

Vol. I, Issue 4

April/May 2000



*A record 149 people took advantage of the 9Health Fair held recently at the Guffey school. Pictured: Wendy Erickson administers a hearing test to Judy Hudak. Photo by Yvette Enriquez.*

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# Eye on Guffey

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by Guffey Community Charter School

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## Teaching *D.A.R.E.*

by Yvette Enriquez

Since 1983 more and more kids are staying off drugs. This is because of the grand men and women who dedicate their time to the D.A.R.E. program. A D.A.R.E. teacher must put in 80 hours of training. Then they are picked on the basis of their performance when they are audited, their enjoyment being around younger men and women, and their willingness to work in schools.

Mike Brown, the Guffey and Lake George D.A.R.E. teacher, put in 140 long hours of training. Brown, who is a Park County deputy, plans on teaching the D.A.R.E. program for years to come. "I love it. This is the best part of teaching these programs," Brown said smiling.

Some of the Guffey students were

graduated from the D.A.R.E. program on Tuesday, April 11 at 3 p.m. The graduates are Elijah Alarcon, Amanda Andrews, Braxton Buffington, C.J. Enriquez, Yvette Enriquez, Kaleigh Gerlich, Alex Henley, LeAnn McCaslin, David Maioli, Ashley Smith, Matthew Smith, Birch Spencer, Leeanna Stahl and Savanna Velasquez. Sheriff Fred Wegener was guest speaker at the graduation.

Gerlich won first prize for the essay contest and received a D.A.R.E. jacket. Ashley Smith came in second, and Andrews took third place. All three received medals. Each graduate received a certificate and a T-shirt.

Brown said he would like the community to know that every person who is convicted of alcohol, drugs, or violence must contribute \$50 to the D.A.R.E. fund.

# Adult/summer programs coming

by Ashley Smith

Board members for the Guffey Community Charter School are working on an adult education program and a summer recreation program for kids.

The charter board meets the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Guffey school. People can come and ask about the programs.

The people who are on the charter board are Chris Rivers, Fros-T Kalb, David Henley, Tom Elliot, and Frank Ruvo. Maggie Elliot is the recording secretary. Board members also would like to know what people are good at so they may want to be part of the education programs.

If somebody thinks they found a meteorite or piece they can test it with a magnet because meteorites are magnetic. They also can just contact the Denver Museum of Natural History.

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# Guffey Meteorite came back to Guffey

by Matthew Smith

On March 3 at 6 p.m., 25 people came to Guffey for the meteorite program. Jack Murphy was there to give a presentation on the Guffey Meteorite. He talked about other meteorites too.

Murphy, curator of geology at the Denver Museum of Natural History, brought a slice of the Guffey Meteorite to the meeting at the Guffey School.

Murphy brought up a theory that there are two pieces to the Guffey Meteorite. He thinks one piece should still be in section 16, but that's a problem because there are two section 16s. The reason why he has this theory is because there is a straight edge on one side of the meteorite.

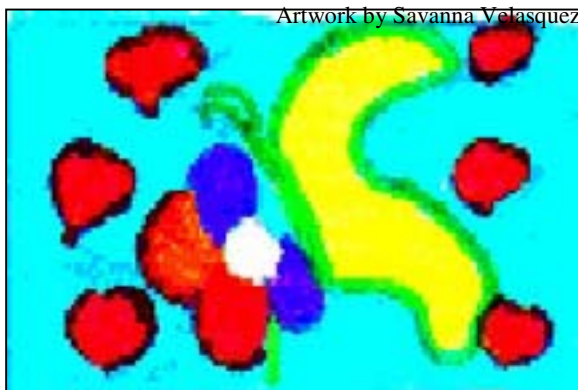
If somebody wants to help find the missing piece, they might look in the Pike Trails subdivision by Currant Creek or by Witcher Mountain.

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# Two mayors . . . one town

## Shanda

by Savanna Velasquez

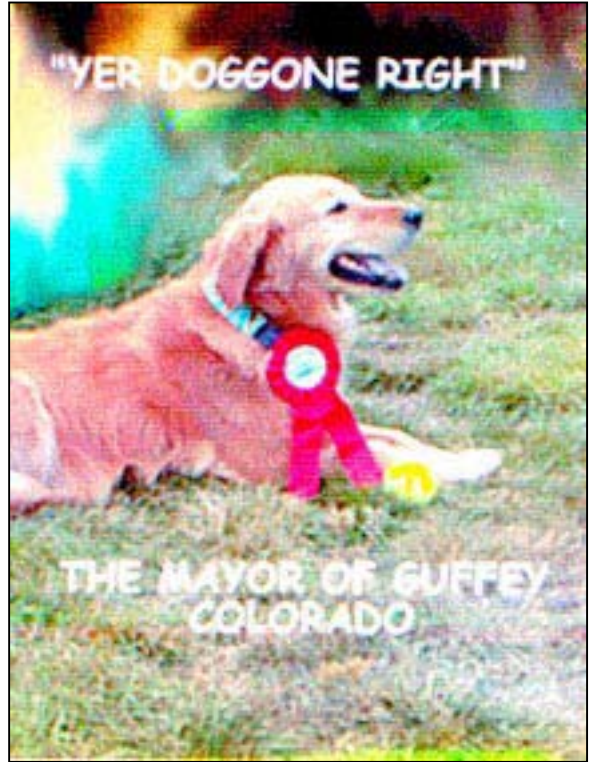
The mayor of Guffey is a dog. A 10-year-old Golden Retriever named Shanda has been the mayor of Guffey since 1993. She got to be the mayor of Guffey because traditionally, the mayor belongs to the owner of the General Store.

Bruce Buffington, the owner of the Guffey General Store, bought Shanda when she was a puppy in Pennsylvania. He brought her to Guffey where she assumed her position as honorary mayor.

This animal mayor tradition started when the county ignored this part of Park County. The old owners of the Guffey General Store, Betty Royse and Jo Beckwith, started the tradition as a joke against the Park County commissioners.

This tradition has been going on for about 13 years. For the past 13 years there have been three cats prior to Shanda, who is a dog. That is why Buffington says, "Guffey's mayorship went from Democat to repuppycan."

Although the position is really just tongue-in-cheek humor, since unincorporated Guffey is run by the county, Shanda still gets her share of attention. Her picture hangs on Governor Owen's wall at the Capital. She was also just on the Animal Planet television show in the Pet Project series. All-in-all, Shanda's just a loving dog waiting for someone to toss her a tennis ball.



## Are you a green thumb?

by Yvette Enriquez

Want help with your garden? "We can learn something from you and you can learn something from us," according to students in the Guffey greenhouse project. Call the Guffey Community Greenhouse Project at 689-2093. Ask for Kaleigh or Leeanna.

## Classifieds

Pascha is still looking for people who are willing to do a *phone tree*. For details call Pascha at **689-9044**.

A 6-month-old colorful *rooster* needs your help to find a good home. He's only \$3. For details call **719/479-2243**.

Needed: *Recipes* for the Fire Auxiliary's cookbook. Deadline is May 4. Recipe forms are in the school office and at Guffey businesses. For more information, call Judy Nickerson at **719/479-2284**.

## Monster

by Matthew Smith

No problem having two mayors in one town, Colleen Soux said. How Monster became the mayor was Colleen and Bill Soux asked around the community to see if people wanted to have another mayor.

The reason why Colleen and Bill Soux held the voting was because they thought it would benefit the community, they said.

Monster was elected mayor on October 31 on Halloween. He got 16 votes. The other participating animals were Luke, who got seven votes; Pete got four votes; Lars got 10 votes; Woody got one vote; and Sandy got eight votes.

There will be another election sometime in 2001.

## Life in a small school

by Josh Smith

Some people like going to small schools for many reasons. Joshua Fria said there are "not many people to boss me around. I have a lot of friends." He added, "I don't get as many pink slips. I've been good. It is easy to follow the rules." This school is more fun because it has a jungle gym and a gazebo, he also said.

Daylan Winfrey said it is easier to learn in a small school. "There aren't people yelling in your ear, and it's easier to concentrate." I've gone to a lot of big schools, he said.

Elijah Alarcon said he liked going to a small school because there are not as many kids to get confused. "I'm used to the kids. I've always attended a small school. It's comfortable in a small school," he said.



## Robbers are here

by Matthew Smith

Since the last issue, there have been two thefts and one cold burglary discovered in the Guffey area. Also there have been 30 more speeding tickets passed out, two domestic violence cases, one harassment call, and one littering problem.

Park County Deputy Mike Brown emphasizes: "Lock doors and take keys out of vehicles."

# From the Chief

by Gene Stanley, District Chief, SPCFPD

It's time once again to update the community on the state of the fire district (Southern Park County Fire Protection District, known as Guffey Fire). Over the past four years, we have made vast strides due to the efforts of many fine volunteers.

There have been two additional firehouses built and our I.S.O. rating for most of the district has been lowered from not being rated at all to an I.S.O. 9. This reduced the affected residents' homeowners insurance considerably.

We have been able to purchase additional fire trucks, although older, used models, to help protect our residents. More and newer equipment is needed, though, and will be purchased as money is available. Fire trucks are extremely expensive so this will take time. Our roster has increased to 26 personnel, and we have an excellent auxiliary as well as a top-notch fire board.

Thanks to the trust and foresight of most of the district's residents, the additional revenue that will be generated by the mill levy increase that you voted in, things like newer fire trucks and new equipment will be slowly purchased. Much needs to be purchased but this will happen.

As promised, we have started our new training program geared toward lowering our I.S.O. rating, thereby lowering your homeowners insurance rates even further and at the same time allowing us to provide better and faster emergency services.

The areas that need to be addressed next are the County Road 71 area and the Aspen Point area. These areas are presently beyond five miles from the nearest firehouse; thereby, exempting these two areas from lower I.S.O. ratings. There are two main reasons for this happening. First,

these areas have been the slowest growth areas in our fire district. Secondly, in order to provide emergency services there has to be people volunteering in these areas. It is very expensive to build firehouses and equip them. It makes no sense to have these facilities in your areas with nobody to operate equipment out of them.

Most of us have come from the city at some point in our life and are used to having emergency services instantly respond when there is an emergency. This is accomplished by the full time, paid emergency service providers. Out in areas like this, there are no emergency service providers unless YOU provide the service. YOU are the fire department. YOU are the rescue providers. YOU are the emergency medical providers. Without YOU, there is nothing.

If you want fast, reliable emergency services in your areas and lower homeowners insurance, the SPCFPD needs you to assist us in doing so. If a sufficient interest is shown, we will go forward with plans to construct two new firehouses in the County Road 71 corridor and a firehouse in the Aspen Point area.

We respond to these areas presently, but because of the distances we have to travel, our response time can be lengthy and because of these distances, you are paying upwards to 35 percent to 40 percent more for insurance than you need to be paying.

There are always reasons to not volunteer for emergency services. I'm too old, I have to work, I have an ache, this is for men only, etc. You're not too old. I'm 63. Most of us still need to earn a living. We'll work around your schedule. I think most of us hurt somewhere, but there's a job for you here no matter what your limitations are. You don't have to run into

burning buildings if you don't want to. As for gender, females and males make equally good emergency service personnel. So come on, folks, we can help you, but remember we can't help you without your involvement.

One last item, fire district membership. Park County has a unique system in as much as it gives you a choice as to whether or not you wish to be a member of your local fire district. I firmly believe in this concept. The problem with it is that in most areas that you people have moved from, membership is automatic and a lot of you do not realize you need to join the district to be a member of the district.

Not being a district member means you do not pay the 8.412 mill levy on your taxes. That's good. The bad part is if you are not a member of the district, and the fire department has to respond to your property for any reason, you are charged at a rate of \$150/hour per piece of equipment that responds. This can amount to a large sum of money very fast.

Based on this, it is easy to see it makes sense to be a member while also helping to support your fire department. If you have an interest in helping your community, your neighbors, your friends and family, but have unanswered questions, please feel free to contact

me at our main firehouse in Guffey at 689-9479. If I'm not in, please leave a message and your call will be returned.



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*9 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
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*Noon - 2 p.m.  
Public meeting  
Work groups*

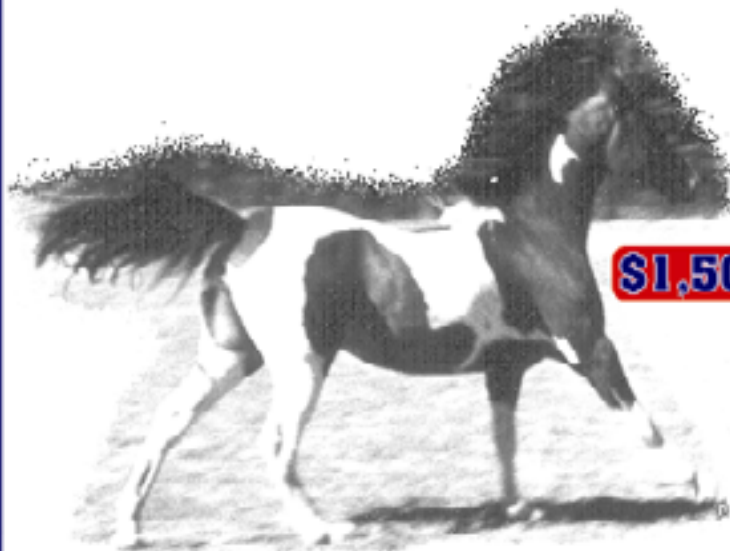
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## Fire auxiliary decides to have a garage sale

by Ashley Smith

On May 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the fire auxiliary for the Southern Park County Fire Protection District will have a garage sale. It will be at Fire Station 3 in the Pike Trails subdivision.

People who have things they want to donate can bring them to Station 3 on Friday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. People who have items they want to sell and donate a portion of the money received also can bring their items on Friday. If unable to bring items, people can call Joan LePage at 719/479-2245. She's chairing the event, and she'll arrange to have them picked up.

## Trash station times

by Yvette Enriquez

Trash may be dropped off at the county's trash station in Guffey on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$3 per 30-gallon garbage bag.

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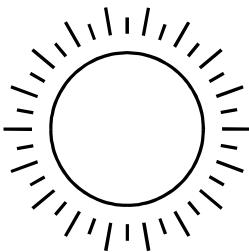
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# Animal Awareness *Protect your dog from Parvo*

by LeAnn McCaslin

There are hardly any pet owners who can honestly say, "My pet has never been sick." Even hairballs are a form of sickness! When a pet is sick, not only is the pet upset, but so is the owner.

One disease that a dog can get is Parvo. Parvo is a disease that eats away at your dog's intestinal system. If that happens, your dog will not be able to absorb nutrients.

A dog may get Parvo at any age, but it most often occurs when the animal is between 6 and 16 weeks. Some signs are bloody vomiting and diarrhea. Other symptoms include fever, lethargy, and mild anorexia.

Unfortunately, the virus is extremely contagious. When a dog has Parvo, it can leave the virus in its feces for 10 to 14 days. "Direct contact is NOT needed," Denise M. White, DVM at Kenline Veterinary Clinic, said. The best

treatment is to keep the pet on any IV with proper medication and *isolated* from other dogs. Diluted bleach will kill the virus on surfaces within minutes.

Puppies need to be vaccinated several times. The vaccinations have to begin when they are 6 to 8 weeks of age. They must be vaccinated again 4 to 8 weeks later. Vaccinations before then can make a puppy susceptible to the virus.

For further information on the Parvovirus, call your veterinarian, or Kenline Veterinary Clinic at 719/275-2081.



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# Join the quilters

by LeAnn McCaslin

A quilting group was started last year. Now, the group is inviting new members. The group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 9 a.m. to noon. They meet either at the Guffey Community Center or at the home of a member.

"Come get ideas for a project, or bring one," a member of the group, Carol Lyle, said. "We get together for the company, to share tips and discoveries, and for the incentive of being with others who share our appreciation for quilting."

If you want to join Lyle, Rachel Reeves, Linda Stanley, Lenni Dilts, and Susan Geiger, call for more information to Carol Lyle, 689-3527, or Linda Stanley, 660-0529.

# Happy birthday!

by C.J. Enriquez

Richard Riley~April 6

Joe'l Smith~April 7

Travis Erps~April 10

Marcia Weston~April 11

Gene Stanley~April 11

Daylan Winfrey~April 12

Birch Spencer~April 19

Ginny Wegner~May 2

Leeanna Stahl~May 2

Cassy Hotovy~May 6

Brittany Velasquez~May 9

Bobby Enriquez~May 14

Ashley Smith~May 14

Helen Olson~May 16

Josh Smith~May 19

Pat Wiles~May 22

Lorie Smith~May 24

by  
Savanna  
Velasquez

I found  
an egg.

So did I

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# Ever hear about Newbery?

by C.J. Enriquez

*Note:* The following is an interview with two students, Ashley Smith and C.J. Enriquez about the Newbery Medal books. At the Guffey Community Charter School, there are books for students in grades 4 and 5 that are called Newbery Medal books. For students in grade 6, there are Children's Classics, such as, "Robin Hood," "Alice in Wonderland," and "Black Beauty." Every quarter, students choose a book, write a report, and do a project about the book.

***Q. What is a Newbery book?***

A. Smith: It's a book that was awarded best book of the year.

A. Enriquez: Every year a division of the American Library Association awards the Newbery Medal to a children's book that was written that year.

***Q. What do you have to do to finish a Newbery?***

A. Smith: You have to do a project of your choice, include the characters, setting, and plot. Then answer 10 questions about the book.

A. Enriquez: You have to either draw a picture of make a diorama showing a scene from the book. Then add a paragraph to your project. After that, write a report about the book and answer 10 questions.

***Q. About how much time do you have to finish?***

A. Smith: About seven weeks.

A. Enriquez: About 8 to 9 weeks.

***Q. What mostly interests you?***

A. Smith: Parts with unique action.

A. Enriquez: I like parts that show illustration.

***Q. Why?***

A. Smith: It's the most interesting part of the book.

A. Enriquez: I like to draw, and I get ideas from other books.

***Q. How do you feel about Newbery?***

A. Smith: It's OK.

A. Enriquez: If I have to do it, I will do it right.

***Q. If you had to choose between a Classic and a Newbery, which one would you choose?***

A. Smith: I would choose a Newbery because it's easier, and you have more time.

A. Enriquez: Classic because I want to try something new, and if I don't like it, I will go back to Newbery.

***Q. Mrs. MacDonald (teacher), why do you do the Newbery books?***

I noticed many kids didn't read books outside of school, and this concerned me. The Newbery books offer a variety of choices that appeal to many students' interests and levels. Students genuinely enjoy this activity. The Newbery reports and projects are on display at the Guffey Library.



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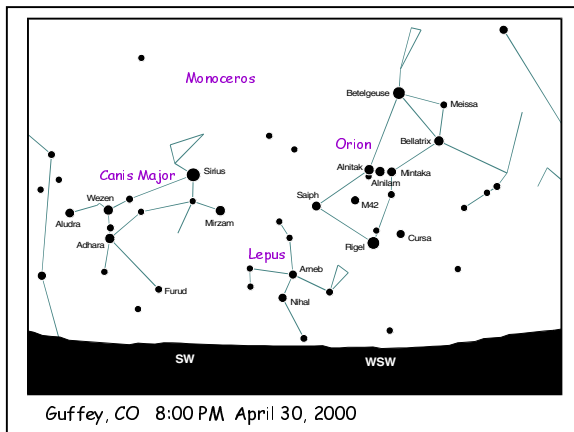
# Eye on the Sky

by Chris Peterson (clp@alumni.caltech.edu)

The famous winter constellation Orion is still visible in the southwestern sky in the early evening. This striking asterism has a feature not shared by most of the other constellations: the object it represents is easy to see in, The Hunter. If you are looking in the right direction, you cannot fail to see the three equally bright stars that make up his belt; you will then easily find the two stars of his shoulders and the two of his feet. With a little more imagination, you may also make out his upraised right arm and outstretched left arm, perhaps holding a bow. At his feet leaps Lepus the Hare, and following him is his faithful dog, Canis Major, which contains the brightest star in the sky, Sirius.

Orion is now setting only a few hours after sunset, but with our dark skies you can still make out a fascinating feature. Using a pair of binoculars, look at Orion's sword, and you should have no trouble seeing a great cloud of glowing gas. This is Messier 42, the Great Nebula in Orion. Once you know where to look, you may even be able to see it as a fuzzy spot with your naked eye.

Like the rest of the Universe, this nebula



consists mostly of hydrogen. In much smaller quantities, it also contains all the other elements we know. Within this cloud, an amazing thing is happening: new stars are being born. The nebula is providing the raw material, and gravity is collapsing it into hot masses. The nebula is lit from within by hundreds of new stars, only a half a million years old. Pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope have captured the ongoing process of star formation. From such a stellar



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nursery must our own sun have been created some five billion years ago.

Where do such nebulae come from? Only one place: the exploded remains of other stars. When large stars (those several times heavier than the sun) become old, they can no longer generate enough energy to maintain their size against their own huge gravity. They collapse violently and then rebound in an energetic explosion known as a supernova, throwing off much of their material into space. From their deaths comes the material needed to make new stars and new planetary systems. The very atoms that make up the earth, your house, and your body all came from the demise of ancient stars, perhaps even from the beings that may have called them home.

Our sun, planets, and selves will not be recycled so efficiently. The sun is not massive enough to experience a supernova, and will eventually just cool down. The contents of the solar system will remain here forever, orbiting the burned out core of the sun. Fortunately, this end will not come for another five billion years. The great ten billion year lifetime of our sun is a result of its relatively small size and calm nature.

The most brilliant stars of the night sky catch our attention and imaginations, but they pay a price for their huge energy outputs: a lifetime measured in millions of years, not billions. Look

again at Orion, to orange Betelgeuse at his right shoulder and white Rigel at his left foot. These are young stars, and they are destined to die young. Betelgeuse is very near the end of its life, and when it becomes a supernova, it will shine for a few days as the brightest object in the sky except for the sun, and will be easily visible in the daytime. In millions of years, its dust will shine again as new stars, lighting new planets and heating the cradles of new life, perhaps firing new minds to wonder once again about the nature of creation.

## Wolf Rescue to present program

by Yvette Enriquez

Darlene Kobobel of Lake George Wolf Rescue will present an informational program about wolf hybrids. The program will star Chinook, and is being sponsored by the Friends of the Guffey Library. There is no admission charge for the presentation, which will be given Sunday, May 21 beginning at noon at the Guffey Community Charter School.

# Gold Hill Antiques

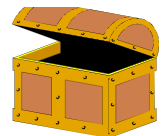
For information call  
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**Open weekdays  
except Tuesday  
11:30 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.;**  
weekends,  
10:30 a.m. to



Owner Louise Jose



# *Shhhh . . . horse whisperer is coming*

The gift of being a horse whisperer, made famous in the movie starring Robert Redford, is coming to Guffey. Larry Gonzalez from McDade, TX, will be presenting a two-day clinic at Moonstruck Farm east of Guffey.

Gonzalez, a champion horseman and roper, currently trains young colts for the prestigious Southwest Stallion Station in Austin, TX. He is accepting reservations for up to six green (untrained) horses. Cost is \$200 each. Individuals who would like advanced training can reserve space for \$125. Up to 50 spectators may

make advance reservations for \$20, which includes a barbecue lunch; or \$30 for both days. Cost is \$30 for spectators without reservations.

For additional information, contact John or Janet Rowe at 719/479-2292.

# Calendar

by Savanna Velasquez

## *City Hall Activities*

Contact Bill Soux 689-3291

**May 27** -- Biscuits and Gravy Cook-off

**June 10** -- Amateur Fiddle contest

**July 4** --Chicken fly

**September 2** -- Biscuits and Gravy Cook-off  
Community Wide Yard Sale. First Saturday of  
each month (**May** -- **Sept.**)

## *Yoga Class Times (different locations)*

Contact Regan Henley, 689-3465

Mon 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Wed 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Thur 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Sat 9a.m. - 11 a.m.

Fee: 1 ½ hour class, \$9

2 hour class, \$12

## *School Activities*

**May 4** -- Potluck, 5:30p.m. and Spring Program,  
6:30 p.m.

**June 1** -- Awards & Graduation Ceremony,  
2 p.m.

## *Guffey Community Charter Board*

**May 11** -- 6 p.m., Guffey school

## *Re-2 District Board in Guffey*

**May 8** -- 7 p.m., Guffey school



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# Body Benefits Massage

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13 years experience

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# *Fire auxiliary to publish cookbook*

by Ashley Smith

The Fire Auxiliary for the Southern Park County Fire Protection District is publishing its first-ever cookbook. They're doing it to raise money. It will have recipes from local people and also will have advertisements.

Persons who may want to advertise or who would like to submit one or more recipes can call Judy Nickerson at 719/479-2284 or Auxiliary President Judy Hudak at 689-0453.

The cookbook is expected to be on sale this fall. Cost of ads ranges from \$20 to \$100.

**You're invited  
Open House and Dedication  
Fire Station One, Guffey  
Saturday, May 6 1:00 p.m.**

## **AQUATIC PHYSICAL THERAPY**

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Custom Imprinting  
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*Barry & Jean Anderson*

*For warm toesies,  
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-- Yvette Enriquez*

# Letters

Dear Editorial Board:

As many may know, the USDA is intent on getting rid of what they feel are noxious weeds. Many of the plants on their list for Colorado are indeed not problematic and are indeed important medicinal plants and bee fodders. Over the last couple of years, we have been in dialogue with Eric Lang, the State weed coordinator regarding this list, and he has said in the past that he would look into redefining the list to include plants (about 3-5 of them, including spurge and russian knapweed) that are truly problematic in this state and taking off the list the others that are not, nor have they been, problems in this state (things like St. John's Wort, Burdock, Chicory, Dandelion). Apparently, he has not been successful in redesigning a more accurate list. Now we find ourselves in an interesting position.

On March 4, 2000, The Denver Rocky Mountain News wrote an article about the State cracking down on plants that are on the noxious weed list (all of them apparently). The article quoted that notice will be given to individuals who have these plants on their land, and they will have two weeks to respond with a method to remove the plants from their property. If they don't respond, a second notice will be sent with 10 days to respond. At that point, the State and/or its agents have the right to enter personal private property and irradiate the plants (most likely with toxic agrichemicals-herbicides), and they will then send the property owner the bill. This is a serious violation of our rights to our own property!

There are several groups that are upset and against this new law, including most of the State's beekeepers (imagine what will happen to their bees with no food, and poison on the plants they do find); the Nature Conservatory; members of the Cattlemen's Association; countless growers, farmers (organic growers could have their licenses revoked for up to three years if this

sort of spraying were to occur on their farm lands and nurseries; gardeners; herbalists; natural products industry. There are probably more people, but unfortunately, it seems that not very many people are hearing about this in time.

Please share the word to everyone you know who can be a voice. This is important!

*Tammi Hartung, herbalist*

*Cynthia Pileggi, Guffey*

Note: Cynthia Pileggi advises that the noxious weed law in Colorado recently was defeated, but the subject is one that needs to be monitored continually.

## Editorial

### Whose Master Plan?

by **Savanna Velasquez**

I've been thinking a little about my ideal community. . . . what I would want accomplished in Guffey. It would be nice to have a place where people can all get along most of the time. It would also be nice to have enough jobs for people so they can get paid and buy food.

People in my ideal community would watch their animals close enough so that wildlife could roam around. This town is fine. It doesn't need any big shopping malls or big schools. I think this town is the nicest place to be.

But those are just my ideas. What do you think?

You'll have a chance to voice your ideas at a meeting in Guffey. The meeting is to help decide the Park County Strategic Master Plan. The open house and meeting will be on Monday, April 24 from 9 a.m to 11 a.m. with a workshop from noon to 2 p.m. It'll be at the Guffey Community Center.

# Classic Car Wash

*Here are the locations and phone numbers:*

## Car Wash I

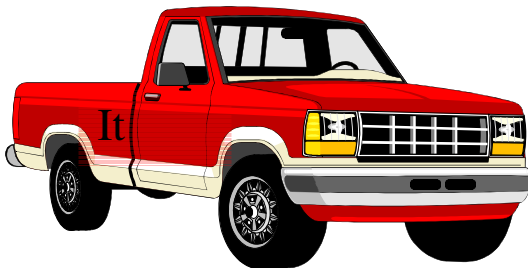
4095 N. Academy Blvd. - 578-0917

## Car Wash II

4320 Edison Ave. - 548-8999

## Car Wash III

1512 N. Circle Dr. - 574-9555



### CLASSIC CAR WASH

*Cut out this coupon and get half price on the automatic wash at any of the three Classic Car Wash locations in Colorado Springs.*

*Eye on Guffey news-magazine April-May 2000*



-- Artwork by Savanna Velasquez

*We would like to thank by name  
the kids who drew the pictures  
of the garage*

Issue 1: C.J. Enriquez; Issue 2: Jake Bauman;

Issue 3: Ashley Smith; and this issue: Savanna Velasquez

*Hours - Open till closed*

# Guffey Garage

Main Street, Guffey

## 689-3291

### Monster's Corner

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Loaves and  
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your help.

