance production of early dolls which mostly had cloth bodies and composition heads. In 1911 they advertised themselves as "makers of unbreakable dolls and stuffed animals."

Ideal was highly successful with two advertising dolls in the years that immediately followed. In 1914 Mitchtom designed the Uneeda Kid doll for the Uneeda Biscuit Company it wore a yellow raincoat and carried a miniature tin box of crackers. The next year he followed that accomplishment with the Zu Zu Kid doll for the National Biscuit Company. This time the doll wore a clown suit and carried a box of Zu Zu ginger snaps.

The firm was also successful with its early cloth character dolls including Dandy Kid, Baby Mine and one in the image of the legendary Ty Cobb.

Ideal had developed total composition dolls by 1916 and by 1921 had one of the country's first composition walking dolls in full production.

The golden age truly dawned for Ideal in the 1930s when the company launched a series of tremendously successful composition celebrity dolls. In 1934 Molly Goldman designed Ideal's Shirley Temple doll complete with the outfit from her first movie sensation, Stand Up and Cheer. In 1936 they produced the Shirley Temple cowgirl doll with gun and holster, and by 1939 eager parents could purchase Shirley Temple dolls with a vast assortment of clothing and accessories.

Shirley Temple herself was rated the most popular movie star in the world at one time during that decade, and Ideal grossed more than \$6 millions from sales of her doll alone. The revenues encouraged similar movie star personality dolls like Deanna Durbin, Judy Garland, and eventually Mary Hart.

Character dolls based on film and radio were a big item for Ideal during the 1930s too,



Dopey ventriloquist dummy, Snow White dwarf dolls, all by Ideal Toy Company. (Harris Auction photo)

marketing boomed with such 'stars' as Mortimer Snerd, Baby Snooks, and finally Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket.

Following World War II in 1945, Ideal continued their fine character doll tradition with a classic Superman version. The doll was 13 inches tall and came with composition head and wooden body.

In 1947 the company captured nationwide attention with a doll that only had been known to the public for a few months. In May of that year the Dick Tracy comic strip featured the birth of a baby to characters B.O. Plenty and Gravel Gertie. In New York City, the Gimbels' department store toy manger convinced Ideal a doll following the character would be a great idea. Just 48 days later the production of Baby Sparkle Plenty dolls began, they went on sale at Gimbels in July and despite the relatively expensive price of \$5.98 they were an immediate best-seller. The store sold 10,000 the first five days and 22,000 within two weeks, more than all other doll sales put together during the first half of 1947.

Two years later the company produced dolls honoring a couple of that era's most popular cowboy movie stars, Roy Rogers and Hopalong Cassidy. Neither doll attracted as much attention as Sparkle Plenty or their last doll of the year.

Ideal introduced another fabled winner during the Christmas season of 1949 with Toni doll. This time the model was hard plastic and came with materials that allowed girls to wash, set, and curl the doll's hair just as they did with their own. Ideal paid dearly for the license to sell the Toni home permanent dolls, but it proved to be a very wise investment.

Ideal doll 1976. Wake-up Thumbelina vinyl head and arms, plastic body stuffed legs.

The fabulous toy company reached its zenith as the 1940s ended. In the book, Ideal Dolls, author Judith Inez reported that during the pre-holiday season over 4,000 people were working on three shifts to produce enough dolls and other toys for the public demand.

Ideal plunged into the 1950 with a host of appealing and consequently high selling dolls including Howdy Doody, Plassie, McCall magazine's Betsy McCall, Magic-Squeeze Babies, Saucy Walker, Posie who was capable of 100 "life-like poses," and Honeysuckle Babies which drank and wet like a real baby. Additionally, they advertised the Musical Doll Baby which was two feet tall, and children could "croon her to sleep with Rock-a-Bye Baby." The doll came with a built-in Swiss music box and sold on the "easy lay-a-way plan" for \$9.98.

A deal with the cosmetics giant Revlon gave Ideal another great seller starting in 1957. Miss Revlon, 26 inches tall, was billed as a beautiful doll with "full-formed teenage figure, (that) bends from the waist, and pirouettes on nylon-stocked legs in high-heeled shoes ... All are beautifully dressed in high fashion style with smart personal jewelry."

During the early 1960s Ideal's striking fashion doll Jackie did well, but the Tammy series introduced to meet the competition of Mattel's smashing Barbie did less well. Fashion Liz, made of plastic and modeling a bikini bathing suit appeared in 1965 followed by a resurgence of Posie, this time foam-filled with vinyl arms and head.

There was an attempt to move directly into the action doll market for boys in 1966 with the plastic and vinyl Captain Action. In the 1970s Ideal's action hero was Electro-Man completed with battery operated lights. Tara, a female counter part appeared in the Electro-Man outfit in 1977.

During the early 1980s there was a return to Betsy Wetsy, Thumbelina, Velvet and Tiny Tears. New issues included the Victorian Ladies series. Ideal was sold to television network CBS in 1983 which in turn closed the doll division and sold off the trade name a few years later.

"A company's products are judged on how well they perform and last," concludes Judith Izen in her book on Ideal dolls. "If that is the case then Ideal Toy Corporation's dolls deserve a special place of honor in the hearts of children and grown-ups everywhere."

Recommended reading:

Collector's Guide to Ideal Dolls by Judith Izen, Collector Books.



Group of three Ideal Velvet dolls



*Now that the kids
are back in school
why not explore
your favorite
antique shops?*



Ideal doll 1976. Wake-up Thumbelina vinyl head and arms, plastic body stuffed legs.

AMERICAN
HISTORY
October Anniversaries

October 2
52nd Anniversary of National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA)

October 10
Columbus Day

October 13
Congress establishes
U.S. Navy (1775)

October 15
Sweetest Day

October 19
Victory of Yorktown (1781)

October 24
United Nations Day

October 28
Grover Cleveland dedicates
Statue of Liberty (1886)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for Letting Us Know

You did a beautiful job on the Heights article. I loved it! It was fascinating to read the history of the nuns and what an impact they made in this area. How interesting, too, to learn about the many well-known people who are at rest in Mt. Olivet. I am sorry the nuns could not remain on the original Heights property but their impact will remain. It is even somehow poetic and fitting that that area will continue to serve people in need. They made a big, positive impact on many lives, my own included. Thank you for ‘bringing them to life’ again. The article rocked and brought back many happy memories for me and my time at LHC. Thanks for doing that. The pictures were great, too. Really added to the whole thing.
Carol MacDougall

Thank you, great article on the SL’s contribution to education in Colorado and the U.S.
Karen Loden

What a special article with which Peggy blessed us. Thank you very much.
Lydia Pena

A tremendous article. Thank you for this.
Kevin Saunders

Nice to read your piece about the Sisters of Loretto.
Sally Kurtzman

Peggy!! Wow what a beautiful article! The his-

tory, the reverence, respect and love shown is touching. Thank you so much!
Jean Bradac

Hey, Peggy, I loved the article on the Loretto Nuns—and the added info that you met Jon there. The article was really interesting. The nuns put up with a lot of hardships to establish that school. The information on the 2 cemeteries was great. As was how the property is going to be used.
Tricia Myers

Just wanted to tell you how much I loved your article. I had no idea about the history of Loretto Heights going so far back and being such an early part of Colorado’s development. What a bunch of strong women, too!
Sam DeStefano

Thank you, Peggy. Such a fun issue. Always enjoy reading the articles & seeing the antiques.
Lynda Moore

Love the paper!
Mary Sikora



GEORGETOWN



The Hotel De Paris Museum™, a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is owned and operated by The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Colorado. The Museum is located in Georgetown, Colorado, just west of Denver off Interstate 70.

Louis Dupuy’s legendary Hotel de Paris dates to the silver mining boom, when it served as a first-class French restaurant, showroom for traveling salesmen, and luxurious hotel during the Gilded Age.

Their Mission:
To collect, preserve, and share history associated with Louis Dupuy’s Hotel De Paris, and serve as a catalyst for heritage tourism in Georgetown, Colorado.

COLORADO SPRINGS

McAllister House Museum
A Great Place to Visit

Major McAllister made his home in this small house until his death in 1921. For the next 30 plus years the house was rented by the family of Mrs. Fanny Robbins who used the house for a candy and “wedding gift” shop. Upon her death in 1958, the family sold the house.

In 1961 a historic preservation group, the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Colorado, with the help of the El Pomar Foundation and Shepard’s Citations, was able to buy and restore this Colorado Springs (Fountain Colony) house. Why not visit this lovely house and enjoy the historically true restorations?

CASTLE ROCK

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The Mountain States Collector, a tabloid newspaper dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of antiquing and collecting in the Rocky Mountain region, is distributed the first weekend of every month through shops, auctions, flea markets and antique shows, and is mailed to subscribers. (Opinions of the writers contained herein are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers.)
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Nebraska's CJ's Antiques Coolest Store in Chappell!

By Jon DeStefano

Eric Wingate has been in Chappell, Nebraska for a little over 22 years. Soon after he arrived he started his own antique shop which he calls CJ's named after his wife Celeste. Prior to that he was laying the groundwork for taking on such a venture.

Born in Akron, Ohio, he moved to Denver in 1959. He started working with antiques in the early 70s in New Franklin, Missouri. In the mid-eighties he started going to antique shows like the World Wide Antique Show and many others in Denver. His Dad and he had an antique shop which his Dad ran. Eric and his wife ran a stripping and refinishing shop nearby that supplied all the furniture to his Dad. Together they supplied the furniture for the Old Spaghetti Factory and a lot of other places in downtown Denver, including numerous hotels and offices.

In addition to his antique-related occupations, Eric tried his hand at many other businesses. He was the theatre manager for Common Wealth Theaters. He managed the Victory Theatre "until the ball took it down." He ran the Oriental, the Federal, the Gothic and numerous others.

Eric went to Golden High School in Colorado. He says, "It's funny—I now live in this little town of Chappell in Nebraska which has about 400 people and there are 4 people here that I know who went to Golden High School including one of my classmates. His Colorado connections includes having lived on Lookout Mountain his senior year. And, now, his son lives in Thornton. So there is a strong attachment to Colorado.

CJ's Antiques started out with just two rooms. And now it is quite a bit larger. Eric doesn't do shows any more and doesn't use the internet. He just does walk-ins. My customers include people who come from all over. I've had people here from Las Vegas, Sweden, Wisconsin, South Africa., everywhere. Most people come in the summer on Highway 30 which is nicknamed the Lincoln Highway. It starts in San Francisco and goes to New York. people buy at the shops along the way."

"This year has been a little slower than usual because of the cost of gas but it's picking up now that gas prices are coming down. People are experiencing cabin fever and they are moving around again."

Eric's great inventory has a little bit of everything. It ranges from razor straps to hundreds of amazing pictures and original photos "mostly quality, real photos, more than all the shops in Nebraska put together."

CJ's has giant brass balls which were used to close and open water pumps and control flow of water. "I have lots of automobile stuff including bumpers, steering wheels all kinds of things like a beautiful a 55 Ford bumper, a '63 Ford grill.

You can find some amazing large collections at CJ's, too. He has an outstanding Coca Cola collection, model car collectibles from all the car shows throughout the country, promo collectibles from old car shows, old t.v. lamps, tons of cast iron pots and pans and great antique tools.



The list of items for sale include boxes of auto and tractor literature, promo machinery literature, a lot of old magazines, including some of my favorite issues of Mad magazines. There is also old a lot of old hardware, handles and door knobs, hinges, tins, and oil cans. The amount of old quality metal toys and fire trucks is extensive. There are over 500 pieces of M&M collectibles, tons of signs in hallways and even a room for lights and light fixtures. room. He also has numerous paintings, pictures and gifts from Indian gift shops. There are salt and pepper shakers, a couple of glass rooms, filled with Corning Ware, Pyrex and Fire King. And hundreds of classic Vinyl records.

CJ's is amazing. A trip to CJ's in Chappell, Nebraska is a visit to a must-see memory lane.

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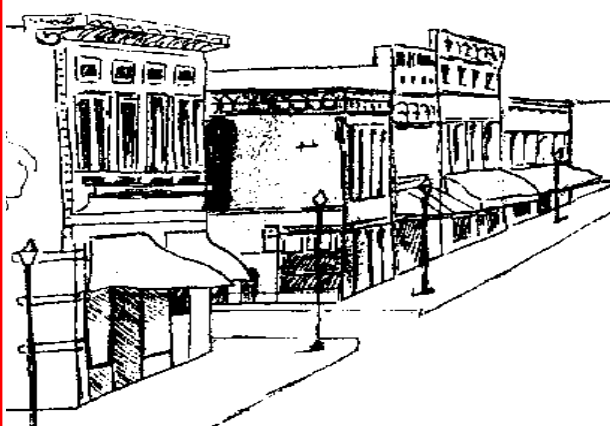
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Florence — Tree City USA

The City of Florence is proud to be celebrating its 33rd year as a Tree City USA community. The tree committee was created by City Ordinance and meets monthly at City Hall. Florence is proud of

tirely removed. This eliminates the danger of a dead tree and contributes a new point of interest to our community and a new "glass-half-full" outlook on potential solutions.

Carved Tree Tour

There are carved trees all over town, indicated by the starts on the map. Florence is a pedestrian-friendly town of roughly four square miles, and the tree carvings are scattered throughout town. Keep an eye out for any work-in-progress or recently-carved trees! This project is ongoing as trees die off.

Swing by the Historic Downtown for a unique shopping experience. Florence is home to dozens of antique stores, boutiques, as well as restaurants from around the world. From steak to sushi and sesame chicken to green chili, there's something for everyone here!



its urban shade canopy and diverse range of tree types and is working hard to maintain existing trees and plant many new ones. Old age and changing climates have recently caused numerous trees to die off, and the City is ambitious with its tree maintenance efforts as well as partnering with the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) for grants and technical advice. If you have questions about dangerous or unsafe trees contact City Hall at 719-784-4848.

From Adverse to Artistic

Many of these trees, most planted in 1912 by the City, have begun deteriorating, and several have become hazardous to homes and residents. Some local artists and residents have decided to carve these historic trees rather than have them en-



Rena Pryor



Larry Nelson & Friends 719-338-1628



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CONTEST

September's What Is It?

William McLaren of Anchorage, Alaska has come to the rescue again. He tells us, "September's What Is It is a wrought iron Courting Candle Holder. These spiral shaped candle holders were popular in the 1600's to 1800's, and probably came to the States with German settlers. The iron bowl attached to the bottom of the spiral holder was used to catch any melting candle wax (for possible reuse). The three raised feet kept the heat of the bowl off any flammable surface. This particular candle holder appears to be missing the "candle cradle" underneath the candle. The candle cradle is shaped like a candle stub with a little handle in one side. The cradle fits inside the spiral holder just below the candle, and the handle pokes out between the spiral arms. The candle is moved up or down by turning or spinning the little handle. Thus the device may be used as a timer, depending on how much of the candle is exposed above the top of the spiral. The lore behind the name is that the candles could be used to determine the length of time a suitor could spend courting the homeowner's daughter. The suitor could do his courting until the candle burned down to the top of the spiral. The amount of candle available to burn at the start of the period depended upon the father's impression of the suitor's prospects.

Other readers who correctly identified this object as a courting candle include Christine Green of Westminster, Colorado; Dede Horan of Englewood, Colorado; Jeannie Reynolds of Nederland, Colorado and Jacque Rutledge, Tyler Hill, Pennsylvania.

Thank you for entering our contest. You have all won a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.



October's What Is It?



Send your answers to the What Is It contest, postmarked by October 20, to *the Mountain States Collector*, P.O. Box 1003, Bailey, CO 80421. At least three winners will be drawn. Winners will receive a year's subscription to *the Mountain States Collector*.

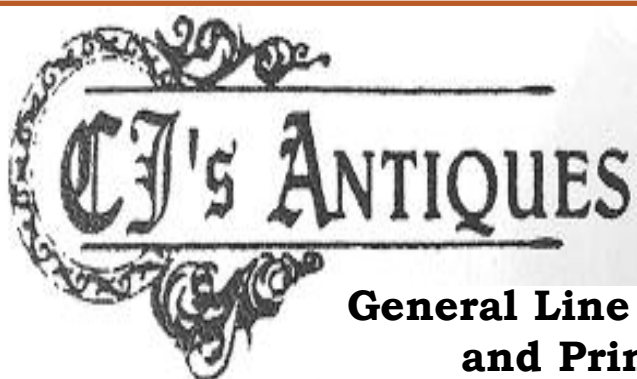


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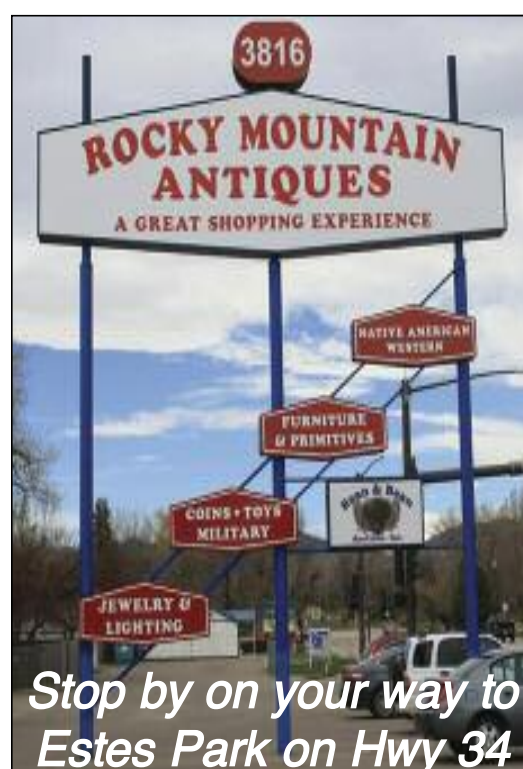
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