



PIKES PEAK BULLETIN

Serving Manitou Springs, Old Colorado City, Downtown Colorado Springs and Lower Ute Pass

Vol. 24, No. 11, July 25, 2025

The Bulletin hits the pause button to regroup, recalibrate

Dear readers,

This will be the last print edition of the Pikes Peak Bulletin until we can stabilize our funding.

We have run into a repeating issue of being told we will receive grant or donor funding and then it being delayed indefinitely, combined with a worsening advertising megadrought. While we still have our subscribers and a few loyal advertisers, it's not enough to keep

the Bulletin viable. Not even close.

We have experienced a surge in online readership in recent months – but attention and appreciation have not translated



When you're in a hole, stop digging.

into sufficient dollars. Our online crowdfunding campaign brought in about \$10,000, plus a \$5,000 ad prepay. Most of the donations were between \$25 and \$100, and a salon owner came up with her own fundraiser for the Bulletin. This shows our grassroots support is real – and also illustrates why so many newspapers today are owned and subsidized by the very wealthy.

The old news business model of revenue from advertisers and subscribers is gone, largely due to the rise of the internet, and there is not yet a solid model to replace it. Currently, grant funding is insufficient – especially with canceled federal grants, the rescission of funds for public media, and a greater number of hungry organiza-

tions competing for a bite of the picked-over funding pie.

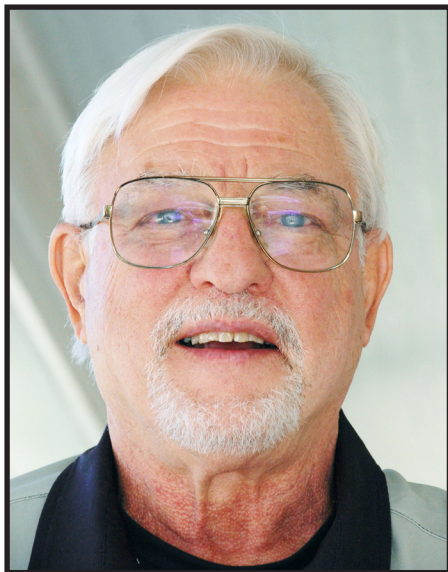
Running even a small community newspaper is expensive. Add to that, we've brought in top-notch reporters to deliver the highest caliber of investigative reporting, hyperlocal news and stories celebrating arts and culture, student achievements, the unique local businesses and nonprofits that make our area special, and more. We are proud of the work we have done, proud of our service to readers, and determined to continue.

Right now, we are in a financial hole. As the Law of Holes states: when you're in a hole, stop digging. This does not mean we have given up. We will continue to seek a path forward to serve the community with stories that inform and connect. That will depend in part on who decides the Bulletin is worth saving – and also on our ability to adapt to a changing media landscape by enhancing our digital news site, offering newsletters and other online resources, and finding new, innovative ways to engage with the broader community.

The old news business model is gone, but the need for trusted local journalism has only increased. If a way can be found, we'll find it – together.

*In hope and community,
Lyn Ettinger-Harwell
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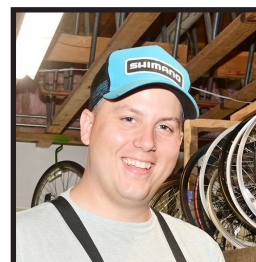
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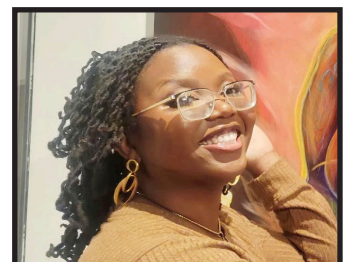
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NEWS

COS City Council's overrides Mayor's veto of marijuana revenue ordinance – but why?

BY KARIN ZEITVOGEL

Colorado Springs City Council formally overrode Mayor Yemi Mobolade's veto of an ordinance that authorizes Council to seek grant applications and set up "buckets" to receive and use the \$1.4 million the City expects to earn from taxes on recreational marijuana sales.

Prior to the vote, councilors who voted not to countermand Mobolade's veto questioned those in favor.

Henjum asked Council President Lynette Crow-Iverson who would be on any subcommittee Council might form to handle allocation.

"And how are we proposing getting the applications and what would be the process for the review of the applications we might get?" she pursued.

"That would be determined at a future date," Colorado Springs Deputy City Council Administrator Michael Montgomery replied.

"We're just waiting for the ordinance to be passed and, if Council deems ... that an application process is needed, to then set up that framework," he said.

"So we're setting up the possibility of a framework with no further particular design as to what that might look like?" Henjum queried.

"We don't want to put the cart before the horse," Crow-Iverson said. "The only way to fulfill the will of the voters is to be able to fund two buckets that the city does not currently fund, nor should they. Then we will decide if those are the buckets we decide to fill for councils after us."

But the "buckets" to be filled were spelled out in a January 28 ordinance, Councilor Dave Donelson told the Pikes Peak Bulletin.

"When folks tell you we need that ordinance that we passed [on July 8] and the mayor vetoed, and then we overrode the veto – look at what we passed in January 2025," he said.

At the July 22 meeting, Donelson questioned whether Council wasn't already empowered to "create a subcommittee ... [to] speak to different groups who would like funding to do work in these areas [of PTSD treatment programs for veterans, mental health services, and public safety programs], and then make a recommendation to the mayor's office to support these organizations?"

The City attorney replied that he didn't "see a reason why you can't put together a committee to review what you might like to use the funding for and offer recommendations," without passing an ordinance.

The Pikes Peak Bulletin sent a request for comment about the January ordinance to City Council but had not heard back at press time.

At the July 22 meeting, Council President pro tem Brian Risley said marijuana money should not go "into the abyss of the general fund and be used to plug things it wasn't intended for."

Donelson said it wouldn't be because "the ordinance that was passed in January creates a mechanism for auditing that."

As Donelson argued against overturning the veto, Crow-Iverson pushed for a vote. Council voted 6-3 to rescind the mayor's veto. Councilors Nancy Henjum, Dave Donelson and Kimberly Gold voted against rescinding.

"The voters are being forgotten, the industry's being forgotten – because it's the industry that is bringing this revenue into the city, and the industry that spent the money to do the petition to put [recreational marijuana sales] on the ballot," Henjum told the Pikes Peak Bulletin after the vote.

"It's pretty goddamn disrespectful, if you ask me." 🙄

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Trump's cuts to public broadcasting leave 52 local Colorado stations staring at massive budget holes

BY PARKER YAMASAKI AND KEVIN SIMPSON

This article was first published in the Colorado Sun.

President Donald Trump is not the first Republican in office to go after the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Kennedy-era nonprofit that manages federal funding to thousands of local TV and radio stations. But he is the first one to succeed.

On July 18, Congress approved a \$9 billion rescissions request that will claw back \$1.1 billion in CPB funding, eliminating all federal support from NPR and PBS – which Trump has repeatedly called politically biased – and inflicting collateral damage on hundreds of local member stations.

“Federal funding has had bipartisan support for almost 50 years because of senators understanding the importance of public TV and radio to their very rural communities,” said Tami Graham, executive director of KSUT in southwestern Colorado. “They get it. I mean, they got it. They got it until now.”

KSUT was one of the first radio stations in the nation to be founded by a tribe, the Southern Ute Indians, and has continually focused its coverage on Indigenous affairs for the Southern Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, Jicarilla Apache in northern New Mexico and a large portion of the Navajo Nation. The radio is an important resource for connecting tribal nations in the region, Graham said, while also providing hyperlocal news and emergency alerts.

Graham runs one of 52 stations in Colorado that had its federal funding revoked in the bill, with many anticipating their next fiscal year on Oct. 1 with a sudden shortfall.

KSUT will be down \$330,000, about 20% of its overall budget.

Nearby station KDUR, located on Fort Lewis College campus, is also slated to lose about 20% of its operating budget due to the cut, as reported by the Durango Herald. And KSJD, a third Durango-area station, lost one-third of its budget.

At KSUT, the 20% reduction means they have to reconsider national news segments, like Morning Edition and BBC programs, as well as local programs like Native Voice 1, an hourlong call-in talk show that

focuses on Indigenous issues. Tribal stations reportedly have an opportunity to retrieve the revoked funds through a carveout in the bill, but Graham is skeptical that it will amount to anything.

“It’s sort of, at best, a Band-Aid, and at worst a backroom deal to get this bill to pass,” Graham said. “Even though we’re on that list I doubt we’ll ever see funds.”

In May, KSUT along with Colorado Public Radio and Aspen Public Radio sued Trump over an executive order to cut funding for NPR and CBS, arguing that the order violates their free speech.

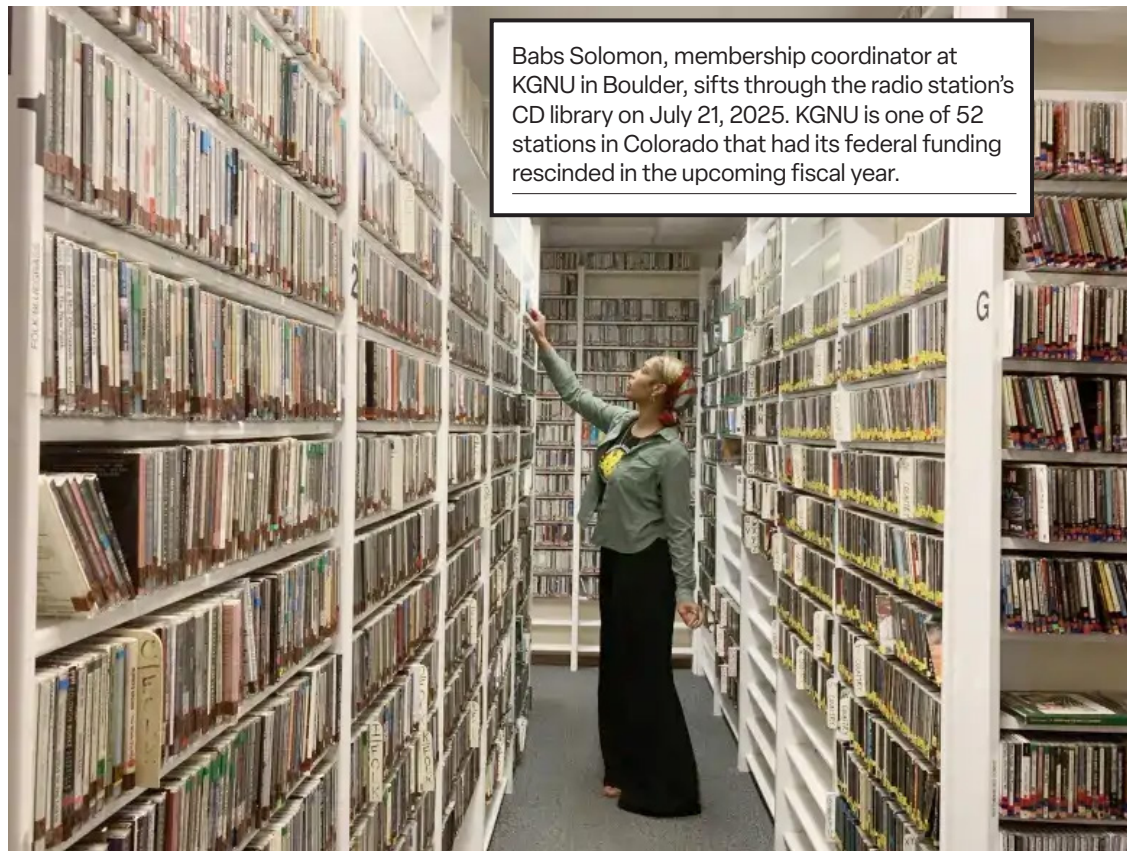
“It’s especially difficult (with Native Voice 1) because, I mean, talk about an underserved community,” Graham said. “People in these areas don’t get their voices elevated nearly enough as they should.”

Not out of thin air

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting has been a target of various Republican presidents and lawmakers since its formation in 1967.

Fearing a decline of TV and radio shows from informational, educational and cultural programs to more saccharine content driven by ad revenue, Congress passed the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, solidifying funding for stations to focus on programs “of human interest and importance.”

It didn’t take long – only five years and one administration change – before the newly formed network faced its first existential crisis. In 1972, President Richard Nixon vetoed continued funding for the network and continued to attack the corporations, upset by a news pro-



Babs Solomon, membership coordinator at KGNU in Boulder, sifts through the radio station's CD library on July 21, 2025. KGNU is one of 52 stations in Colorado that had its federal funding rescinded in the upcoming fiscal year.

Photo by Parker Yamasaki, The Colorado Sun

gram, then anchored by Robert MacNeil and Sander Vanocur, that he called “the liberal hour” in internal White House memos.

President Ronald Reagan, President George H.W. Bush and U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich have all tried a hand at dismantling public broadcasting, too, but were either voted down or backed out after discovering it politically untenable. Even deeply conservative areas listen to the radio, it turned out.

Some think that Trump was able to push the cut through because people simply don’t rely on public media as much as they used to, making it less of a political risk to cut its funding.

But that argument doesn’t seem sound to Graham.

“This argument we’ve been hearing a lot from Republicans is like, ‘Hey, it’s the modern day, people have access to lots of ways of getting information,’” Graham said. “Well, in rural areas, especially tribal communities, we may not have reliable internet or broadband signal, we may not have cell service. If there’s an emergency happening – a wildfire, a flood – people absolutely

tune in to the radio. Their local radio.”

Tim Russo, station manager at KGNU in Boulder, made a similar point. KGNU lost \$155,000, or 15% of its budget, for the upcoming fiscal year.

Their CPB funds are divided into unrestricted funds, which they use for facility maintenance, staff and equipment, and restricted funds, which are spent on program access from different stations and the public radio satellite system, where emergency alerts come in.

“You remember the Fourmile fires, the Gold Hill fires, the Jamestown flooding,” Russo said. “We’ve had our fill of climate-driven catastrophes, and we’ve got so many people that live in those rural foothills that turn to KGNU, because our volunteers can jump on that hyperlocal coverage in a way that the bigger stations can’t because they have to focus on the whole state.”

It’s this expansive volunteer network – Russo said they have more than 400 active volunteers at the station, about 200 of them producing on-air content as DJs or hosts – that allows them to be more nimble

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and community-driven than some other stations.

But it also means there isn't much room for cuts.

"I bring that up to say that we run an extremely frugal budget as it is," Russo said. "It's thanks to all the volunteer and community support that we can run on a very tight budget. But that just means it's going to be that much more difficult for us to balance a budget. Like many stations, we don't have deep reserves."

A rural double whammy

High Plains Public Radio operates KCSE, 90.7 FM in Lamar, reaching large portions of Prowers, Kiowa and Bent counties, as well as KZNK, 90.1 FM out of Brewster, Kansas, that reaches much of Yuma, Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties – covering a vast swath of Colorado's Eastern Plains.

The funding takeback could stifle the reach of stations impacted by the loss of nearly \$500,000 over two years, or about 15% of the budget, starting in October, Garden City, Kansas-based HPPR said. Its stations also blanket western Kansas and part of the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles.

Another roughly \$68,000 in shared technology and support services that CPB has funded – things like music licensing fees – will have to be covered in other ways. In an announcement last week on HPPR's website, executive director Quentin Hope outlined a plan to examine and cut costs while also using reserve funds to continue operations and plan for the future. He also noted that private fundraising work would be intensified and an endowment campaign developed with an eye toward financial independence.

In the short term, the HPPR station in Brewster could be affected because of the massive cost of its

100,000-watt facility — and one option for controlling expenses would be to dial down the power, said Abby Killingsworth, development director for HPPR.

"So instead of reaching the entirety of Kit Carson County, it could be, 'Oh, you just crossed the state line and now you lost the service,'" she said. "It's about that rural access, because one of the things we can control is how much we spend on power, and if we are forced to reduce our expenses, then that's a lever we may have to pull."

Given the region's often extreme weather, she added, engineering and utility costs run much higher than the national average, even though its stations serve a small population relative to the geographic reach.

The CPB money largely allows public radio to reach areas that can't sustain a broadcast through underwriting or membership, making the finances "a completely different equation" from larger metropolitan areas, Killingsworth explained. Even though HPPR reports a higher percentage of donors in its coverage areas than the national average and a higher average gift per donor, the lower population means that those areas are more reliant on public funding.

he led a much better place, especially the Pikes Peak Library District." The Community Congregational Church of Manitou Springs will hold a streaming of his memorial service on Aug 20. As event plans develop, more information will be posted by the church on Facebook.



A mosaic at the KGNU studios in Boulder on July 21, 2025, that reads "You are the U in KGNU," a slogan that the station says to their listener community. "People always love this wall," Tim Russo, station manager, said.

Photo by Parker Yamasaki, The Colorado Sun

"Our focus is looking forward," Killingsworth said. "We can't change what's been done, and it's up to us to reinvent and redefine what the future of High Plains Public Radio looks like."

At KGNU in Boulder, Russo said he has already seen community support start to fill in the gaps that the federal cuts are leaving behind. The same goes for KUNC, based in Greeley, covering northern Colorado. It's the smaller, rural and tribal stations that Russo worries about.

"Community radios are very resilient, and I know that KGNU is going to lean into the community," Russo said. "I just hope the community leans back, not just to KGNU, but all the community radio partners." 🍷

In memoriam: John Spears

STAFF REPORT

On July 21, Buffalo and Toronto Public Media reported that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System was mourning the loss of one of its leaders, John Spears, who passed away after a long battle with cancer. Spears was 51 years old and managed libraries in Missouri, Illinois and Utah – and for the Pikes Peak Library District. As Chief Librarian of PPLD, John was a force for dy-

namic change and inclusion, ensuring that the libraries truly served everyone.

John and his partner Brian were longtime residents and active supporters of Manitou Springs.

"John was a passionate defender and champion of the First Amendment," remembers Pikes Peak Bulletin Publisher Lyn Ettinger-Harwell. "A beautiful soul. A great friend. He left every library district

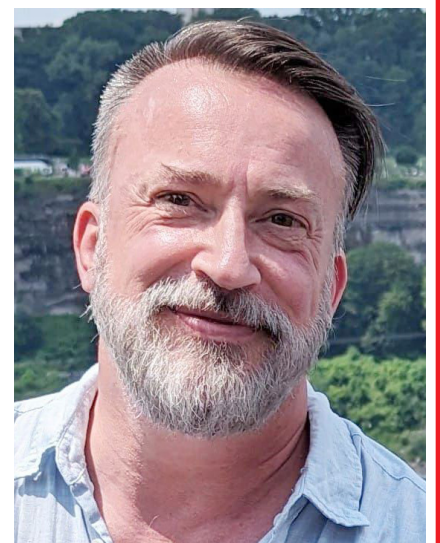


Photo courtesy of John Spears Facebook page

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Prejudice against single mothers should not dictate housing policy

BY KIMBERLY GOLD, COLORADO SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 4

July 8, at the Colorado Springs City Council meeting, I witnessed something that rocked me to my core. During the public comment period about a proposed affordable housing development at Sand Creek – near North Carefree Circle and Peterson Road – a member of the public stood and delivered a sweeping, discriminatory commentary of single mothers.

He claimed that households headed by single moms “demonstrably produce the majority of social ills in our society today, like crime, delinquency, educational failure, drug addiction, and sexual confusion.” According to him, the problem isn’t financial hardship or lack of opportunity – it’s the absence of a father.

He went on to say, “We don’t want the crime and attendant social ills that plague fatherless households” in his neighborhood. He cited data from various sources, including the Census Bureau and non-profit organizations, and offered to share it with the Council.

Well, I am very interested in seeing that data. Please send it to every member of the City Council at allcouncil@coloradosprings.gov. But I also hope he’s ready to hear from the many residents of this city whose lived experience tells a very different story.

While that man spoke, I received a quiet text from someone in the audience. It read: “I’m a single mom. My son is now an officer in the Air Force.” She didn’t mention the long hours she worked or the sacrifices she made to help her son reach his goals. She didn’t say that her son is now serving and protecting people, including the speaker who just said neither of them was welcome in his neighborhood.

That kind of prejudice has no place in our public discourse or public policy.

“That kind of prejudice has no place in our public discourse or public policy.”

Colorado Springs is a city that celebrates its diversity in race, religion, background, and family structure. To target an entire group of residents in a public forum because they don’t fit a narrow definition of family is unacceptable. It’s offensive, harmful, and fundamentally un-American.

I know this from experience. I am a single mom, and I was raised by one.

My mother was a Korean immigrant and a soldier in the U.S. Army.

She became the first Korean woman to reach the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5. She joined in the 1980s, served for 32 years, and taught me to turn every obstacle into an opportunity. Because of her strength and example, I’ve been able to serve this city as your elected representative.

I didn’t choose to become a single parent. I left an abusive relationship to protect myself and my child. Like so many others, I’ve struggled with limited resources, lack of time, and few support systems. But I kept going – like so many single moms across this city and country do every day – not because it was easy, but because we love our children and believe in their futures.

We need to stop putting scarlet letters on people and isolating them from the community just because they look different, worship differently, live differently, or because they don’t have a spouse. Stigma and exclusion have no place in a city that claims to care about its neighbors. We need to step up for everyone.

This isn’t just a debate about housing policy. This is a reflection of our community’s values. Are we a city that turns its back on families facing challenges, or one that recognizes resilience, extends support,



and makes room for every neighbor willing to work hard and contribute?

If we are truly concerned about crime and instability, then we must address the root causes: poverty, lack of opportunity, and lack of affordable housing. That means investing in safe places to live – yes, even near and in your neighborhood – especially for those who need it most, like single mothers.

This is about more than buildings. It’s about whether we choose compassion or condemnation, inclusion or isolation. I choose compassion. I hope you do, too. 🌟

Colorado health insurance premiums could spike in 2026

BY SARA WILSON/COLORADO NEWSLINE

This story was first printed in Colorado Newsline.

Colorado health insurers have asked regulators to approve a 28.4% average increase to health insurance premium prices for next year, which would be the highest percentage increase since 2018.

Democrats blame the federal tax break and spending cut bill recently passed by congressional Republicans and signed into law by President Donald Trump earlier this month.

“We have been warning folks that the chaos being caused by the federal government for our health insurance markets was going to create real pain for Coloradans. These rate filings are a direct reflection of that,” Colorado Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway said in a statement.

The increase will affect private health insurance premiums for the individual market, or the monthly cost about 300,000 Coloradans pay for coverage. It doesn’t encompass people who get health insurance through their employer. The requested increases vary by insurer, with Rocky Mountain HMO asking for a 36.4% increase at the high end and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of CO asking for a 15.3% increase.

It will also vary based on where a person lives. On the Western Slope, insurers have asked for a 38.8% increase. Pueblo and the Eastern Plains have a requested increase of 30.4% and 33.4% increase, respectively. Denver, where about 163,000 people are affected, has a requested increase of 35.4%.

A 45-year-old in Denver with a silver plan could see an approximately \$1,500 increase in their an-

nual premium cost. For a similarly-aged person on the Western Slope, that number might be over \$2,800.

“We have not seen premium increases like this since the first Trump administration,” Gov. Jared Polis, a Democrat, said in a statement. “Despite this, we will continue doing all that we can to increase access and save people money, but it’s really hard to do when what Congress is doing is leading to huge increases in the cost of health care nationally. I wanted people to know about these increases as soon as possible so Coloradans can plan.”

The federal bill did not extend enhanced subsidies for consumers created during the COVID-19 pandemic, including allowing subsidies for people making over 400% of the federal poverty level and raising them for people making between

100% and 400% of the poverty level. That saved a 60-year-old who makes \$50,000 an average of \$356 on their premium, according to research from the Kaiser Family Foundation.

New Medicaid rules in the federal bill, such as work requirements and more frequent eligibility checks, will likely also result in more uninsured Coloradans and put pressure on the private insurance market.

Average statewide rate increases were 5.6% in 2025, 9.7% in 2024, 10.4% in 2023 and 1.1% in 2022. In 2018, there was a 34.3% increase.

The state’s insurance division still needs to review the filings from insurers and Conway must approve the rate increase requests. 🌟

OPINION: Wisdom of the ancients

BY JOHN HAZLEHURST

This opinion piece reflects the views of John Hazlehurst only and are not endorsed by the Pikes Peak Bulletin.



A friend of mine once explained the aging process – he knew, because he was almost 85, and I was a sprightly young fellow in my early fifties.

“At 50, you don’t pay attention to aging, unless you’ve got some kind of age-related problem. But you’re still old – women in their thirties won’t date you, you’re probably not rich and never will be, and your hair is turning gray. And no matter what you do, you get older, worse-looking, and probably gloomier.”

I asked him if he thought about dying.

“Nope! Why bother – it’ll come when it comes!”

Absent a visit from the grim reaper, I’ll be partying on my 85th birthday on Nov. 5 with my fabulous spouse, children, grandchildren, great-grands, old friends and new – but we need to start early! Cranky old geezers start fading away in the early evening, so let’s pop open the champagne before sunset.

So what’s on the agenda for the next few years? I have no plans, no expectations, no trips that I want to

take, no foreign countries I yearn to visit, no famous people I want to meet, no cool things I want to buy. Absent a bucket list, does that mean that I’ll sit on the porch, stare vacantly at the mountains and wait for the day to end?

No! It’s time to continue the party, not shut it down and wait for blackness.

Adventures? I’ve had more than my share, including climbing most of our 14’ers, sailing around the

“It’s time to continue the party.”

world in a creaky wooden ketch, running marathons, riding my bike on the Copper Triangle, smuggling dope from Colombia and Jamaica to Florida and Connecticut and crossing swords with Douglas Bruce in the 90s.

And now? Friends, family, memories and always dogs. We have three: Bella (a two-year-old Bernedoodle), Lily (a three-year-old Aussiedoodle)

and Emmett (a four-year-old Chesapeake Bay Retriever).

The dogs are playful, energetic, needy, loving and sometimes difficult. We’re dog lovers – always have been, always will be.

Friends, family, memories, dogs and a loving partner ... what else do we geezers need? Here are some “Happiness Increasers.”

Fewer screens. YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and thousands of lesser offerings are always ready to distract, amuse, mislead and misdirect the unwary. Pick up a book and engage your mind. On my desk now: “A Treasury of Short Stories,” published in 1947. It includes Hemingway’s masterpiece “The Snows of Kilimanjaro,” as well as works by less heralded writers such as Oliver Onions.

Less Amazon, more shopping. Big box, or small shop – it’s better for you to engage with actual humans in a store rather than give Jeff and Lauren more money.

Community engagement. Volunteer, volunteer and volunteer some

more. There are scores of worthy nonprofits that rely on unpaid volunteers, and after decades in the workplace, we geezers usually have some useful skills.

Walking and running. Some of us can still stride purposefully, some hobble and shuffle and some of us need a walker. Speed, strength, distance – doesn’t matter. A block or two, a mile or more. Whatever you can do is fine.

Hanging out with the very young, the very old and everyone in between. I love it when our rickety old house is filled for a while with the delighted squeals of our great-grands or the reflective quiet of my fellow octogenarians.

And finally, what happened to my 85-year-old friend of 30 years ago?

He eventually moved into an assisted living facility close to one of his kids in the Midwest, and died at 91.

We should all be so lucky! 🐾

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MACH

**CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL TOWN
HALL MEETING**

How is Manitou Springs preparing for an anticipated 2026 revenue shortfall?

- Reduced services?
- Increased taxes?

Join us at City Hall.

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

6 p.m.

606 Manitou Ave.

Call 719-685-2554 if you need special assistance to attend.

Historic MANITOU SPRINGS

Dear Mrs. Hughes

An original Pikes Peak Bulletin advice column

[Letters may be lightly edited for clarity and printability. --ed]

Dear Mrs. Hughes,

One year ago, I broke up with my boyfriend of 5 years and moved across the country from California to New York City. I have experienced a tremendous amount of growth – challenges, moments of true bliss, and everything in between in the time since. I feel like a different man than I was in that relationship – I was self-conscious, paranoid, and deeply unhappy living with his negativity and judgment. Now I feel optimistic, excited for every day, and feel almost ready to explore love again.

He recently texted me a lengthy birthday message, sending love and saying he hopes to be able to see me and hear about New York soon. I do not want to engage, and I honestly maybe never want to see him again. We share a friend group back in San Francisco, so this is unrealistic. How can I protect myself while navigating these choppy waters?

Signed,
Happy in the Big Apple

Dear Happy in the Big Apple,

A big Happy Belated Birthday to you! Sounds like you have made a very positive move. I am so excited for you to have this fresh start and to feel optimistic and excited about life again. It takes some guts to leave a relationship that is so controlling it has you doubting your own judgment and self-worth. Good for you for finding yourself again and not letting anyone else define you.

It sounds like this is an open wound you still need to protect your heart from and that you are vulnerable to his influence. You have already set strong boundaries by moving clear across the country. Follow your own lead and trust your gut on if and how you would like to engage with your ex. You are under no obligation to return his text if you do not want to or don't feel safe doing so.

Since you share a friend group, I imagine your other friends are aware of the situation between you two. You may want to reach out to some of them and let them know you are feeling awkward. Hopefully, your other friends won't feel like they

need to choose sides. It may be interesting to see who you stay close to and who you naturally drift away from. It's not always who we think!

From what he said in his text, it doesn't sound like your ex is harboring animosity towards you. Only you know what kind of code words he may be using or if he is trying to pull you back in. Once again, let me emphasize that you are under no obligation to engage with him. If you think he might take any communication as reason to continue or increase contact, trust you know this about him. If, on the other hand, you think he would be receptive to your feelings you might want to reply and clarify your boundaries. You can thank him for his birthday wishes and politely, yet firmly, tell him

that you are not in a position to communicate with him at this time and that you hope he can respect that. You can also tell him you may never be in that place. Wish him well and move on with your wonderful new life!

You know yourself so much better now and are so much stronger for what you have been through. I'm sure you will find a new love soon with the qualities you deserve. Don't accept anything less than someone who lifts you to your highest and loves you for exactly who you are right now.

Yours Most Truly,
Mrs. Hughes

About Mrs. Hughes

Mrs. Hughes is the pen name of Raizel Weiss Heizer, a licensed professional counselor, officiant, sacred passage doula and grandmother in Colorado Springs. She also has a background in the performing arts. Send your questions on life, matters of the heart, money, parenting, difficult neighbors, or any sticky situations to DearMrsHughes@PikesPeakBulletin.org. No topic off limits, though publication is not guaranteed. Use a pseudonym if you wish.



COS leadership still can't figure out weed tax

BY NICK RAVEN

For many years, Colorado Springs leaders opposed the sale and taxation of marijuana for recreational purposes.

Why? The oft-repeated reason is that recreational weed – and not just medical, which we had approved – would scare away the military and their substantial economic benefit to the region. Fighter jets would fly away, never to return! Billions of dollars would migrate out of state! Thousands of jobs would evaporate overnight!

Of course, anyone with a foot in reality knew that wouldn't happen and so recreational weed is now finally legal to sell in Colorado Springs over 12 years after we voted to legalize it at the state level.

But a recent scuffle between city council and the mayor reveals a darker, dumber reason why we waited so long to legalize – our leadership has no clue how to spend our

weed tax. Or they don't know how. What is weed again? Hello?

So here's the timeline: In November 2022, Colorado Springs voters declined to legalize recreational weed (Issue 300) but approved how to spend the weed tax if weed sales were to ever be legalized (Issue 301). And so how are we supposed to spend it, should that ever happen? Issue 301 says that our weed money would be specifically for "public safety programs, mental health services, and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment programs for veterans."

Two years later, we finally legalized recreational weed (a different Issue 300, which succeeded) in large part because our city council was also trying to permanently ban it on the same ballot (Issue 2D, which failed). There's a forgettable slew of things that council's more regressive members tried to pull off afterward

to mitigate Issue 300's success, but they were thankfully all rebuffed.

Starting in April 2025, Colorado Springs finally had weed money coming in – forecasted to be \$1.4 million per year – with very specific instructions on how it should be spent. Okay, so who was in charge of making sure that money was spent on those things?

City council said "city council," so they passed Ordinance 25-59 to say that they needed to vet nonprofits and issue grants to do those things with that money. Councilors Henjum, Donelson and Gold voted against it because they said the mayor's office was already in charge of doing that and we didn't need the extra bureaucratic process to figure out who to give our weed money to.

Mayor Yemi agreed and vetoed the ordinance. The mayor was in charge, he argued.

Then city council fought back with a press release implicating that the mayor was stirring up "political theater." They overrode the mayor's veto 6-3 with councilors Henjum, Donelson and Gold voting against it because ... well, you already know why.

So why all this drama? Well, it might be some stupid power play nonsense to decide who controls how the money is dispersed. City council says it's them, the mayor says it's him. But more likely it's because neither know and for some reason, they can't have a 20 minute conversation in good faith to figure it out.

For all the press releases and anguish after so many years, this could have seriously been an email. 🤖

IT'S OUR OPINION THAT



YOU SHOULD RECYCLE US

Kids on Bikes gets youth pedaling toward health and independence

BY CASEY BRADLEY GENT

In 2005, the nonprofit Kids on Bikes was founded in Colorado Springs to promote a healthy lifestyle for the community’s youngest members. And learning to ride a bike is, after all, a rite of passage, as Daniel Byrd, executive director of Kids on Bikes, reminded me.

Byrd is a bicycling enthusiast. He commutes to work most days, arriving at the downtown Kids on Bikes administrative offices via two wheels. Byrd explained that while the nonprofit has many barriers to address – including the ongoing need for bicycle donations and financial support – Kids on Bikes strives for a deeper and more long-lasting impact on the community through programming that provides access to bikes, education on cycling and opportunities to ride.

“In our experience,” Byrd explained, “one out of 10 fifth graders in Colorado Springs does not know how to ride a bike.” He emphasized this is not the result of a scientific study, but an observation of an issue Kids on Bikes is working to overcome.

“It’s awesome!”
Tyler Lull

The nonprofit’s programming toward making riding and owning a bicycle more accessible city-wide includes providing refurbished bikes in low-income areas, learn-to-bike classes and camps, bicycle

safety and maintenance instruction and community family bike rides.

The hub for Kids on Bikes is a community outreach center called Pedal Station. When I visited Pedal Station (2222 Bott Avenue) on a Saturday afternoon, the multi-story bicycle garage, shop, and donation center were buzzing with activity. Tyler Lull, a volunteer-turned-employee of Pedal Station, was first to greet me. With the defined calf muscles and wiry build of a cycling veteran, Lull explained his passion for bikes began at six years old.

“My dad, grandpa and I built my first bike,” Lull recalled. Growing up in Gunnison, Colorado, he said the trio started with some loose parts and molded the pieces into a bike, working from his grandpa’s garage. Lull knew he wanted to grow up doing bike things full-time.

Recently, his six-year-old daughter attended a Kids on Bikes Learn to Ride camp. Lull is an advocate of the camp. “My daughter went from using a stride-bike [a bike without pedals] to balancing and pedaling really quickly. It’s awesome!” He shared.

Daniel Byrd, like Tyler Lull, felt an early call to do bike things full-time. His adult life began with a career as a social worker. As Executive Director for Kids on Bikes, he continues to influence young people, including enabling young adults to obtain a bicycle. Byrd explained that owning a bicycle can be an essential tool for at-risk 18- and 19-year-olds in finding a



Austin Latare at Pedal Station.

Photo by Casey Bradley Gent

job, getting to work and achieving independence.

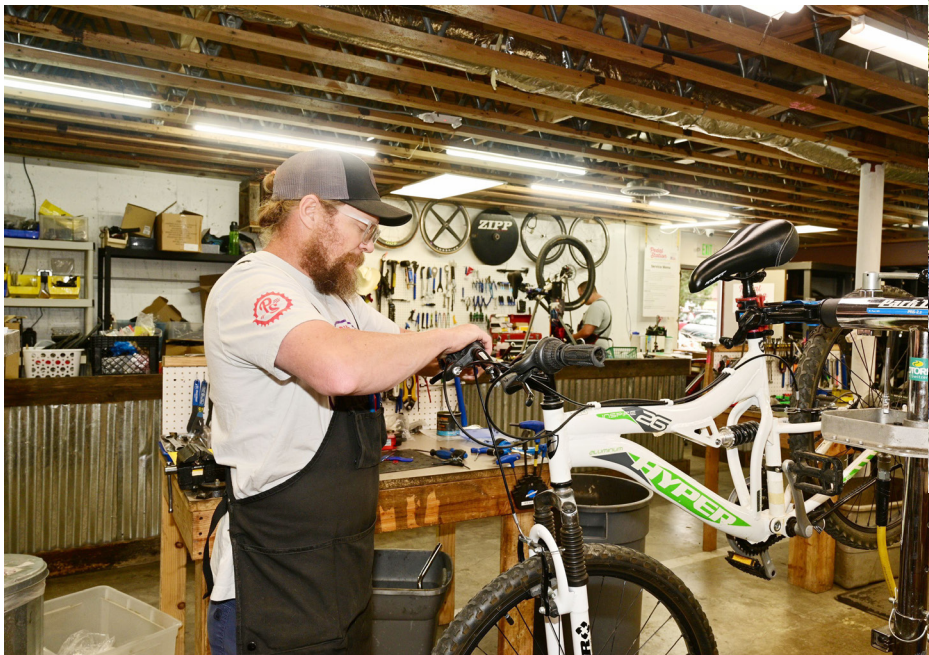
“Kids on Bikes plays a role in helping Colorado Springs youth exit homelessness,” Byrd said. The nonprofit can facilitate bicycle distribution and offer classes and camps with income from Pedal Station’s sister shop, Mountain Equipment Recyclers (MER), as well as support from community donations.

“We take old bikes in any condition,” Byrd said. The basement of Pedal Station is full of neatly orga-

nized racks of for-sale used bicycle rims. Lull and the shop manager, Austin Latare, spend their work hours here, both maintaining bicycles and answering the mechanical questions posed by cycling enthusiasts.

“I can’t imagine a better place to work,” Latare said.

Kids on Bikes values community support in the form of bicycle donations and financial offerings. Visit KidsOnBikes.net for a full list of programs and ways to participate. 🚲



Tyler Lull in the bike repair shop.

Photo by Casey Bradley Gent



Courtesy of KidsOnBikes.net

Transcendent Femme blossoms at the Ent Center for the Arts ahead of October opening

BY ABBEY SOUKUP

Kai Gaynor's impact on her community is hard to miss. As an art instructor and community liaison with the local non-profit Concrete Couch, an oral historian for a project led by Food to Power and Colorado College, and in her role as Board President of the Pikes Peak Arts Council, it's hard to imagine when she finds time to eat or sleep.

However, in June, Gaynor took on yet another project. Backed by funding from The Gallery of Contemporary Art (GOCA) at the Ent Center for the Arts, she's launching "Transcendent Femme," a solo exhibition, immersive art experience and "third space" inspired by a spiritual vision and brought to life to be touched by as many hands as possible throughout the Colorado Springs community.

"It was in 2023, I was looking at this art residency in Denver and I experienced a 'download,'" Gaynor told The Bulletin, explaining that a 'download', in her experience, is an intense thought she believes comes to her spiritually from her ancestors.

"I'm a pretty mystical and magical person – I received an ancestral download about the divine feminine," she continued.

As a person of non-denominational Christian faith, Gaynor explained she was raised with the belief that her God is more masculine, and with that found herself searching for spaces where women are revered in the same way.

"(God) is a fatherly presence. But, being raised by strong women, I have such a reverence for women and what our bodies and minds go through and I found myself wondering – where were the spaces and the respect for the divine feminine spiritually?"

The idea of creating a space representative of the divine feminine was her inspiration for Transcendent Femme. As a self-identified portrait artist, Gaynor plans to expand her creative realm within the makings of the immersive art exhibi-

it. Tied as much to the environment of the space as it is tied to Gaynor's more traditional art pieces, Transcendent Femme embodies her mental health journey together with her practice as an artist and creative. It is designed to be both a reflective exhibition for herself and for members of the community.

Gaynor said that although she didn't receive the residency she initially applied for in 2023, the seed for the show had been planted. Two years later, "Transcendent Femme" is becoming a reality thanks to sponsorship from the Gallery of Contemporary Art (GOCA), housed within the Ent Center for the Arts.

"We had already been talking about activating the Project Space gallery as a studio space, so when Kai shared her nascent idea for 'Transcendent Femme,' it immediately felt like the perfect first foray into this concept," Dr. Joy Armstrong, Director and Curator of GOCA, said.

Now, Gaynor's Transcendent Femme is blossoming into fruition.

"It's an immersive gallery space that focuses on mental health in general, but my focus is for black mental health – to get more people of color to be in art experiences by having an immersive space that is very much catered to them," Gaynor said.

“Where were the spaces and the respect for the divine feminine spiritually?”

Grounded in concepts of nature, Gaynor said that although the exhibition follows her personal journey with mental health, she believes her story is synonymous with her community and life generally.

"As creatives, we are always interpreting life. What better way to start that conversation of mental health with the community by diving into my own head. The reason why it's called 'Transcendent Femme': the transcendent part is



Photo courtesy of Kai Gaynor

about the evolution of self – how do we transcend who we are – not only who we want to be, but who society is asking us to show up as. Are we going to allow these negative parts of life to affect us, bring us down, or are we going to rise to the occasion and show up for ourselves and our community and what we believe in?"

Gaynor is collecting props and slowly assembling her exhibit, piece by piece, with the help of her community. She is currently working out of an incubation space in the Project Space Gallery studio, at the Ent Center.

While the exhibit's grand opening is scheduled for Oct. 3, at Meanwhile Block (425 S Sierra Madre St.), a space in downtown Colorado Springs, free workshops and classes will also be offered throughout the month as part of Gaynor's vision for an immersive experience.

"We live in a city that's approximately 8% African American. That means, in the conversation of mental health awareness, if we want to do therapy, there is a small pool of black therapists, and black people in

the medical system, generally," Gaynor said.

"Historically, black people have dealt with their mental health in other ways, and that's where the 20 workshops and events come into place. I'm going to show you the different options of being in community, where we can have these conversations that can add on to who we are," Gaynor continued.

While the exhibit is a collection of Gaynor's work, community involvement through friends, interns and volunteers remains a central aspect of her creative process. On Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon, a skill-share will be held in Gaynor's studio at the Ent Center for the Arts, in collaboration with Concrete Couch, to build mystical forest elements which will be featured throughout the exhibit.

"Anyone who is artsy, reach out to me!" Gaynor said.

For more information on Transcendent Femme, or on how to get involved with the project, visit Gaynor's website at KaiGaynor.com. 🌈

HELP THE COMMUNITY



AND RECYCLE US

Breakfast at Ragamuffin Café

BY JON HUANG

It's Sunday at 6 a.m. I'm parked at Sanctuary Church (1930 W. Colorado Ave.). A motorcycle pulls up alongside me – an older man in a biker jacket.

"I'm here for Ragamuffin Café. Do you know where it meets?" I ask.

A few minutes later, the man walks me to the alley gate behind the kitchen. There is a padlock on the door – we sit down and wait in the early morning silence.

"I'm Jon," I say.

"Cap," he replies.

Demetric "DJ" Davis soon arrives. Young, clean-shaven, possessing a firm handshake, he reassures Cap he'll be here to open in the future.

Davis leads Sanctuary Church's Ragamuffin Café, which has been part of the church's community outreach since it opened about a decade ago. It currently attracts around 200 people every week – and is open to anyone looking for a warm meal and company. Attendees include the unhoused, seniors from the community, and church members.

Today, it's French toast, oatmeal, sausage patties, hashbrowns, and day-old Panera bagels and pastries. A cake from Sugarplum Cake Shoppe rounds out the donations.

Before moving to Colorado, serving in the Army, working in IT, Da-

vis grew up in the South and was an aspiring chef. He went to culinary school, trained in France, and worked with small, local farms to get the finest ingredients.

"You could taste the freshness," he says.

According to Davis, there's nothing like getting cussed out in a French kitchen.

Davis has dreams of returning to the food world as a farmer or on the culinary side. He grew up with his grandparents who farmed, and he has memories of eating off the local land and cooking.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. Excerpt, Matthew 25:35”

The Café is more than a return to the kitchen; it has allowed him to give back to his community.

Davis would love to get ingredients and foods from local farms and producers, connect with farmers, take whatever scraps and leftovers

they have and let his creativity do the rest. He sees the realities of our food system, the waste and the unhealthy additives.

We talked about how local, fresh, sustainably grown produce can be harder to find, get to market, and fairly compensate. In our big box stores, processed foods are the cheapest, reflected in our levels of chronic disease. Our system prioritizes foods that last longer and aren't as nutritious. Our overdependence on industrial farming methods has created financial pressures on our agricultural community and damaged our environment. In our cities, we spend less time cooking meals, more time on screens, and have lost touch with the local and rural communities on which we depend. As our country has become a net importer of food, we have all suffered.

I've brought a couple of bags of mixed greens from the Colorado Farm and Art Market. Davis rinses them and tastes a few leaves.

"I'm going to freeze them and use them for some pot pies," he says excitedly.

What if I got him a 50 lb. bag of local potatoes for the hashbrowns? Would he have the manpower to get it done?

"I could do it myself," he says.

Over the next couple hours, DJ, Cap, and a crew of

volunteers work together – on the outdoor grills in the alley, on the 20 lbs. of oatmeal on the stove, on setting up tables, chairs, and the clothing donation area in the gym, the same gym which warms many who can't or won't stay at the Rescue Mission during the coldest winter nights.

At 9 a.m., Davis puts me at the start of the line with firm instructions.

"You'll be on French toast, so you'll need to keep it moving. Otherwise, it'll back up the rest of the line. If I see you falling behind, I may come in and take over."

Yes, chef.

Before serving, we thank God for His presence, ask for his blessing and then commence.

Over the next hour, we serve this humble food. Plate after plate, I sandwich a square of butter between two toast slices, followed by syrup and whipped cream. Plate after plate, a sense of gratitude permeates this place.

One hundred and ninety plates later, it is finished, no leftovers, all without incurring the ire of head chef.

Ragamuffin Café is greater than community service or systemic issues in our food system. It is an invitation to be a part of the solution.

If you would like to contribute or donate fresh produce, meat or other foods to the ongoing efforts of Ragamuffin Café, contact Office@TheSanctuaryWestside.org. 🍷



Photo courtesy Sanctuary Church website



Roland Reed Photography Exhibition opens at Miramont Castle

STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF MANTIOU SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Manitou Springs Historical Society (MSHS), owner of Miramont Castle, is proud to announce the opening of the Roland Reed Photography Exhibition. The Society was fortunate enough to obtain 11 original photogravure prints from Reed’s estate. A portion of the photographs is a collection that Reed handpicked and reproduced using the photogravure process to be sold to museums, schools and similar institutions.

Roland Reed was a friend of Marcellus and Lillian Douglass. The Douglass family relocated to Manitou Springs in 1900, proprietors of the Douglass Plumbing Shop. The Douglasses, with roots in California, met and became friends with Mr. Reed. Reed would stay with them during his travels and considered Manitou Springs one of his favorite vacation spots. While staying with the Douglasses in late 1934, Roland Reed died of a tragic accident and was buried in an unmarked grave in the Douglass Plot in Evergreen Cemetery.

The bulk of the Reed estate was left to a cousin, and the balance was left to Paul Douglass, son of Marcellus and Lillian. Mr. Douglass lived in the family home in Manitou Springs most of his life. The photography collection remained in his possession until his death. At that point, Cherie Mitchie, Paul’s granddaughter, was the beneficiary of it.

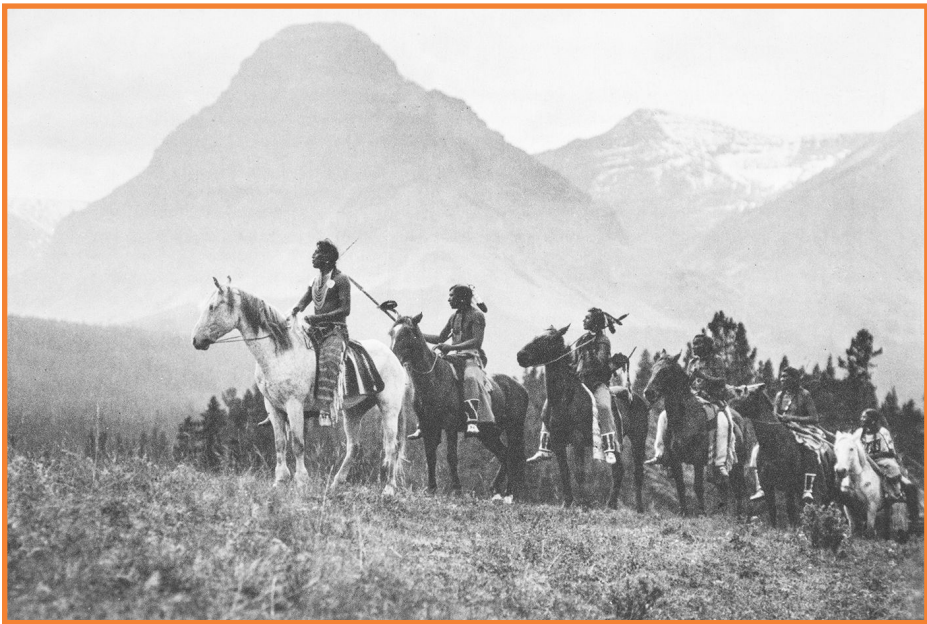
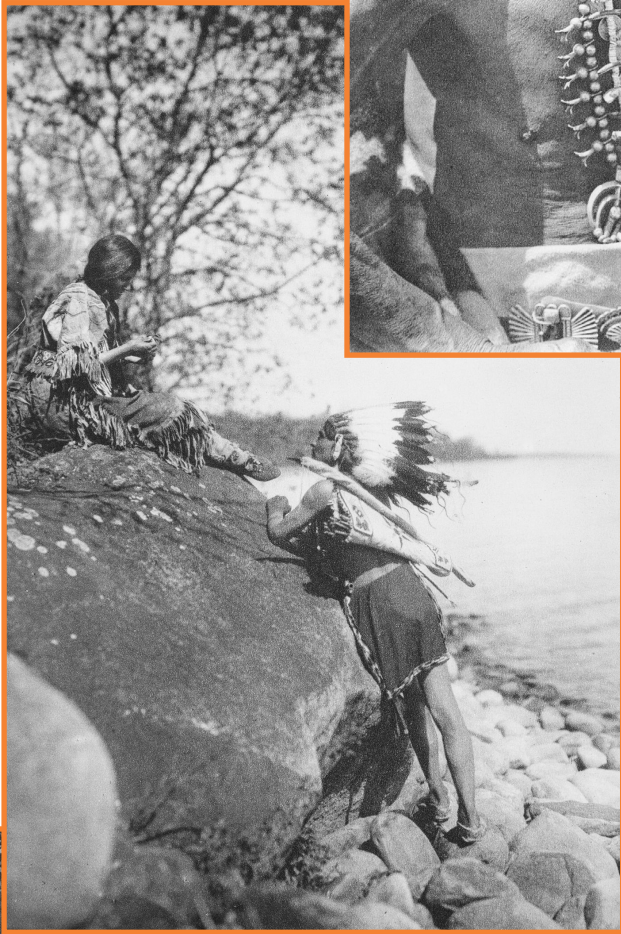
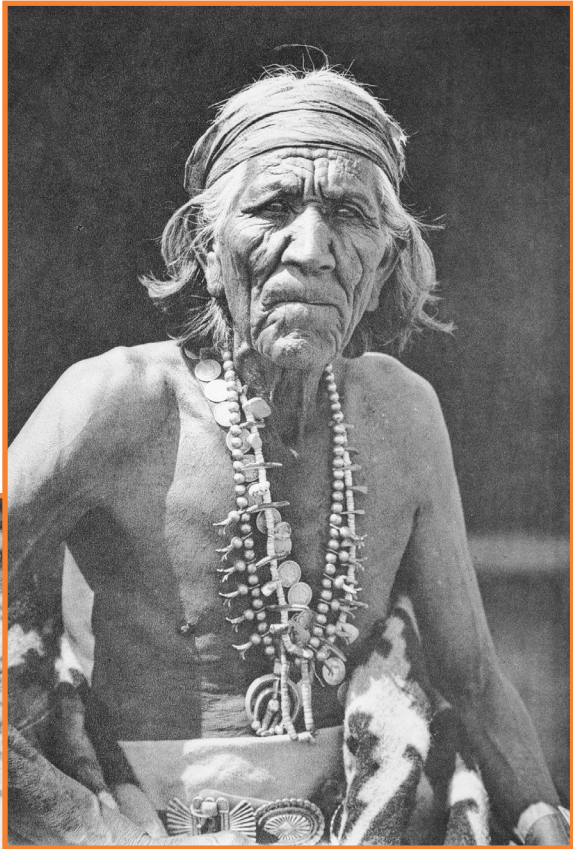
In 1982, Ms. Mitchie donated most of her collection to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. The collection included original glass plates, negatives and painted photographs. The Museum provided Ms. Mitchie with copies of the donated photographs with explicit instructions that they were not to be reproduced without proper permissions.

The MSHS received an extensive collection of the Douglass family assets donated by Ms. Mitchie. After Ms. Mitchie’s passing, Debra Steddum also donated assets from the Douglass estate, including additional historic photography. These photographs were of poor quality, and per the permission restrictions, the Society worked closely with the Museum of Nature and Science, which has the original negatives, glass plates, etc., to produce the Reed Exhibition. The museum provided high-resolution digital images that have been printed using an archival piezography process. The photographs have been extensively researched to provide as much interpretive information as possible, including the names of the participants and locations.

The exhibition includes 11 photogravures and 24 piezography prints. During the curation process, one of Reed’s original photographs, entitled “Tribute to the Dead,” was omitted to conform to the Native American Graves and Repatriation

Act. The exhibition is currently on display and scheduled through Sept. 1. The official opening during First Friday Art Walk on Aug. 1. The opening will be free and open to the public from 5-8 p.m.

Reproductions of the photogravure prints are available in Miramont Castle’s gift shop. 🍷



JULY 16

JULY 18

Officers responded to a check the welfare call in the 600 block of Manitou Avenue. Upon arrival, officers, along with a clinician, determined the party to be gravely disabled and placed on a mental health hold.

The Manitou Springs Police Department responded to a report of a damaged door at St. Andrews Episcopal Church. The door appeared to have damage similar to an attempted forced entry. There is no suspect information at this time.

Officers responded to a cold theft call for service in the 200 block of Manitou Avenue. The investigation is ongoing.

Officers stopped a vehicle in the 100 block of Manitou Avenue after observing it driving in two lanes. The driver was subsequently arrested for DUI.

JULY 17

Officers contacted a vehicle in the 1100 block of Manitou Avenue to check the welfare of the occupants after observing the lights go off and on and the vehicle not leaving. The driver was subsequently arrested for DWAI.

Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1300 block of Manitou Avenue. Officers contacted both parties, took statements, and took a report. Further action is pending in this investigation.

Officers observed an abandoned vehicle in the 000 block of El Paso Boulevard. Officers called for a tow truck and the vehicle was towed away.

Officers responded to a cold criminal mischief call in the 000 block of Park Avenue. Officers contacted the reporting party, took pictures, and took a report. There is no suspect information in this investigation.

Officers observed an illegal campsite at the intersection of El Paso Boulevard and Garden of the Gods Place. Officers contacted a female party in the tent who was found to have a felony warrant and a misdemeanor warrant. The female party was arrested and booked into the El Paso County Jail.

An officer with MSPD contacted a male party to trespass him from a local business. While identifying the male party, he was found to have an active felony warrant for his arrest. The male party was trespassed and taken into custody for his warrant. The male party was then booked into CJC without incident.

Officers observed a vehicle weaving on Highway 24 near Mile Marker 298. Officers conducted a traffic stop with the vehicle and came to suspect the driver was DUI. Following investigation, the driver was arrested for DUI and was later issued a summons and released.



Officers stopped a vehicle for speeding. The driver was subsequently arrested for DUID.

JULY 19

Officers attempted to stop a vehicle with no license plate. The vehicle immediately began driving away and proceeded to drive west-bound on Hwy 24 in the east-bound lanes. Officers slowed down in order to reduce risk to other drivers and followed at a distance on the west-bound sign to ensure there was not a wreck. The vehicle appeared to get stuck trying to get over the median and officers attempted a stop. The vehicle then attempted to ram officers and went over the median. Officers pursued the vehicle briefly but ended the pursuit for safety.

MSPD responded to a non-injury traffic accident in the 400 block of Manitou Avenue. An investigation was made and the driver found to be at fault was identified. A report was taken to document the accident.

Officers responded near the 900 block of Manitou Avenue for a domestic violence in progress. Officers located the vehicle in the 700 block of Manitou Avenue and initiated a stop with the driver and passenger. Officers conducted their investigation, and the passenger was arrested and booked into El Paso County Criminal Justice Center.

Officers were called to a theft of a black powder revolver from a local store. Little suspect information was available, but the gun has been reported stolen.

JULY 20

MSPD responded to Ruxton Avenue to a report of a hit-and-run accident, vehicle vs. parked vehicle. Officers arrived on scene and during the investigation, the driver of the vehicle walked to the scene. She could not find parking. Information was passed and a report taken.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Happy Cats Haven

Hello, I'm Binxy, a gorgeous black and white tuxedo lady who is always dressed to impress! I was found outside as a brave and devoted stray mama, keeping my kittens safe. A kindhearted Good Samaritan brought me to Happy Cats. And now that my babies are safe and happy, it's finally my turn to find a furever home where I can feel safe and cherished. I'm shy at first, but once I know I'm safe, my heart opens up and I'll be your most loyal and loving companion. I'll do best as your one and only princess, so no other cats or dogs please, but gentle older kids would be ok. You can learn more about me at HappyCatsHaven.org or call to schedule a time to meet me at 719-362-4600.



Teller County Regional Animal Shelter

Hello, friends! I'm Levi. I can be a little nervous upon meeting new people but I warm up quickly! I want to be friends with everyone and once I know they want to be friends too ... we'll become besties! I would love to find my furrever family that can help me continue building my confidence and play with me while I get out all my energy! I'm about 30 lbs of sweetness just waiting for my family to find me! If you'd like to set up a time to meet me or learn more about me then give TCRAS a call at 719-686-7707!



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Contact 719-445-8328 or john@pikespeakbulletin.org

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Garage/studio rent \$450 a month with heat and power 67 Waltham great for storage, workshop, studio or garage use. This is not a livable space. Contact Andrea Warner with Colorado Peak Real Estate, Inc 719-648-9345 Andrea@coloradopeakre.com

EMPLOYMENT

Business Analyst – (Colorado Springs, CO) – Gather and translate requirements into solutions; analyze files received from various business users, third party companies; create data mapping document to map data in the files to the system specification; work with developers to load files into the system automatically; validate that the files are loaded accurately; and perform extensive QA on data. Travel to various un-anticipated project worksites throughout the US. Salary \$95,430 per yr. Req. Master’s degree (or foreign deg. equi.) in Business Administration, Computer Science or related with knowledge of at least 5 technologies from the following list: PL/SQL, JIRA, SQL, Linux, Shell Script, SDLC, XML, Agile, Snowflakes, Windows. Apply HR, Maven Companies, Inc., 1155 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Suite 111, Colorado Springs, CO 80920.

All About That Tow Life, LLC is applying for title on the following vehicles:

1958, Oldsmobile Sedan Fiesta, white, VIN#588C06071
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Super Crossword

“WHERE’S THE BEEF?”

ACROSS

- 1 Predicaments
9 Metallic car trims
16 Sporty German cars
20 Cosmos
21 What a flushed person has
22 Uncommon
23 Start of a riddle
26 Advance, as money
27 Japanese pond fish
28 Bad with musical pitches
29 Letter-shaped girder
33 Feared fly
37 Wine barrels
38 Riddle, part 2
44 Before now
45 Indent keys
46 Poodle, e.g.
47 Org. fighting trafficking
48 Particular mag. edition
51 Letter following 36-Down
52 Supports for broken arms

- 55 Supersonic speed unit
57 Scissor cut
58 Fetuses-to-be
60 Riddle, part 3
64 BLT offerer
65 Listen (to)
67 Post-workout discomfort
68 Swelled head
70 Queued up
72 Comedic sort
73 Like the pope
77 Trattoria
80 Wee bits
83 Riddle, part 4
85 Ottawa’s province
87 Seoul
88 “A little dab’ll —”
89 Noisy napper
91 Marina —
92 Corrosive cleanser (roused)
93 Place to input a PIN
94 Frat party dispenser
97 Language of Pakistan
98 — Fridays (restaurant)
99 End of the riddle

- 104 Father of Hector and Paris
107 Ready to go, as a car
108 Actor Dick Van —
109 Reaps
112 Spunk
114 Use a keypad
118 Riddle’s answer
125 Beef cut
126 Attacked with a jump
127 Refrigeration slows it down
128 Paquin of “The Piano”
129 Intertwists
130 Tinkered (with)

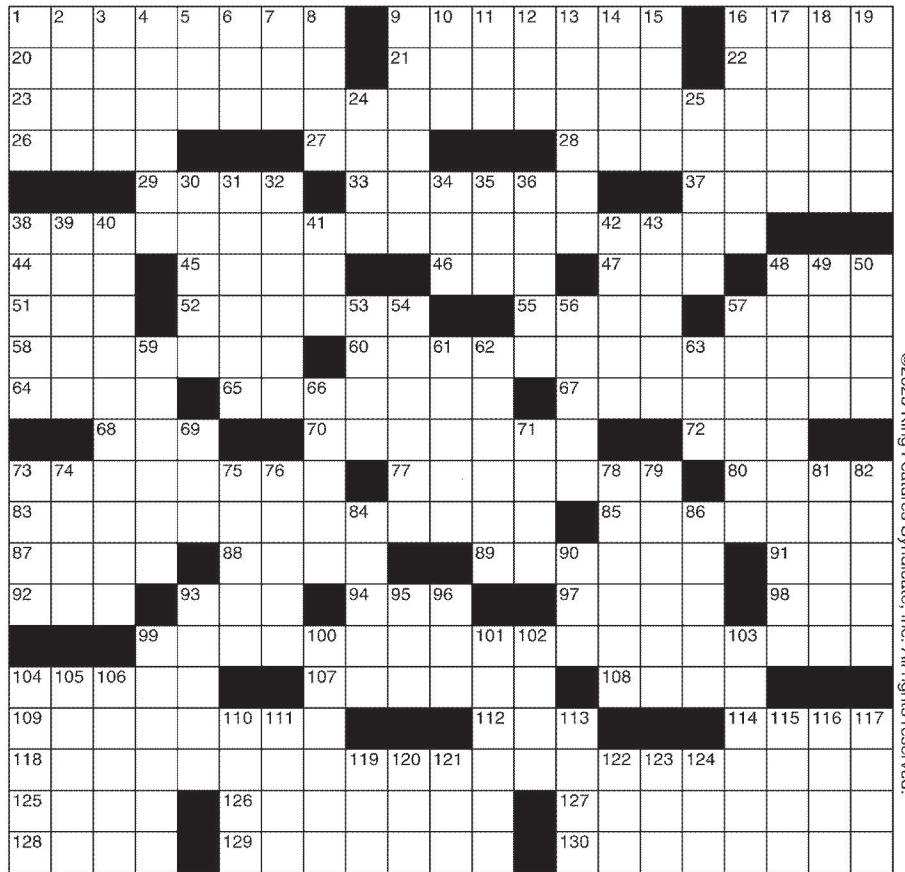
DOWN

- 1 Two-in-one
2 Facts or stats
3 — fire under (roused)
4 No matter whether
5 Sea, to Jules
6 “Rocky III” actor
7 Bat wood
8 Try to find
9 Sailing outing
10 “You! Look over here!”

- 11 Nutrition fig.
12 Frequently, poetically
13 Lusterless photo surfaces
14 Cave sound
15 Not hidden
16 Like many white gowns
17 Features of zebras’ necks
18 Inflict, as havoc
19 Medieval menials
24 Cousin of emo
25 Joe causing no jolt
30 Itsy- —
31 Like a clock with hands
32 Giovanni of “Avatar”
34 Roush of baseball
35 Albeit, for short
36 18th Greek letter
38 Abhorred
39 Best competitive effort, slangily
40 Surprised second look
41 IRS datum

- 42 Like Popeye and Rambo
43 Former anesthetic
48 Apropos of
49 Knights, e.g.
50 1974 CIA spoof flick
53 Pop’s Stefani
54 Big scissors
56 “Plus” point
57 Hyundai model
59 The “R” of ERA
61 College “Eli”
62 Bracelet sites
63 Hem, e.g.
66 French spa city
69 “Nice one!”
71 Twelve p.m.
73 Key near Alt
74 Cry on a ship
75 Samsung or LG product
76 “Where — from ...”
78 Really hot
79 In the future
81 San — Padres
82 Not at all iffy
84 Made of a certain sturdy wood
86 Place for a car jack

- 90 — Lips Are Sealed”
93 “Bibleman” star Willie
95 Nest nugget
96 “Aw, shucks”
99 Cuban capital
100 Sight-related
101 Simple putts
102 Greek Mars
103 In fine — (doing well)
104 Big city in Penna.
105 Betray by blabbing
106 Novelist Shaw
110 Store lure
111 Subsequently
113 “You! Look over here!”
115 Calendar unit
116 Calendar unit
117 — out a living (barely scraped by)
119 H.S. transcript stat
120 & so forth
121 “The Simpsons” tavern keeper
122 Fed. cleanup group
123 DeLuise of “Silent Movie”
124 Drink a little



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Weekly SUDOKU

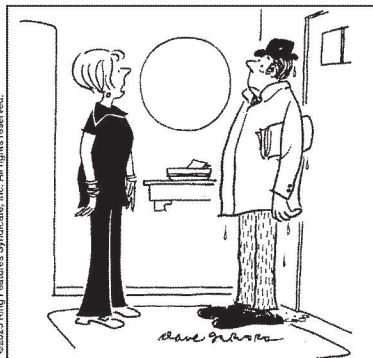
	3	6	4	1	7		5	2
5	4		2	9	8	3		
	8	2					4	7
		8						5
	1	5			2			3
	7			3	5	6		8
					3		6	9
8	5	9	6		1			
						7		1

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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“We’re going over to the Holloways’ tonight.
You’ve got an hour to eat and dress and
_____ about it.”

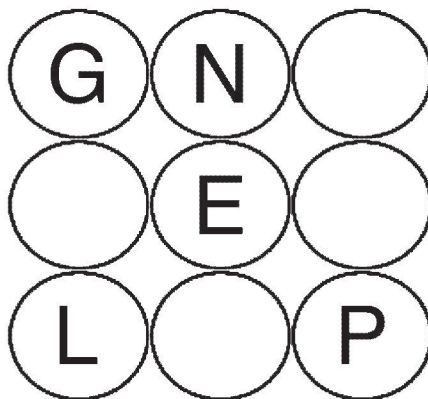
SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

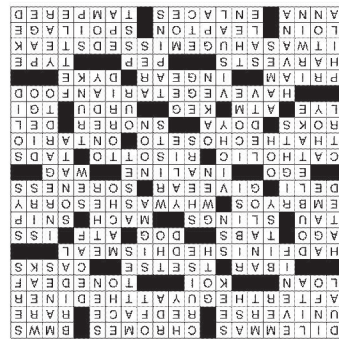
- Poke
DEGUN
Piece
CLEAN
Border
ARMING
Repay
VEEGAN

TODAY’S WORD

WORD SPIRAL



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.
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4	6	3	5	2	9	7	8	1
8	5	9	6	7	1	2	3	4
7	2	1	8	4	3	5	6	9
2	7	4	1	3	5	6	9	8
6	1	5	9	8	2	4	7	3
3	9	8	7	6	4	1	2	5
1	8	2	3	5	6	9	4	7
5	4	7	2	9	8	3	1	6
9	3	6	4	1	7	8	5	2

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

ARGUE
Today's Word
3. Margh; 4. Avenue
1. Nudge 2. Lance;
solution
SCRAMBLERS



Manitou Springs Real Estate
ManitouSprings.com
(719) 685-0220

727 Manitou Ave.
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
info@manitousprings.com

Current Manitou Market Conditions

Manitou Springs now has 32 (↑) homes available and 12 (↓) more under contract.

10 (↑) homes sold in the past 30 days, so now we have about a 3 (↓) month supply.

Of these 54 homes, 26 (=) have had a price reduction.

Median days on the market for homes available now: 61 (↑).

Median days on the market for homes under contract: 36 (↑).

Median days on the market for homes that sold in the past 30 days: 15 (↓).

Price range of homes available is \$340,000-\$1,399,999.

The median sold price as a percentage of the original list price: 95.83 percent.

Statistics are based on data from the Pikes Peak Multiple Listing Service, as of July 22, 2025, and are deemed reliable, but not guarantee.

Fell in
love
with
Manitou?



Rachel Buller
managing broker



Emily Sawyer
broker associate



Mike Farrell
broker associate

So did
we!



Skye Lewis
broker associate



Lisa Cochran
broker associate



Kelly Morley
broker associate

Our Listings



579 Crystal Hills Blvd. in Manitou Springs
4 Beds, 2.5 Baths, 2 Car Garage, 2,648 sq. ft.
Incredible Views! \$925,000 Call Emily Sawyer



4940 Deviation Pt. in Colorado Springs
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths, 1,562 sq. ft., 2 Car Garage
Townhome - Built in 2022! \$435,000 Call Kelly Morley



117 Cañon Ave. in Manitou Springs
3 Beds, 3 Baths, 2 Car Garage, 2,491 sq. ft.
Rooftop Patio w/ Hot Tub! \$900,000 Call Kelly or Skye



22 Puma Path in Manitou Springs
4 Beds, 3 Baths, 2 Car Garage, 1,848 sq. ft.,
Secluded Deck w/ Views! \$595,000 Call Skye Lewis



478 El Paso Blvd. in Manitou Springs
2 Beds, 1 Bath, 1 Car Garage, 850 sq. ft.
Two Decks! \$379,000 Call Emily Sawyer



140 Cave Ave. in Manitou Springs
3 Beds, 1.5 Baths, 1,560 sq. ft.
Victorian Manitou Gem! \$525,000 Call Skye Lewis



0 Manitou Terrace in Manitou Springs
Vacant Land 3,629 Sq. Ft.
\$20,000 Call Kelly Morley



7830 Bluff Rd. in Cascade
3 Beds, 2.5 Bath, 3,591 sq. ft., 2 Car Garage, Passive Solar
Rooftop Deck! \$695,000 Call Skye Lewis



207 N. 20th St. in Old Colorado City
2 Beds, 1 Bath, 1 Car Garage, 820 sq. ft.
Heart of OCC! \$329,000 Call Mike Farrell



443 E. Fountain Pl. in Manitou Springs
4 Beds, 3 Baths, 1 Car Garage + 1 Carport, 2,415 sq. ft.
Updated in Pristine Condition! \$720,000 Call Skye Lewis



124 Judson St. in Widefield
4 Beds, 3 Bath, 1 Car Garage, 2,108 sq. ft.
Tranquil Back Yard! \$369,000 Call Mike Farrell



308 Sutherland Pl. in Manitou Springs
4 Beds, 3 Baths, 2 Car Garage, 3,522 sq. ft.,
AMAZING Views! \$848,000 Call Skye Lewis