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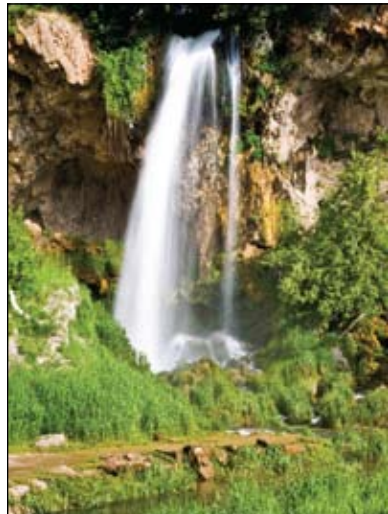


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Remembering the Unity of the Buffalo

After many oppressive years of reservation life the dream of free roaming buffalo, was re-ignited in 1932 by tribal leaders of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The vision was to re-establish a tribal buffalo herd that would once again roam the land of the Oglala. Tribal leaders acquired the majestic buffalo and established two areas as tribal game ranges, both on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Thus was the new beginning, the new way of life for the buffalo and the Lakota.

Today the Oglala Sioux Parks & Recreation Authority is responsible for managing the buffalo and elk herds for the tribe. We have grown the herd from 200 to nearly 700 head. In managing the herd we provide meat to family members across the reservation, and provide by-products too many of the sun dances, provide trophy and non-trophy hunts,

established a share cropping plan with tribal members, and provide profound educational experiences for the youth and communities.



The buffalo are once again a significant part of the Lakota economy and way of life. Reconnecting the holistic beliefs and lifestyles, the buffalo is honored and each spring a celebration is held to celebrate the new life of the buffalo calf as well as the new life of the Lakota People.

Managing the buffalo herd is an immense challenge and one that can be experienced by all. If you are interested in attending a buffalo round up, scheduling a hunt or would like more information please give us a call at 605/455-2584 or check out our website at www.osprabuffalokeepers.com RH

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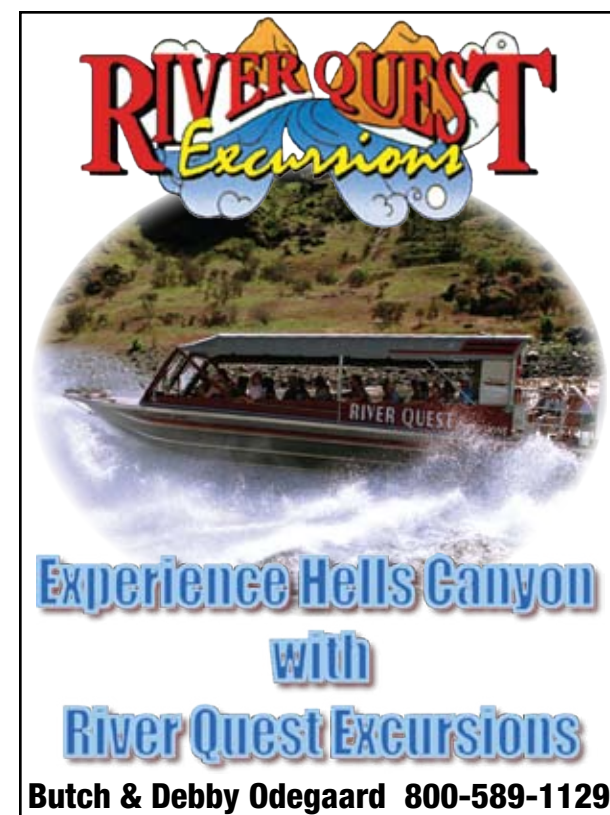
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West Yellowstone is known for its "Blue Ribbon Trout Streams" in the surrounding area. You can always try your hand at fly-fishing in Yellowstone National Park, Henry's Fork of the Snake River, or the Madison and Gallatin Rivers. Just ask our front desk staff and they can help you select a fly-fishing guide, we have some of the best in the world just two blocks away!

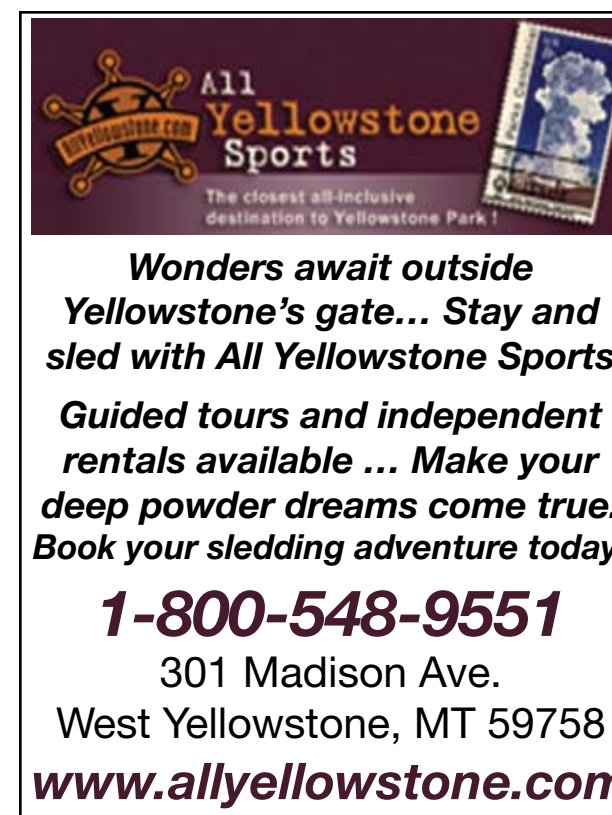
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Lakeview Golf Club

Lakeview Golf Club, located at 4200 W. Talamore, is situated in West Meridian neighborhoods. The 18-hole course meanders through many different subdivisions with home-lined fairways that give the course a



tranquil setting but an intimidating look. Although there is Out of Bounds on every hole and water that comes into play on seven of the holes, the course is very playable for all skill levels.

With new owners as of April 2005, the course is in outstanding condition and is turning into one of the Treasure Valley's premier public golf courses. Over the last five years, there have been numerous improvements made. The course redesigned three of the holes on the front nine. The redesign of these holes included building three new greens, added length and additional bunkers, and brought water more into play. The ponds to the left and right of the fairway on #4 have been increased and connected, turning what was a testy par 3 into a downright scary one. An additional tee

area was built behind the left pond that forces the golfer to stare right down the middle of the pond and ponder the consequences of a tee shot hit just slightly fat. Additional upgrades have included leveling some of the tees and improving the irrigation system.

Lakeview's drastic improvements over a short time have been noticed by the community, the Idaho Golf Association and the U.S.G.A. Lakeview was the



home site for the Idaho Golf Association 2006 and 2007 Men's State Amateur II, and also hosted the men's and ladies 2008 United States Amateur Public Links qualifiers.

Corporate and group outings continue to be a viable part of their business, and they strive for excellent customer service in their golf operations, food service and a golf shop that has quality brand name equipment. And Bogies Bar & Grill is a great place to have a group outing that will meet all your needs.

Some of the golf course amenities include a grass tee (no mats) practice

range, putting and chipping greens, and -- a practice bunker for green side shots. After a day on the links you'll want to visit Bogies Bar & Grill at Lakeview. A variety of options are available from a beer and a sandwich to an evening dinner of juicy Tenderloin with sautéed prawns or a meaty halibut fillet. Whatever your palate desires, Bogies is sure to have something for you. If a top shelf drink is in the works come and sit in the bar and enjoy the view of the lake and the ridge line view of Bogus Basin.

When the weather is fitting, the patio is open for those who enjoy an outdoor setting. Of course, breakfast, lunch and dinner are available every day. The Golf Shop has quality brand name equipment (Callaway, Ping, Titleist, Cobra, Nike and more) in stock to deck you out and make you the envy of your four-some. If



you're not quite ready for the course or are in need of a tune up, Lakeview has P.G.A golf instructors ready to help you improve your game.

Green fees run \$33.00 on weekends and \$28.00 on weekdays from March thru October. Senior and junior rates are also available during Monday thru Thursday after 11:00 a.m. More information is available by calling 208-888-4080, or visiting their website at www.golflakeviewgc.com

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Pictured are the new greens for holes #1(top), #6(middle) and #7(bottom).

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Nationwide Tour and Albertsons Boise Open Presented by Kraft Enters 21st Year

On February 2, 1990, in Bakersfield, California, former PGA TOUR Deane Beman struck the ceremonial first shot at Bakersfield Country Club, which officially launched what would eventually become the Nationwide Tour. A field of 131 players teed off that day in the Bakersfield Open.

Twenty years later, both the PGA TOUR and the Nationwide Tour have experienced incredible growth. In 2010,

the eighth year as the umbrella sponsor for Nationwide, with the current agreement in place to extend that sponsorship through 2012.

For the more than 200 players on the Nationwide Tour, the focus will of course be on securing one of the twenty-five PGA TOUR cards for 2011 that will be awarded to the Tour's 25 leading money winners at the end of this season.

2010 Albertsons Boise Open Presented

And to add to the stability and success of the event, it will be held at Boise, Idaho's Hillcrest Country Club, as it has every year. This year's event will be September 13-19.

The Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft has been one of the favorite stops in the Nationwide Tour, and has distributed more than \$10.6 million to community organizations since its inception, more than any other Nationwide Tour event. Last year's tournament distributed over \$1.2 million to 92 Treasure Valley non-profit organizations - the third straight year it has surpassed the million dollar mark and the largest single-year donation in the 20 years the event has been held.

The 21st Albertsons Boise Open pre-



Jeff Sanders talks with Fran Quinn, winner of the Nationwide Tour's 20th Albertsons Boise Open Presented by Kraft.

the Tour opened its 21st season with four international events - in New Zealand, Australia, Panama and Columbia. When all is said and done, the season will have featured 28 events and included stops in six countries outside the United States.

When the first ball was stroked off the tee late in January of this year, at the Michael Hill New Zealand Open in Arrowtown, New Zealand, it was the beginning of the 21st year of the Nationwide Tour being PGA TOUR Driven. 2010 will be

by Kraft

On January 26th of this year, it was announced that Albertsons and its parent company SUPERVALU will extend their sponsorship of the Nationwide Tour's Boise Open through 2013. Albertsons has been the title sponsor of the event since its inception in 1990, making it one of less than a handful of events on the Tour to maintain the same sponsor since the Tour began in 1990.



Fran Quinn proudly displays the trophy.

sented by Kraft will be held September 13-19 this year.

Jeff Sanders Promotions

In addition to the stability of holding the event at the same location every year, the Albertsons Boise Open Presented by Kraft has also been managed and promoted by the same company every year of its 20-year existence.

Jeff Sanders Promotions has long-standing excellent relationships with the PGA TOUR and the United States Golf Association. Jeff Sanders Promo-

tions has been the tournament management company for the Albertsons Boise Open presented by First Health since its inception in 1990 as one of the original members of the Ben Hogan TOUR. In addition, Jeff Sanders Promotions was the exclusive management company on both the 1996 United States Amateur and the 1997 United States Women's Open golf championships.

Along with producing TOUR events and National Championships, Jeff Sanders Promotions has produced high profile celebrity tournaments, major charity events and the highly acclaimed regional professional golf events in the United States.

It Takes A Community...

In addition to the talents and expertise



One of the 1,000 plus volunteers that help make the weeklong event happen. Jan Haneke of Haneke Naturally - Personal Gardener volunteered to do the floral arrangements that helped make Hillcrest Country Club even more picturesque.

of Jeff Sanders Promotions, it takes a community - no, make that communities - to stage a Nationwide Tour event like the 21st Albertsons Boise Open Presented by Kraft. In fact, it takes over a thousand volunteers from 30 communities to make it happen. It takes a great golf course like Hillcrest Country Club in Boise, Idaho. It takes thousands of hours. And it takes an area like the Treasure Valley in Idaho to support it for 20 years ... and counting.

The Nationwide Tour and its tournaments are committed to supporting charities in the communities in which the events are played. The three Tours of the PGA TOUR and their tournaments have reached the \$1 billion milestone in charitable giving dating back to the first recorded donation in 1938. RH

Exploring Casa Grande, Arizona

As you think about shoveling the snow off your driveway, or watching yet another day of unrelenting rain, you may find yourself wishing for adventure in the sunny climate of Casa Grande, Arizona.



Golf: Photo by Tom Eglin, courtesy of: Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce

Casa Grande is a forward-looking city of 47,000 residents, yet one that has retained the small-town charm and "heart" borne of the original sturdy pioneer character that built the town. The location, midway between Phoenix and Tucson, at the hub of I-8 and I-10, makes it an excellent spot for residents, travelers and the 20,000 winter visitors who call Casa Grande "home" for several months each year.

Our "community first" hometown offers a winter season full of festivals and activities which are enjoyed by "kids of all ages," in addition, the city presents residents and visitors with

a wide variety of year 'round shopping and dining experiences, historic sites, attractions, golf, movies, museums, community theatre, as well as numerous multi-cultural, historical, and just plain fun festivals, two air shows, ceremonies and events held primarily during the fall, winter and spring.

No matter what you choose to discover or explore in the Casa Grande area, you can be sure that the pace will be relaxed and easygoing. To learn more about the schedule of events, activities, festivals and more, visit www.casagrandechamber.org or call the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce, (800) 916-1515. The staff at the Chamber office/Visitor Information Center, 575 N. Marshall St., Casa Grande, AZ 85122, will be more than happy to give you the scoop on why Casa Grande is a wonderful haven for residents, whether they stay for days or decades.

Once you visit, you will see why. RH

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Whitewater rafting in Colorado is some of the most exciting and varied anywhere. From high atop the Continental Divide, rivers flow out of Colorado in all directions, providing an abundant watershed, fantastic natural landscape and unique opportunities for Colorado whitewater rafting. This diverse terrain and the multiple climate regions create an amazing array of rafting opportunities, from white-knuckle whitewater rafting action to calming and serene float trips.

Surrounded by 13,000- to 14,000-foot peaks, the Arkansas River flows south and eastward from the Collegiate Peaks. Not only is the Arkansas River the most popular Colorado whitewater rafting destination, it's also the most popular rafting river in the world, with over 400,000 visitors in 2009. Clear Creek, which flows east from the Continental

Divide, is nestled in an historic mining valley, providing a totally different whitewater rafting adventure. Colorado whitewater rafting in these areas provides visitors with a wilderness experience that stays with you forever. Regardless of which trip you choose, though, with Raft Masters your Colorado whitewater rafting experience is one

you'll never forget.

At Raft Masters, they conduct Colorado whitewater rafting trips from March through October. Water levels fluctuate throughout this period, so depending on what type of experience you're looking for, you should schedule accordingly.

Do you want the biggest waves and wettest rides? Then late May through June is your best rafting times, when water levels are at their peak. Temperatures at this time are temperate, but can be unpredictable, which is part of what makes Colorado whitewater rafting so much fun. But don't worry; Raft Masters provides all the necessary rafting gear at no extra cost.

July and August are usually warm and dry, and the whitewater has leveled off quite a bit. Colorado whitewater rafting trips during this time are particularly in-

teresting due to the technical challenge of rafting lower flows, which increases the difficulty of navigating the rapids. However, with their excellent guides and state-of-the-art equipment, Raft Masters has an unparalleled dedication to your safety, comfort and enjoyment.

July is also the busiest month of the Colorado whitewater rafting season. Weekdays are generally less busy than weekends, but Raft Masters NEVER charges an additional fee for weekend whitewater rafting trips. That's just one more reason Raft Masters should be the only name you think of when you think of Colorado whitewater rafting.

Colorado whitewater rafting is recognized as some of the world's best rafting. Guests from around the globe come to this great state to experience the unmatched thrill of Colorado whitewater rafting; over 400,000 visited in 2009 alone.

Ironically, the majority of people who experience Colorado whitewater rafting aren't from Colorado. Perhaps this is because, as often happens when you live someplace so beautiful, you tend to take it for granted. As Colorado residents, however, the staff at Raft Masters has an unbelievable opportunity to see some of the most unique places on Earth by floating or rafting the amazing Colorado whitewater that is practically right outside their back door. Rafting in Colorado with Raft Masters is an opportunity to experience the best that Colorado whitewater rafting has to offer, one you should take advantage of again and again and again.

Whether you're a first-time visitor to Colorado, or a lifelong resident, it's time to get out - to the heart of it all - and experience firsthand the excitement and one-of-a-kind thrills of Colorado whitewater rafting. For more information, call Raft Masters at 800-568-7238, or visit their website at www.RaftMasters.com.

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Snoqualmie Winery - One of Washington's First Premium Wineries

Snoqualmie Winery, named after the mountain pass that serves as the gateway to Washington wine country, has been making wines that reflect the balance and natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest for more than two decades.

As part of the winery's long time commitment to maintaining and advancing the natural quality of the Northwest, winemaker Joy Andersen and her team take an active interest in the local community and environment. It is Snoqualmie Winery's belief that taking good care of the vineyards and local environment are essential steps towards making the best wines possible.

All of Snoqualmie Winery's wines are made using sustainable and organic techniques; the Columbia Valley wines are fruit-forward, and offer classic va-

rietal flavors that are immediately enjoyable, the Naked wines are crafted from certified originally grown grapes using organic practices, and the Reserve wines showcase the best winemaking techniques and vineyard selections. Snoqualmie Winery was one of the

SNOQUALMIE™

first wineries in the state to craft wines from USDA-certified organically grown grapes, and as of 2008 has the largest certified organic vineyard in the state. Located at 660 Frontier Road in Prosser, Washington, their wine and gift shop are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day (except Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day). Stop by, call 509-786-5558 or visit their website at www.snoqualmie.com. RH



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Tri-Cities, Washington A perfect blend



photo credit: John Clement Photography

Upon arriving in the desert region of Tri-Cities, Washington—comprised of the cities of Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland—many would question whether or not they were actually in what is commonly known as The Evergreen State. And while the Tri-Cities sits at the confluence of the Columbia, Snake, and Yakima Rivers, it is located amongst the sagebrush and rolling hills in southeastern Washington where the majority of the state's wine grapes are grown.

The area's rich volcanic soil, hot days, and cool evenings result in near-perfect growing conditions for Washington's wine grapes. And it's not surprising considering the Tri-Cities lies on the same latitude as the world famous Burgundy and Bordeaux regions of France. Moreover, these unique growing conditions have helped shape the state into the second largest wine producing region in the nation; while the production of some of the world's best wines has earned the

Tri-Cities the distinct title of "The Heart of Washington Wine Country."

Situated at the epicenter of the Columbia Valley, Washington's largest wine grape growing region, visitors have with the rare opportunity to tour more than 160 wineries within a one-hour drive without ever having to change hotels during their stay. Theoretically, visitors can create a unique wine tasting vacation to the region every week-end of the year without ever visiting the same winery twice. Here is just one suggested itinerary:

Tulip Lane

Comprised of Bookwalter Winery, Barnard Griffin Winery, and Tagaris Winery, the wineries of Tulip Lane are exclusive in their own right. Visitors can start sampling wines while enjoying a fantastic lunch menu featuring an assortment of flatbread pizzas and Mediterranean flair at Taverna Tagaris located within Tagaris Winery. Continuing on to Barnard Griffin Winery, visitors will encounter stylish fused glass art

by Deborah Barnard, and taste some of the region's best wines by Rob Griffin, a pioneer winemaker in the Tri-Cities. After a filling lunch, and magnificent wines and artwork, the perfect way to wind down is an evening of wine tasting and live music at Bookwalter Winery. Known for its "coffee shop" setting, Bookwalter offers light appetizers and desserts, a perfect complement to their superb wines.

In addition to sampling some of the region's spectacular wines, visitors should also take advantage of other great activities in the Tri-Cities—golfing one of ten premier golf courses, taking an exciting jet boat tour of the Hanford Reach National Monument, or biking along the 23-mile riverfront Sacagawea Heritage Trail—all excellent ways to spend a day in the Tri-Cities.

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flected in the communities dotting the countryside.

The thriving wine industry has several designated American Viticultural Areas and over 70 wineries are nestled within the hills of the Yakima Valley. Mineral rich soil and entrepreneurial spirit have created a wine-growing culture serious about its product but festive in its presentation. Whether a major producer or limited production, the character each winery portrays is as varied as the regions' varietals. Local vintners invite you to savor their prized harvests and collect their hand-crafted, award winning wines.

Agriculture has been one of the Yakima Valley's most influential commodities for decades. Traveling throughout the agricultural countryside provides the seasonal scenic beauty of orchards, row crops, vineyards and hop yards. Numerous roadside fresh produce stands and U-pick opportunities are available for convenient shopping of newly harvested fruits and vegetables.

A tour down the Yakima Valley will bring you to several small farming com-

munities that feature a variety of attractions. One of these communities, Toppenish, transports you to the Old West. Here you will discover the richness and history of the Yakama Nation and view



more than 70 murals painted on buildings throughout town. The murals are a historically correct depiction of the area's history.

The Yakima Valley is blessed with excellent weather and a wonderful location for outdoor recreational mountain activities. A 40 minute drive from Yakima will bring you to the foot of two spectacular mountain passes. White and Chinook Passes offer beautiful scenic drives from western Washington, or a wonderful day trip from anywhere in the Yakima Valley.

Savor all the experiences offered in the Yakima Valley, the origin of Washington Wine Country. RH

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Columbia Crest Winery

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Year after year, the winery maintains its commitment to quality, heritage and innovation in grape growing and wine-making to craft wines that meet the highest expectations – yours.

Great wines start in the vineyard, and Columbia Crest's 2,500 acres of estate vineyards are some of the best in Washington.

Shielded from the Pacific Northwest's rains by the Cascade Mountains to the west, the semi-arid Columbia Valley is blessed with more than 300 days of sunshine each year, receiving only six to eight inches of rainfall annually.

Water is supplied by drip irrigation, allowing us to control the timing and quantity of water delivered to our vines.

Judicious water use forces the vines to concentrate energy on fruit production rather than canopy growth, yielding grapes with well developed and balanced characteristics.

Impressed by the quality of Washington fruit and excited by the region's wine-making potential, Ray Einberger joined Columbia Crest in 1993 after honing his



skills at prestigious wineries in California and Bordeaux, France.

Columbia Crest 2005 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon was named Wine Spectator's No. 1 Wine in the World for 2009. Selected from more than 17,000 wines tasted by editors, this is the first Washington state wine to fill the top spot in Wine Spectator's annual Top 100 wines

of the world ranking.

It is Ray's mission to create wines that surpass expectations at every level, a challenge he addresses through a balance of tradition, innovation, and creativity. This approach enables Columbia Crest to offer hand-crafted, highly acclaimed wines in both small lots and widely available quantities. RH

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NORTHSTAR SHOWCASES THE BEST IN WASHINGTON MERLOT

Nestled among rolling hillsides of vineyards just south of downtown Walla Walla and featuring a stunning view of the Blue Mountains, Northstar is a must-visit winery for wine lovers interested that most famed of red wine varietals: Merlot.

Founded in 1994, Northstar is dedicated to producing the world's best Merlots, using fruit from the region the New York Times has called "the number one source for good American Merlot:" Washington state. Winemaker David "Merf" Merfeld uses the state's top fruit to showcase the very best Washington has to offer.

"Here at Northstar, we believe in blending science and art to create the best wines possible," says Merf. "By mixing New World fruit and cutting edge equipment and research with the blender's art and an Old World winemaking style, we are able to really show off Merlot as it is meant to be."




As part of Northstar's focus on Merlot, Merf and his team also produce very limited quantities of varietals that are traditionally blended with Merlot to

add character and complexity, including Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot. In addition, the winery produces a red blend called Stella Maris and a "house white wine," a Semillon called Stella Blanca that, along with the blending wines, is only available at the winery's elegant tasting room.

Visitors to Northstar may choose between a Merlot Flight featuring current and library vintages of the winery's flagship Merlots; a Winemaker's Select flight of various blending wines on offer at the winery, or a Best of Northstar tasting of all the wines produced at the winery. Tasting room manager Jan Jones and her team welcome visitors seven days a week. During the summer, the winery offers French picnic platters and wines by the glass for those who wish to stay and picnic on Northstar's patio.


True to its name, Northstar is a guiding force in Washington Merlot, and a one-of-a-kind wine touring experience.

Northstar Winery, 1736 JB George Road, Walla Walla. Tasting Room hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Private tastings and tours available by appointment at (866) 486-7828. For more information, visit www.northstarwinery.com RH



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Spring Valley Vineyard – Family Heritage and Land Captured in World Class Wines

One of Washington's true estate wineries, Spring Valley Vineyard produces highly acclaimed red wines – Uriah, the winery's flagship wine, has been named to the Wine Spectator's "Top 100" list four times in its eight vintage history – from fruit grown in the winery's vineyard, located amid the picturesque wheat fields of Southeastern Washington.



For generations, the Corkrum and Derby families have carefully tended and nourished this unusual land, as wheat farmers and now as wine growers. Founder Uriah Corkrum first planted wheat at Spring Valley in the early 1900s.

In 1993, Uriah's granddaughter Shari and her husband Dean Derby planted the grapevines to produce the exquisite wines of Spring Valley Vineyard adjacent to the wheat fields. Spring Valley fruit was soon being used by some of Walla Walla's finest wineries, and Shari, Dean, and their son Devin Corkrum Derby decided to open the winery and produce estate wines beginning with the 1999 vintage. Devin served as winemaker until his untimely death in 2004.

Today, winemaker Serge Laville crafts Spring Valley's award-winning wines using traditional, artisan techniques that have become a hallmark of the winery. To honor the family heritage, Spring Valley names its wines for the ancestors who established and farmed this land.

Uriah is a Merlot-based blend named for Spring Valley founder Uriah Corkrum. Frederick, a Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend, is named for Uriah's son (and Shari's father) Frederick, who grew up farming at Spring Valley. Frederick's wife Nina Lee, a former vaudeville performer, is the namesake for the winery's 100% Syrah.

In addition, Spring Valley produces

three extremely limited production wines available at the tasting room: Katherine Corkrum Cabernet Franc, named in honor of Uriah's wife and Frederick's mother; a 100% Merlot, Mule Skinner, named for Frederick's farm job caring for and driving the ranch's mules; and Derby, a 100% Cabernet Sauvignon which brings the Derby heritage to the list of Spring Valley wines.

Visitors to Walla Walla can learn more about the ranch's history and taste the full range of Spring Valley wines at the winery's downtown tasting room, located across from the Marcus Whitman Hotel. Visitors can also tour the ranch and vineyard by appointment by calling the tasting room.

Spring Valley Vineyard's tasting room is located at 18 N. 2nd Avenue in Walla Walla. Open Thursday-Saturday and Monday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tours of the ranch and winery are available by appointment by calling the tasting room at (509) 525-1506. RH



TASTING ROOM

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Walla Walla, WA 99362

Hours:
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
& Monday 10am to 4pm

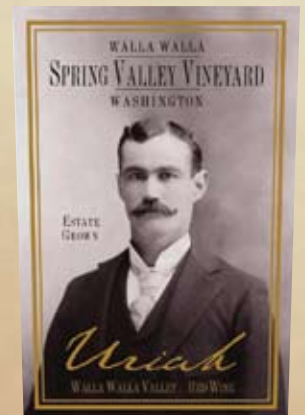
Sunday 11am to 4pm

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WINERY AND VINEYARD

1663 Corkrum Rd.
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Winery visits by appointment only



springvalleyvineyard.com

McKinley Springs BBQ Showdown

McKinley Springs Winery, located in Washington's Horse Heaven Hills AVA, is a family owned and operated business. We take great pride in tending to our 2000 acre estate vineyard. Our vineyard's reputation for producing award-winning wines stems from our sixty years of farming and 30 years of wine growing experience.

We always wondered how well would our grapes do on their own? For over 30 years we have grown grapes that wine makers across the Pacific Northwest blended with others to make great wines. In 2002 we made the leap into wine making. Starting out with only 800 cases of Cabernet and Syrah it has now grown into a 5000 case production with

10 different wines. In 2006 a new winery and tasting room were built in the Horse Heaven Hills on the family farm.



Our winery wanted to start an event that would reflect the history of the land and bring families together. This area of the Horse Heaven Hills was

used as a fighter pilot training area during WWII. We decided a good fit was to support our troops and their families. Thus was born the "McKinley Springs BBQ Showdown". This event draws competitors from all over the Northwest and is sanctioned through the Pacific NW BBQ Association. The proceeds are donated to "Operation BBQ" which welcomes our troop's home with a family BBQ. It will be held on June 12, 2010 at the winery surrounded by vineyard, vegetables, wheat and wide open spaces. For more information on attending the event please visit our website at www.mckinleysprings.com. If you would like to compete at the event go to www.pnwba.com. RH

Come Relax and Unwind in the Heart of Wine Country

With the gas prices ever increasing, and the work week becoming longer, why not plan a special get-a-way to the Red Lion Inn & Suites located in McMinnville, Oregon. There are over 35 win-

eries, each offering wine tasting and tours. McMinnville has many activities to choose from, including the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, Spirit Mountain Casino, which is 30 minutes away, and the towns historic downtown

which boasts many unique shops and first class restaurants.

If you prefer to stay indoors, then come and relax in our newly renovated rooms. There are 67 spacious guest rooms to choose from, including Jacuzzi and 2 room suites. All the rooms include in-room coffee, hair dryers, irons, ironing boards, microwaves, mini fridges. The pool and spa are located on the first floor.

Red Lion Inn & Suites is not only a relaxing retreat; it includes services for businesses with 2 meeting facilities. Our Willamette room can accommodate up to 75 people in a variety of different seating options, and our Harvest room can provide space for 20 to 25 people. After a restful sleep on our pillow top mattresses, come down and enjoy our complimentary continental breakfast, which includes, but is not limited to: waffles, donuts, bread, bagels, cereal, hard boiled eggs, and bacon.

If you are looking to reserve a room or simply have more questions about our wonderful property please call 503-472-1500 or 1-888-489-1600. RH



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Pinot Perfection in Oregon's Willamette Valley

Home to the Pinot Noir grape, as well as other members of the Pinot family like Pinot Blanc and Pinot Gris, Oregon's Willamette Valley landscape has remained virtually unchanged in its 40 year wine history. While the slow, meandering pace has increased a bit and sloping vineyards blanket more of the horizon, the valley has remained accessible to wine lovers eager to meet a winemaker or taste wine directly from a barrel. The Willamette Valley's long, broad slice of wine country has grown to more than 200 wineries and tasting rooms nestled between the Cascade Mountains and the Coastal Range, providing a perfect balance of sun-drenched summers, warm fall days with cool evenings and mild winters.

For the past few decades, wine tourists have descended on the Willamette Valley for its two popular open house weekends during Thanksgiving (November 27-29, 2009) and Memorial Day (23-25, 2009). Today, the valley is popular all year long with new events such as 150 Days of Wine in the Willamette Valley running through Labor Day weekend and celebrating Oregon's 150th birthday. Red, White and True Oregon Wines marks the Willamette Valley Wineries Association's inaugural Fourth of July weekend in wine country. The region's smaller American Viticultural Areas (AVAs) have also created special weekend events like Dundee Hills Passport Tour (April 18-19), Yamhill Carlton Open House (April 25), Discover the McMinnville AVA (July 16) and Chehalem Mountains Winegrower's Explore, Tour & Taste (September 5-7). For a detailed listing

of all events, please visit www.willamettewines.com. Visitors can also order a free 2009 Guide to Willamette Valley Wineries with a detailed map and listings for wineries and tasting rooms throughout the region.



Photo Credit: Mr. Janis Miglavs

Where to Sip:

Visit the Willamette Valley Wineries Association website at www.willamettewines.com for a complete list of member wineries and tasting rooms with links to member websites. Or call 503-646-2985 to order a wine touring map. There are also ideas for Where to Stay, Where to Eat and Other Things to do in the Willamette Valley. RH



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Bisbee, Arizona Queen Mine Tours

In 1877 a reconnaissance detail of army scouts and cavalrymen was sent to the Mule Mountains to search the area for renegade Apaches. What civilian tracker Jack Dunn found instead were signs of mineralization indicating the presence of lead, copper and possibly silver. The first mining claim was staked in what would later become the City of Bisbee. The filing of this claim, and a multitude of others filed by George Warren, sent prospectors and speculators scurrying to the Mule Mountains in hopes of striking it rich. Numerous rich ore bodies were located and Bisbee soon became known as the "Queen of the Copper Camps"

During almost a century of mining, 8 billion pounds of copper, 102 million ounces of silver and 2.8 million ounces

of gold along with millions of pounds of zinc, lead and manganese were produced. By 1974 ore reserves had been depleted and December brought the announcement of the impending closure of mining operations in Bisbee. Phelps Dodge curtailed open pit operations that year and ceased underground operations in 1975. It appeared as though the queen was about to be laid to rest.

With the departure of its industrial base, the real estate market in Bisbee collapsed as hundreds of homes went up for sale. The availability of cheap real estate drew retirees, "hippies" and eventually a new group of speculators. These new residents purchased property and slowly began to contribute to the renovation of the city.

The Bisbee of today is a well-known

artist's community whose architectural and historic heritage has been preserved. Located at the center of the natural and historic beauty of Cochise County, the



city has transformed itself into the ideal spot for tourism. These benefits combined with "the most perfect year round climate" make it an attractive place to visit and a great place to call home.

ANTELOPE CANYON NAVAJO TOURS

The Guided Tour is a wonderful way to experience this awesome natural wonder of Upper Antelope Canyon. The tour starts by boarding a 4x4 truck that transports you comfortably to the mouth of the Antelope Canyon. Your Navajo Guide will take you on a easy journey through the canyon stopping in areas that are popular for photos and also sharing the Navajo Cultural stories about the canyon. This tour is very informative, sharing the history and geology of the canyon. The tour last about 1 hour in the canyon.

Rates: Adults \$25 Plus \$6 for Navajo Parks Permit Sold Separately **Children** \$10 (5 to 11).

The Photo Tour is longer in time giving a photographer a better chance of making photos in the canyon. Your Navajo Guide will show you the most popular

places in the canyon for photo opportunities. This tour is for 2 hours in the canyon. A Photo Tour can be done anytime of the day in the morning hours are 9am to 11pm, you will have nice light throughout the canyon with less people around. The afternoon 10am to 1pm is when the sun is highest above the canyon giving it maximum light conditions, but this is the time that the canyon receives the famous light beams. This is the most popular time of the day, many people in the canyon. The late afternoon 1pm to 5pm has soft colors with nice photos made in the entrance area of the canyon. By this time the crowds are much smaller and the canyon is more spiritual and relaxing.

Rates: Photographer \$40 Plus \$6 for Navajo Parks Permit Sold Separately.

Departure Time is every hour on the hour starting at 9am to 5pm. The best time is the 10am, 11am, and 12pm. The canyon is very popular now and the canyon could be crowded. A less crowded tour would be your 9am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, and 4pm. The light is good throughout the day in the canyon.

Reservations are not needed just show up and we will help you. Arrive early for the tour of your choice like 30 minutes. If you are a large group (20 to 60) we can arrange reservations for your group.

Location is 3 miles east of Page, AZ off of Highway 98 on the Navajo Reservation. We call it the Antelope Canyon Navajo Tribal Park. Things to look out for small buildings, flag poles, parked vehicles, and yellow gates at the entrance.

RH

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Western Legends Round-Up 12th Anniversary

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2010 WESTERN LEGENDS ROUNDUP PARTICIPANTS: Clint Walker, James Drury, Peter Brown, Cheryl Rogers Barnett, Ed Faulkner, Neil Summers, Wyatt McCrea, Johnnie Lee, Bob McCrea, Johnnie Lee, Dan Culler, Sam McQuinn, Ted McKelvey, Mike Jorgensen

This year's 12th Anniversary Western Legends Round-Up, slated for August 27-29; promises to be the South-west's premier celebration of cowboy music, poetry, and folklore that will wrangle the "cowboy" out of young and old alike.

The picturesque Vermilion Cliffs behind Kanab, Utah serve as the backdrop to the event that features the "High Noon" parade, led by a herd of purebred Longhorn cattle followed by authentic covered wagons and western riders; a cowboy poetry round-up, where some of the West's top cowboy poets spin tales that can bring tears to the meanest hombre's eyes; and folklore workshops featuring old fashioned hand quilting, western swing dancing, tractor pull, Cowboy Action Shooting, Dutch oven cooking and old West apparel making.

If cowboy music trips your fancy, you will love the live performances by "R. W. Hampton," "David John and the Comstock Cowboys", and Belinda Gail. If seeing "stars" is your desire, just keep an eye out for old West movie legends Clint Walker, Peter Brown, Cheryl Rogers Barnett, Ed Faulkner, Neil Summers, Wyatt McCrea, James Drury, and others, all of whom will be on hand signing autographs and swapping stories of how the West was Won!

For a closer look at all the events planned for this year's 12th Anniversary of Western Legends Round-Up, go to www.westernlegendsroundup.com

RH

INTRODUCE YOUR MONSTERS TO OURS!

The CEU Prehistoric Museum is a hometown museum with world class flair. See archaeological and paleontological discoveries found nowhere else in the world, including the Utahraptor, the Huntington Mammoth, and the world-renowned Pilling Figurines.

In 1991, CEU museum crews discovered remains of the Utahraptor, a larger species than the exaggerated Velociraptor portrayed in Stephen Spielberg's smash hit, "Jurassic Park". Not only did this discovery validate the exaggerated Spielberg raptors, the new species was named Utahraptor just in time for the movie's release! Since then, many major new dinosaurs have been added to our collections.

Utahraptor dominates the museum's upstairs Hall of Dinosaurs, along with its Cretaceous contemporaries (aka lunch), the world's highest density of armored dinosaurs.

Discovered on 08-08-88, the Huntington Canyon Mammoth, unveiled for exhibit on May 1, 1993, remains one of the world's finest Columbian Mammoths. Dam improvements, no pun intended,



allowed for the amazingly preserved specimen to be discovered quite by accident by bulldozer operator Chris Nielson of the local construction company, Nielson Construction, in a bog of icy mud at a record elevation of 9,000. The mammoth forms the centerpiece of the museum's Ice Age exhibits.

Remarkable clay artifacts, known the world over as the Pilling Figurines, continue to excite archaeologists and pose mysteries about the ancient Fremont Culture. Distinctive hairstyles, necklaces, aprons, and basket impressions add exquisite detail to the painted clay figurines. Profiled multiple times in National Geographic, the figurines are one of the museum's signature attractions. The museum also showcases other archaeological finds from the Fremont Indians, including fine basketry and unique pottery, works that have lasted more than 1000 years in the desert environment. Displays also focus on petroglyphs, the lifestyle of the Fremont, and their mysterious fate.

There's no time like the past, so celebrate life 4.5 billion years in the making at the CEU Prehistoric Museum. Located at 155 East Main Street - Price, Utah (435) 613-5060 toll free 800-817-9949. museum.ccu.edu.

RH

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UTAH'S CASTLE COUNTRY

Custer Battlefield Trading Post

The history of the West, a fascinating landscape, and warm, family hospitality: You'll find it all at the Custer Battlefield Trading Post. Tucked in the rolling hills of eastern Montana in the heart of Crow Indian Country, the trading post is directly across from the entrance to the legendary Little Big Horn Battlefield.

Established in 1985 by James "Putt" Thompson and his wife, Jill, this is not your average gift shop. The massive log and frame structure is the first thing to transport you to the past, as the building was designed after the 1877 Old Fort Custer Hospital. Once you're inside, the journey continues. Rustic walls display exquisite traditional Crow Indian creations, including a beaded elk hide wedding blanket, numerous paintings, hand crafted turquoise and silver jewelry, and a large collection of fabulously beaded Crow and Cheyenne cradles.

Next, walk from the gift shop directly into the Thompson's cozy cafe and rub elbows with visitors from around the world. Yes, you may be surprised to find that the American West is as fascinating to many foreigners as it is to Americans. As you place your order, you'll quickly see why patrons come back every year to jaw with the Thompsons and their friendly staff while enjoying a meal of Buffalo Burgers or Indian Tacos. The cafe also holds a colorful mixture of

beadwork and art, and the service is as cheerful as the food is tasty.

Rather eat outside? Then mosey onto the broad porch that runs the length of the building and invites tourists and locals alike to come, sit, eat and enjoy views of the Little Big Horn Valley and the distant Big Horn Mountains. As you sip your coffee, just close your eyes for a moment, allowing the soothing Native American chants from the store's sound system to take you back to the days when buffalo, wild horses, and Native Americans peacefully shared this rich land.

Putt and Jill built their establishment in large part from a desire to give vacationers a better understanding of the local Indian culture. It has been successful for the last 25 years, providing employment to numerous Crow and Cheyenne Indians. The Thompsons have strong relationships within the Indian community, and this led them to encourage the cottage industries of the area. The result has been increased production of beadwork and crafts, while creating a flourishing home economy for the locals. Jill and Putt attribute their success to the shop's location adjacent to the famous Little Big Horn Battlefield, but even more so to the local Crow and Cheyenne people. Says Jill: "We wouldn't be here without their support. They work with us, and we work with them, and the relationship has encouraged all of us to grow."

The Custer Battlefield Trading Post is a short distance from both Billings, Montana and Sheridan, Wyoming. It's at the intersection of Highway 212 and I-90. Use it as your home base for the many activities throughout the summer which include:

- Crow Native Days June 25- 27th, Crow Agency, Montana
- The Grand Ball, June 24th, 2010 www.1876grandball.org
- Little Big Horn Days, Hardin, Montana June 25th, 26th & 27th, 2010 www.custerslaststand.org
- Custer's Last Stand Reenactment, June 25th, 26th & 27th, 2010, Hardin, Montana
- Real Bird Family Battle of the Little Big Horn Reenactment June 25th, 26th & 27th, 2010, Garryowen, Montana www.crownativedays.com
- Crow Fair Crow Agency, Montana August 18th-23rd, 2010 crowfair.crowtribe.com
- Big Horn County Museum and Visitors Center www.museumonthebighorn.com
- Custer Battlefield Museum, Garryowen, Montana www.custermuseum.org
- Little Big Horn Battlefield, Crow Agency, Montana www.nps.gov
- Rosebud Battlefield www.nps.gov

For additional information please visit the Custer Country Website at custer.visitmt.com Or visit us on the web at www.laststand.com

The Custer Battlefield Trading Post is truly a unique tourist stop. Your memories from there will last longer than a T-shirt, and, who knows? You may not be able to resist returning next year for just one more Indian Taco! RH

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Pendleton Round-Up & Happy Canyon

"Let'er Buck," is the cry of the Pendleton Round-Up. It happens each year during the second full week of September (September 15-19this year), when this Eastern Oregon town of 17,000 hosts more than 60,000 visitors for one of the biggest rodeos in the world.

Last year more than 750 contestants, including the world's best, competed for over \$400,000 in prize money.



Photo credit: Rob Bynum

The Round-Up is more than a rodeo. It's a festival. It began in 1910 as farmers, ranchers and local Indians gathered to celebrate the end of harvest.

Volunteers are the foundation of the Round-Up, with more than 1,100 people working to produce this famed event. Each volunteer serves under one of the 17 members of the board of directors, who also volunteer countless hours throughout the year.

300 teepees go up on the "Indian Village" each year, and most Tribal families have been coming for generations. The Tribe has played an important role in Round-Up and Happy Canyon (The rodeo's night show) since the beginning. Tribal dancing takes place each day of the rodeo.

The script of the Happy Canyon Night show, an Indian pageant depicting the old West as seen by the Indians was written in 1916. Hundreds of tribal volunteers participate in roles that are handed down from one generation to the next.

The Round-Up is unique with its giant grass arena, surrounded by a quarter mile dirt track.

Today, the Round-Up and Happy Canyon has grown from a four day rodeo and night show to a weeklong celebra-

tion with concerts, Professional Bull Rider's Tour, parades, Indian Beauty Contests, street shows, carnivals and Hall of Fame induction ceremonies. The economic impact is huge. Officials estimate that more than \$20-million are pumped into the community during the big week.

In 2003, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association named the Pendleton Round-Up as the 2003 PRCA Large Outdoor Rodeo of the Year. The U.S. Bank/Pendleton PBR Classic has twice won the PBR's Challenger Series "Venue of the Year" Award. The Pendleton event features 45 of the world's top bull riders and sport's toughest, meanest bulls in a grueling two-day event that has bull riding fans on the edge of their seats.

The concert lineup each year has been a "Who's Who" in the music world. Reba McIntire, George Strait, Brooks and Dunn,

Kenny Chesney, The Steve Miller Band, the Beach Boys, Rascal Flatts, Leann Rimes, Willie Nelson, Randy Travis, the Oak Ridge Boys, Alabama, Jo Dee Messina, John Michael Montgomery, Sawyer Brown, Tracy Byrd, Brad Paisley and Josh Turner just to name some of the entertainers that have opened the big week in Pendleton.

The Pendleton Round-Up is also well-known for its famous registered bucking horse logo. The logo was originally painted by artist Wallace Smith around 1923, and was copyrighted by the Round-Up Board in 1925. The board also has the copyright to "Let'er Buck."

The logo is now paying dividends. The internationally recognized bucking horse that symbolizes the Pendleton Round-Up has been selected to epitomize smooth Canadian sipping whisky. (Editors note: the Canadian version of the drink does not utilize an "e" in its spelling.)

Pendleton Canadian Whisky is the creation of Hood River Distillers, the Northwest's oldest and largest importer and producer of distilled spirits. The 80-proof, oak-barrel aged blended whisky hit the shelves in 2003 and is doing very well nationally. In addition to the bucking horse, the Pendleton Round-Up's "Let'er Buck" slogan appears on the label.

Make plans now to attend the 100th Edition of the Pendleton Round-Up, September 15-18. Better hurry though as it is sold out for Friday and Saturday. For ticket information call 1-800-457-6336, or visit us on the web at www.pendletonroundup.com RH

PENDLETON ROUND-UP

SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2010

TICKET SPECIALS & FAMILY PACKAGES



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Victorian Grandeur Showcases The West

Set on the property of the magnificent Ivinson Mansion, the Laramie Plains Museum is one of the region's finest historic house museums and a must-see when visiting Laramie, Wyoming, 45 miles west of Cheyenne



on Interstate 80. The Mansion was saved from demolition in 1972, and has been fully restored to its original Queen Anne opulence, as the perfect setting for the museum's collections which range

from Victoriana to Cowboy and Native American. There's a grand "floating" staircase in the foyer, dramatic woods in each room, and decorative papers on walls and ceilings that are exceptional to 19th Century Victorian stylings. Built in



1892 by one of the city's most notable pioneer couples, the mansion was the talk of the town in its day and remains one of the major highlights in Laramie. The flower gardens, birch trees, lilacs,

grand evergreens, and commemorative benches on the mansion property are a step back in time and add to the air of graciousness and hospitality extended to all who step onto the grounds and into the grand mansion. The do-



cent-guided tours make it an outstanding reminder of when grandeur stood alongside the rowdy western lore of the high plains of Wyoming.
RH
All photos by: Jason Roesler/Jacques Photography/Laramie

Campbell County Rockpile Museum

The museum serves as the history center for the county by collecting, preserving and exhibiting the objects and documents important to the history of Campbell County and northeast Wyoming. The exhibits feature collections of Native American artifacts, rifles, horse-

drawn vehicles, early homesteading, ranching, and current mining practices. Structures moved to the museum include a one-room school, 1889 ranch blacksmith shop, 1917 homestead cabin, and Burling Northern caboose. Hands-on activities throughout the exhibits are slanted towards children, and

spectacular videos of coal mining make for an enjoyable and educational experience for the whole family. Open year-round Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information call CCRM at (307) 682-5723 or visit our website at www.rockpilemuseum.com
RH

Crook County Museum

Come see the Black Hills of North Eastern Wyoming. History doesn't have a state line; the historical aspects of the west can be seen in the Crook County Museum in picturesque Sundance, Wyoming right off of interstate 90. The History of Crook County is depicted in the many dioramas and exhibits, over 7000 artifacts, which are housed in the lower level of the Crook County Court House. The original court room where the Sundance Kid had his trial is on display in one of our permanent exhibits along with a gun exhibit that is phenomenal. Experience a walk through time in the replica barn and stable with its buggy and work tools.

Glance in the bunk house that has all the amenities a cowboy bachelor could want. Listen for the sounds of stamped-



ing buffalo hooves as you look at the Vore Buffalo Jump diorama with all its grand archeology discoveries. Go on an

adventure of a lifetime with Custer and his men as they trek through the Black Hills in the Expedition of 1874. Follow the trails and the tribulations of his men as they fight for survival against nature, the illicit miners, and the natives. Explore Moses Annenberg's great hideaway locally know as Ranch A. When he was looking for a quiet place to relax and a place to throw some great parties for his fellow city dudes he would come to the isolation of the Black Hills and go to his local canyon ranch to kick up his heels. This museum has it all and something for everyone. For business hours call 307-283-3666.
RH

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National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum

Everything begins with mining. Everything!!!

Fire in the hole! This classic warning from powder-monkeys, miners who set explosives, still rings out in the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum today. Begin your self-guided tour by walking up the stairs to the renovated 1899 high school building. You will be greeted by a friendly admissions assistant. View a model of the railroad located in Leadville, Colorado during the mining days. Walk through the Hard Rock Mine, a reconstruction of a blacksmith's shop and mine complete with authentic sounds. Exit into the Gold Rush room, where you can find fascinating information about gold rushes in your state, and a 24-oz. gold nugget!

The museum contains five levels of shining crystals, mining history, photographs, and mining equipment. Three mine reconstructions, a full-size molybdenum car, and a Gift Gallery featuring books, gold panning kits, onyx chess sets, and jewelry mean there is something for everyone to see in the National Mining Museum. Hold your meeting or wedding reception in one of the spacious Convention Center meeting rooms or

ballroom. From May through September, visit the Matchless Mine, a famous silver mine purchased by Horace Tabor in the 1879, and the cabin where Baby Doe Tabor lived for 35 years in her con-



tinual search for more silver.

Since its incorporation in 1977, and following its national charter signed by President Reagan in 1988, the National Mining Museum has often been the location of the Induction Banquet, held annually to install people instrumental to the development of the mining indus-

try into the Hall of Fame. The Matchless Summer Series is a round of costumed interpreters, knowledgeable lecturers, and exciting tours that engage people with Leadville and mining. Leadville is also home to Boom Days, a rip-roaring adventure that recreates the excitement of the Wild West.

The National Mining Museum is located at 120 W. 9th Street in Leadville, Colorado. It is within walking distance of restaurants, antique shops, and historical points of interest. In the summer, hiking and mountain biking are available for outdoors adventurers, and in the winter, ice skating and sledding. Leadville is also a short drive away from ski resorts like Vail, Aspen, and Breckenridge.

The Museum is open year round, 9-5 summer hours, and 11-4 winter hours. Admission: \$7 Adults, \$3 Children; AAA, Senior, and Family discounts available. Info: 719-486-1229, mininghalloffame.org. The National Mining Museum is a private non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Funding comes from memberships, admissions, grants, donation, event fees, and facility rentals. RH

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SOUTH PARK CITY

The year was 1859. Gold was discovered in **South Park** and the rush was on! Hordes of gold-seekers spilled into the **Park**, and within a few short months the mountains were dotted with mining camps sporting names like Tarryall, Eureka and Buckskin Joe.



South Park City's Transportation Exhibits Feature A Narrow Gauge Locomotive, Rolling Stock, Depot And Water Tower As Well As A Variety Of Nineteenth Century Road Vehicles.

During the next several decades the promise of riches became reality. The

families of those early prospectors arrived and with them the need for improved goods, services and social activities. Entrepreneurs in every field and trade recognized the opportunity, and rough camps were transformed into thriving communities.

South Park City is a remarkable restoration of one of those early towns. Conceived as a means of preserving deteriorating buildings as well as pioneer history, it was opened to the public in 1959, just 100 years after the first gold rush to the Rockies. It is an accurate representation of a mining town between 1860 and 1900. Thirty-six period buildings filled with over 60,000 artifacts portray most of the economic and social aspects of boom town life. The renovated buildings contain room settings and exhibits illustrating the professions, trades and industries that contributed to life in a nineteenth century mining town.

A visit to **South Park City** will enhance your understanding of life in those rip-roaring days when life was risky, fortunes were made or lost over-



The nineteenth century drug store at South Park City contains an impressive collection of patent medicines, pharmaceuticals LLC. and an old soda fountain.

night, and men and women of vision laid the groundwork for Colorado's future.

You will never forget your encounter with history in **South Park City**. RH

At the Wyoming Dinosaur Center and Dig Sites

you can take a tour of the dig sites, then return and view over two-dozen mounted dinosaur skeletons in our 16,000 square foot complex. While you're here, watch our technicians in the preparation lab as they skillfully remove rock from the fossilized bone.

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There's something for everyone at the Wyoming Dinosaur Center and Dig Sites, so make us part of your travel plans this year. Located in Thermopolis, only 2 hours away from Yellowstone, in Hot Springs County.

For more information, please call 307-864-2997 or visit our web site at www.wyodino.org.

Wind River Casino

Until now, the area around Riverton, Wyoming has been best known for its bountiful natural treasures-rugged mountain ranges for hiking and camping, and abundant wild-life that make it a sportsperson's dream vacation spot. Today, visitors have another reason to visit the heart of Central Wyoming – the pure gaming excitement

available 24 hours, seven days a week at Wind River Casino, two miles south of Riverton on Highway 789. Operated by the Northern Arapaho Tribe, Wind River Casino is the only facility of its kind in the region. Wind River Casino sits high on a bluff overlooking the town of Riverton. It is the largest casino in the state of Wyoming

with 45,000 square feet of Class IV, Vegas style games. Boasting over 750 gaming machines, a 24 hour Café, Restaurant, Gift Shop and 10 card tables, there is much excitement. Wind River Casino owes its success to its friendly and courteous staff, great food and exciting atmosphere. The casino also holds regular giveaways such as cars, cash and other prizes!

It also makes a pleasant rest stop if you're traveling to or from one of Wyoming's famous national parks. "We're on the way to anywhere," say Jim Conrad, CEO of Wind River Casino. Road-weary visitors can look forward to a quick bite to eat at the Cee nokuu Café (jan-a-kuu) or if they are feeling a little more like fine dining can visit the Red Willow Restaurant. Tourists can stop by the "Northern Arapaho Experience" just west of Wind River Casino Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to witness Northern Arapaho dancing and storytelling. The casino is also close to a number of hotels and RV parks.

In the meantime, the staff at Wind River Casino wants your next trip through Wyoming to be the most exciting ever, Conrad says, "We're always looking for even bigger ways for our guests to win."

RH

W Wright Centennial W M Museum M

Wright Wyoming Was Founded In 1976 With The Location In The Heart Of Coal Energy, Powder River Basin. The Purpose Of The Wright Centennial Museum Is To Preserve And Interpret The History, Culture and Development Of Southern Campbell County. To Preserve For Public Education And Enjoyment, The History, Heritage And Environment Of Southern Campbell County.

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Le Mars, Iowa, has been officially recognized as "The Ice Cream Capital of the World" since 1994, when Iowa lawmakers signed a resolution statement confirming that more ice cream is produced in Le Mars, Iowa, by a single company in one location than anywhere else on the planet. "How much?" you ask. In excess of 120 million gallons of ice cream every year – and that's no bull. Get it? No bull!

If you are an ice cream enthusiast... and you know, deep down, that you are, a visit to the Ice Cream Capital of the World Visitor Center Museum and vintage-themed Blue Bunny® Ice Cream Parlor should be a definite "must see" on your life's list.

Located 25 miles north of Sioux City, Iowa, Le Mars has been the home to Wells' Dairy, Inc., manufacturers of Blue Bunny ice cream and frozen novelties since it was founded here by Fred H. Wells Jr., in 1913. The "Ice Cream Capital of the World" Visitor Center Museum

and Blue Bunny Ice Cream Parlor are located at the intersection of Iowa Highways 3 and Business 75 (exit 118 off the bypass) in Le Mars and are open year 'round. Guests to the museum will learn the history of ice cream, the history of Wells' Dairy and the process of how ice cream is made. A simulated production theater experience will whet your appetite for the Blue Bunny Ice Cream Parlor, located adjacent to the museum. A wide variety of hard-dip ice cream, sundae specialties, malts, phosphates and more are available for purchase in the 1920's themed parlor area.

The museum charges \$3 admission for adults (age 13 and over); \$1 for youth (ages 5 – 12) and children (four and under) are free. Museum tours are self-guided and will take 35-40 minutes.

Museum hours are seasonal; please call ahead (712-546-4090) or check our website www.wellsdairy.com for current hours of operation.



Whether you love Blue Bunny ice cream or simply love ice cream in general, make plans to visit the "Ice Cream Capital of the World" Museum and Blue Bunny Ice Cream Parlor in beautiful Le Mars, Iowa – where life is sweet!

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- Black Hills Minerals • Meteorites
- Vertebrate Fossils
- Invertebrate Fossils • Plant Fossils

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www.sdsmt.edu

Crossroads of the Heartland

Whether it is your destination or you are just passing through, the Smoky Hill Museum in Salina, Kansas, has much to offer. Captivating galleries, engaging activities, fascinating stories, and much more make this a must see museum. Interwoven with experiences, tales, photographs, and artifacts, the history of the Smoky Hills region comes alive. The galleries are free & open to the public. Newly renovated galleries tell the story of the Crossroads of the Heartland. Here you can run your fingers through the thick fur of a buffalo, go into a full-sized sod dugout, or be the historian at the battle of Indian Rock. Special exhibits allow for the display of some of the museum's 22,000

artifacts. In addition, the museum offers a variety of educational and public programming for both children and adults. Of



course, no visit is complete without a visit to the Museum Store, which features local artwork, regional products, and gifts.

The Smoky Hill Museum is a nationally accredited history museum located at 8th and Iron in the Historic Lee District of downtown Salina, Kansas. Open every afternoon except Mondays and major holidays. On Saturdays, the museum opens early and stays open until 7 pm on the first Thursday of every month. Although some visitors have been known to stay all afternoon, plan on spending an hour of your time to share Salina's past. Please call 785-309-5776 if you need help planning your visit. Not enough time to stop by? Then visit the museum's virtual exhibits at www.smokyhillmuseum.org.

Come share the past and envision the future at the Crossroads of the Heartland. RH

Museum of Geology South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

Explore the world through Geology! Geology is a fascinating and broad science, which incorporates almost all of the other sciences! At the Museum of Geology, you'll find extensive exhibits focusing on Paleontology – the study of ancient life, and Mineralogy – the study of minerals, including gems, crystals, and the rocks they form. Our displays are engaging and accessible to those of any age!

The Museum of Geology is located on the campus of the esteemed South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The Museum opened its doors in 1885, and has been collecting and displaying new specimens ever since.

Come and see our fascinating mounted skeletons of dinosaurs, mammals, ma-

rine reptiles, and fish! Dozens of rare fossils from the White River Badlands are arranged in age-specific dioramas. Our mineral displays include the Hall of South Dakota Minerals, meteorites, gold, and a fluorescent mineral room that's sure to fascinate. See our unique specimens from as far away as Antarctica.

We also feature a brand new exhibit titled Charles Darwin: The Man and his Legacy in honor of Charles Darwin's 200th birthday in February. It features Darwin's life, adventures and research process as he developed the theory of evolution. The exhibit itself will be evolving throughout the year as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species* in November.

Don't miss the gift shop with a wide selection of toys, books, jewelry, mineral specimens, geology tools, and apparel. Free Admission, donations are always



welcome! Guided tours are available for groups. Please call ahead to schedule, for more information and hours (605-394-2467). <http://museum.sdsmt.edu> RH



Kansas Cosmosphere And Space Center

Founded in 1962, the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center started out as the Hutchinson Planetarium. It now consists of 105,000 square feet dedicated to space science exhibits and educational programs, including a planetarium, an IMAX® Dome Theater and the internationally recognized Hall of Space Museum.

The Cosmosphere houses the most significant collection of U.S. space artifacts, outside of the National Air and Space Museum, and the largest collection of Soviet space artifacts in the Western world, allowing it to tell the story of the Space Race in a way that no other museum can.

The Cosmosphere's collection includes one-of-a-kind artifacts such as the Apollo 13 command module Odyssey, the space capsule Gemini X, the SR-71 Blackbird #961, and rare V-1 and V-2 rockets. It also has on display a complete set of Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecraft juxtaposed with a complete set of Russian Vostok, Voskhod and Soyuz spacecraft.

Approximately 217,000 visitors visit the Cosmosphere every year from every state and dozens of foreign countries. Named one of the first affiliates of the Smithsonian Institution in 1998, approximately 33,000 students visit the facility every year as part of school field trips.

More than 8,500 students in grades 7-10 have participated in the Future Astronaut Training Program since its inception in 1985. In addition, the Cosmosphere was just the fifth recipient of the U.S. Space Foundation's Education Achievement Award for its variety of camp programs for participants of all ages



"Apollo 13" Courtesy: Kansas Cosmosphere And Space Center

including hundreds of people 55 and older from around the country who have participated in the Cosmosphere's Elderhostel Astronaut Training Program.

Named an official project of Save America's Treasures by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the White House, the Cosmosphere is known worldwide for its space artifact restoration program including the complete restoration of Apollo 13 and Liberty Bell 7.

When Liberty Bell 7 completed its nationwide tour late in 2005 and returned for permanent display at the space museum, the Cosmosphere became one of only three locations in the world to have a flown Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo spacecraft. RH



Accommodations & Dining

Seven Colorado Wonders and Wonderous Local Bed & Breakfasts Grace Colorado's Amazing Landscapes.

by Sallie Clark, Marketing Chair of Bed & Breakfast Innkeepers of Colorado, The Colorado Association of B&B Inns

On a recent visit to Southern Colorado, it struck me that our state has landscapes as varied as the colors of a rainbow. That's probably why for years the motto used for tourism was "Colorful Colorado". And, it's not just the landscape that makes us unique, it's also our culture.



From the ranches and farms to the big city lights, from mountains and peaks to plains and prairies, each offers different strokes for different folks and all are delivered with a warm and friendly Colorado welcome.

It's those hidden treasures and best kept secrets that only a local will tell you about. And, where better to find a local than at a great Bed & Breakfast Innkeepers of Colorado (BBIC) member inn. So now, I'm going to share with you a few of Colorado's gems that are sure to please.

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Zapata Falls – just an easy drive from Alamosa, The Great Sand Dunes National Park is home to some of the tallest sand dunes in North America. Here you'll view the Sangre de Cristo mountains and a varied natural landscape including forests, cottonwood and sand... LOT's of sand! Wander freely and hike up the dunes at your own pace. These are an unusual phenomenon, situated at the base of the mountains. Nearby you'll find Zapata Falls which is located just four miles east of Colorado Highway 150 and south of the entrance to Great Sand Dunes National Park. The waterfall flows through a rock dike left by a retreating glacier. You can walk

through the narrow walls of the canyon and eventually reach the waterfall for a spectacular surprise. Bed & Breakfasts in the vicinity include the **Abriendo Inn** and **Edgar Olin House B&B** in Pueblo to the north, and the **Arbor House Inn Bed & Breakfast** in South Fork.

Koshare Indian Museum and Bents Old Fort - The Kiva at the museum was built



by the La Junta Boy Scout troop under the inspired leadership of James Francis "Buck" Burshears. Located at Otero Community College, the original 1949 structure is a registered state historic site of the Colorado Historical Society, hous-

es a collection of Native American art and artifacts. The Koshare Indian Kiva is two-fold in that it contains the museum but also the Kiva, providing the center stage for the world-famous Koshare Indian Dancers, a specialized troop of the Boy Scouts. Just a few miles away is Bent's Old Fort, constructed in 1833 by William and Charles Bent, along with Ceran St. Vrain. They originally built the fort to trade with the Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho Plains Indians and trappers for buffalo robes. For much of its 16-year history, the fort was the



only major permanent settlement on the Santa Fe Trail between Missouri and the Mexican settlements and it was destroyed under mysterious circumstances in 1849. The area of the fort was designated a National Historic Site under the National Park Service on June 3, 1960 and was eventually reconstructed to depict the life of the early traders. Here you'll find the **Tarabino Inn** in Trinidad or the **Conejos River Ranch** and **River's Inn** and **Swiss Cottage B&B** in Antonito.

Pikes Peak and Garden of the Gods – Above Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs sits Pikes Peak, known as "America's Mountain" and so named because of Katharine Lee Bates famous hymn America the Beautiful. It's said that she wrote the words to the famous hymn atop the mountain. The Pikes Peak Highway road itself is famous for the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb which has been a host to the race since 1916. Then there's Garden of the Gods where towering red rock formations of red sandstone gracefully slant among scrub oak and red soil. Here you'll find rocks named for such features including Balanced Rock, Siamese Twins, Three Graces, and to top it off, Kissing Camels (yes, they really do live up to their names!). B&Bs in the Pikes Peak area include **America's Rocky Mountain Lodge and Cabins** and **Blue Spruce Inn** and **Eastholme in the Rockies B&B** in Cascade, **Crescent Lily Inn**, **Holden House-1902 Bed & Breakfast Inn**, **Hughes Hacienda**, **Old Town Guest-House**, **Our Hearts Inn** Old Colorado City, **Summit House Inn**, **The St. Mary's Inn B&B** in Colorado Springs, **Chipita Lodge Bed & Breakfast** in Chipita Park, and **1892 Victoria's Keep B&B**, **Avenue Hotel Bed & Breakfast**, **Blue Skies Inn Bed & Breakfast** and **Two Sisters Inn-a bed and breakfast** in Manitou Springs.

Rocky Mountain National Park – Offers the best of both with Estes Park on one

side and Grand Lake on the other side, connected through Trail Ridge Road. The Beaver Meadows Visitor Center is a National Landmark, having been designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The 265,000 plus acres of the park feature hiking trails, vistas, mountains, lakes, creeks and rivers. The drive over Trail Ridge Road is harrowing, but well worth the knuckle bending pathways that lead to the summit and spectacular views. Below the park sits Estes Park, a small quiet town with a quaint atmosphere and a perfect place to rest after a busy day of



sightseeing or hiking the trails in Rocky Mountain. Area B&Bs include **Anniversary Inn Bed & Breakfast**, **Black Dog Inn**, **Quilt House Bed & Breakfast**, **Sonnenhof Bed & Breakfast**, and **Taharaa Mountain Lodge** in Estes Park, and **High Mountain Lodge** in Winter Park.

Colorado National Monument and McInnis Canyons - According to the National Park Service, the Colorado National Monument preserves one of the grand

Continued on page 45



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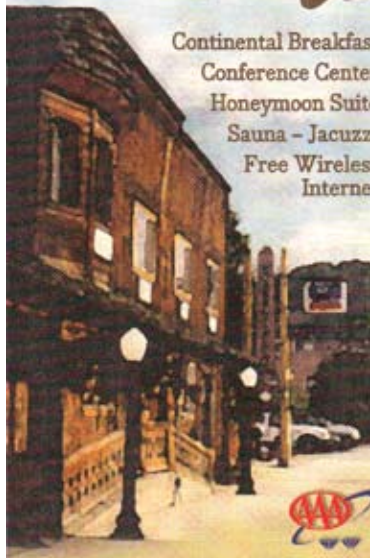
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Bed & Breakfasts

Continued from page 43

landscapes of the American West. I believe it’s really Colorado’s own mini Grand Canyon where towering monoliths, red rock canyons and Rim Rock Drive will take you along winding paths of unending vistas and amazing rock formations. Wildlife abounds including bighorn sheep, mule deer and eagles, among others. Close by to the Colorado National Monument is McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area which encompasses a 123,400-acre National Conservation Area located just west of Grand Junction, Colorado. Here you’ll find natural wonders featuring sandstone canyons, natural arches, spires, and alcoves carved into the Colorado Plateau, through which runs a 24-mile stretch of the Colorado River. **Dreamcatcher Bed & Breakfast** in Palisade, **Cedars’ Edge Llamas Bed & Breakfast** and **Lovett House** in Cedaredge, **French Country Inn** located in Crawford, and **Bross Hotel Bed & Breakfast** in Paonia are nearby.

Yule Marble Quarry – The little town of Marble is known for the historic Yule Marble quarry, situated along the mountains that began operations in the late 19th century. The pure white marble of the quarry is of high quality and has been used for such nationally known monuments such as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Lincoln Memorial. As you hike up through the canyon,

the enormous slabs and chunks of white marble appear like gigantic pebbles in a river of turquoise water. This is a short, but rigorous hike and well-worth the time and exercise to the end of the trail where a large cavern beckons a traveler’s interest. Nearby is Redstone, CO, the town having been built by John Cleveland Osgood and originally established for his workers in the coal mines. Within the region are the **Ambiance Inn Bed & Breakfast** and **Van Horn House** at Lions Ridge in Carbondale, **Four Mile Creek Bed & Breakfast** and **Lavender and Thyme** in Glenwood Springs.



Mesa Verde National Park and the Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad - Mesa Verde, which means green table in Spanish, offers an historic and amazing peak into the lives of the Ancestral Pueblo people who made the area their home for over 700 years, from A.D. 600 to A.D. 1300. Today, Mesa Verde protects over 4,000 known archeological sites, among them, 600 cliff dwellings. From Cliff Palace to

Balcony House, Spruce Tree House to Mug House or the amazing Sun Palace, each have their own identity and a look into the lives of people who mysteriously disappeared while also leaving behind a trails of ancestral clues into the past. General William Jackson Palmer imagined a plan to extend his railroad to Silverton in order to take advantage of the wealth of Silver ore. In only 11 months, the arduous and sometimes dangerous task of building a railroad through the winding canyons towering above the Animas Gorge and 200 feet above the river was completed. While the train tracks opened first in 1882, they still run today, except that the cargo holds only passengers instead of silver ore. **Blue Lake Ranch** is a great place to see the sites, nestled in Hesperus between Durango and Mesa Verde National Park.

Whatever your preference, Colorado’s B&Bs are located in varied areas throughout the state. Come experience mountains and much more for an adventure, romantic getaway, family vacation or business trip. It’s your choice to discover our treasures...winter, spring, summer or fall. Your passport to Rocky Mountain paradise awaits. Visit www.InnsofColorado.org for details or call 800-265-7696 to order a free guide on all of the bed and breakfasts featured here and throughout Colorado. We welcome you to “Rest at the Best Colorado has to Offer”. RH

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forts. During the summer we invite all guests to the Boardwalk and our complimentary welcome reception each evening. All guests have access to the outdoor courtyard heated pool, QT's Restaurant and the Bottom's Up Lounge. The entire complex is located in downtown Cody within easy walking distance to main streets and the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

The Holiday Inn-Riverton Convention Center is located in the center of Wyoming on Highway 26. All guests have access to the indoor Fundome pool, Fitness Center, QT's Restaurant and the Bottom's Up Lounge. Riverton is in the heart of Wyoming enroute to Grand

Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Blair Hotels "Crown Jewel" is the Ranch at Ucross. This four-star guest ranch is located between the Black Hills of South Dakota and the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains on US Hwy 14A. Accommodations range from restored Victorian rooms in the main house, to modern hotel rooms, to family cabins along the bank of Piney Creek.

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You know you're doing something right when guests say their only disappointment is not finding your hotels everywhere they travel.

The Scottsdale-based group of six hotels—three in Roseburg, Ashland, and Medford, Ore., and three in Surprise/Sun City, Chandler, and Tucson, Ariz.—Is earning rave reviews from guests who have experienced Windmill Inns & Suites' spotless guestrooms and public areas, top-notch service and highly affordable rates. Guest satisfaction is so high that many patrons take the time to not only fill out comment cards, but to write glowingly of their experience.

"Our hallmark has always been great rates; sincere, friendly service; and roomy, clean accommodations," said Windmill Inns & Suites President and C.E.O John Cauvin, a 30-year hotel veteran who in 1984 purchased the then-struggling Windmill Inns in Medford and Roseburg and within a year turned them into highly successful, profitable properties—and has since built four more.

"It's incredibly satisfying to have people tell us personally, in the lobby or at the front desk, that they've enjoyed their stay," Cauvin said. "But when they take the time to write to us about how much they enjoyed the experience... well, that's very special and meaningful to us. It tells us that all the hard work we put into delivering great service, clean accommodations and desired amenities—all at affordable rates—is being

rewarded."

At Windmill Inns, those amenities include free Continental breakfast, free local calls (and free access to long-distance calls), free daily newspapers for each guest, and free parking. Cauvin points out that some of these amenities are also offered at other hotels, so he's implemented an amenity program that goes above and beyond the typical hotel offerings.



For example, all five Windmill Inns & Suites allow pets to stay—for free; all make bicycles available for free; all make available free lending libraries and free games for children; and all offer high-speed Internet access—for free—as well as access to free help-desk assistance, should the need arise, via a toll-free phone number. And there's even a bonus included in the free Continental breakfast—guests can even make their own waffles!

"We've always tried to do things that set us apart from our competitors and provide more satisfaction for our guests," Cauvin said. "That's been our philosophy for more than 20 years, and we've instilled it in our staff culture and emphasized it in our ongoing staff-training programs. We believe in it thoroughly, and that is why we're proud to offer guests our unique, 110 percent guarantee of satisfaction."

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Guests and visitors are raving about this unique, fun, beautiful and most unusual inn. The Black Swan Inn features fifteen theme suites including: The Mayan Rain Forest, Romeo & Juliet, Atlantis Under the Sea, Egyptian, and Enchanted Forest.

Each suite includes a two person jetted tub, big screen TV, DVD player, fridge, microwave, A/C and gas fireplace. One is equipped with a sauna; two with steamers; others with aquariums; one

even has a massage room. Pictures at "www.blackswaninn.com" provide a small sample of what can be found at this remarkable inn... but until seen in person, it is impossible to imagine how incredible it really is and how much attention has been given to each detail.

The destination for Newlyweds who love it so much they return to celebrate each subsequent anniversary; the private getaway for anyone who needs to feel special; a haven of peace and rest. Even travelers say their stay was the highlight of their trip!

"We have spent almost a month traveling across America, and this is the nicest hotel we have stayed in. Thank

you!" Shawn - Europe. "One of those rare finds in an unexpected place" David - Saint George, Utah.

For unbiased reviews visit www.tripadvisor.com. Out of 110 reviews, 94 ranked the Black Swan Inn as excellent. The other 16 ranked it as very good. RH





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The Inn has a total of five rooms, four with king beds and one with two double beds. Each room has a private modern bathroom with double sinks, and a shower and tub. We now also have a private Bridal Suite and a two bedroom two bath apartment to accommodate weddings and retreats. Your B & B stay includes a full gourmet breakfast.

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Our reception package includes the grounds, tables (including white linens) and chairs for 100 guests, and the use of the apartment. The apartment allows you the use of the kitchen, bathrooms, changing areas, and an indoor facility to accommodate weather, a dance, or reception.

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rants, coffee bars, museums, shopping, entertainment and exciting attractions.

The city of Elko sits at an elevation of 5,060 feet. This high desert community experiences four mild seasons. Fall is spectacular, heralding in warm days and cool evenings. Winter months bring average high temperatures between 37-43 degrees. Spring months bring warmer temperatures accompanied by cool nights. During the warm summer months the average high falls between 80-90 degrees.

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Ranch, Horseback or Ghost Town tours, let us assist you with a most memorable getaway. Area attractions include two local golf courses, the Northeastern Nevada Museum, Sherman Station and the Western Folklife Center, home to the National Cowboy Poetry Festival. Scenic attractions include the Ruby Mountains and Lamoille Canyon and many other areas for you to discover.

Elko is centrally located along I-80 between Reno and Salt Lake City and is an easy drive from Boise, Twin Falls and Las Vegas. The Elko Regional Airport services daily flights into the city as well. RH

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of groomed trails connecting Utah and Idaho that take you by spectacular wonders. Downhill skiing only 10 miles west of Garden City, Beaver Mountain Ski Resort offers downhill skiing, snowboarding and night skiing, and excellent cross-country skiing. Bear Lake is ice covered four out of five years and jigging for trout and whitefish is always productive in January and February. Don't forget dip netting for the famous Bonneville Cisco off Cisco Beach. Montpelier Tubing Hill-Rope Pull is a favorite for the whole family. RH

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Saratoga/Platte Valley

By: Stacy Crimmins, Executive Director,
Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce

There's nothing more peaceful than to stand in the middle of a forest full of pines after the morning dew evaporates in the sunshine. Do you hear the sound of silence: the aspen leaves "quaking" and the meadowlark's warble? You can experience this in the Snowy Range and the Sierra Madres, located between Encampment and Saratoga.

There's nothing more exhilarating than a big stretch after climbing out of your tent in the morning or climbing a boulder just because it's there. You can also experience this in the Snowy Range and Sierra Madres of southeastern Wyoming.

There's nothing more spine-tingling than to skillfully reel in a plump, colorful trout, measure him up, and gently release him back into the babbling stream. And you can experience this in the solitude of the Medicine Bow National Forest, just a few miles from the busy interstate. Blue herons, bald eagles, pronghorn antelope and mule deer are plentiful, and so are the acres of public lands.

In the pristine Platte Valley, you will experience wilderness areas without crowds, hear the crackling pine needles under your feet, smell the bountiful wildflowers, and watch a new fawn play in the sun. Then let your senses rejuvenate with a tingling soak in the mineral hot springs in Saratoga. Legend has it that these are medicinal waters and were enjoyed by Indian tribes in the area for many years. The municipal soaking pool has an average temperature of 117

degrees and is free and open everyday, all day and night, all year round! Did we mention it was free?

The Platte Valley is surrounded by the Sierra Madre and Snowy Range mountains with the Upper North Platte River winding through the town of Saratoga. The Encampment River flows through Riverside and feeds into the Platte River. These rivers boast some of the best fishing in the western United States for Blue Ribbon Trout. Be sure to travel the Snowy Range Scenic Byway, which links the Platte Valley and Laramie via a 10, 847 foot seasonal mountain pass.

In the colder months, the Snowies are rated #3 for snowmobiling by SnowWest Magazine top 15 places to snowmobile in Wyoming. Groomed trails for cross country skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers exceed 300 miles, and with an annual snowfall of over 200", there is sure to be plenty of powder for everyone.

Here in the Upper North Platte River Valley, the Old West truly is alive and well. The low-key lives of ranchers and cowboys still ring true, and the people continue to hold dear their deep sense of Western history. Our version of a "traffic jam" is when the cattle are crossing the road on their way to a new pasture.

The Town of Encampment has a rich history dating back to the mining boom days of the 1880s. The Grand Encampment Museum, open Memorial Day through Labor Day, allows you to relive much of this history with their exhibits, cabins, an old printing press, and even a two-story outhouse for winters with deep snow.

Saratoga Museum offers interpretive displays, maps and dioramas. Exhibits include archeology, tie hacks and geology. The museum has a beautiful pavilion that hosts summer-time concerts and weddings for a most distinctive experience.

Shopping in the Valley is a unique experience with specialty shops to fill your every need. Whether you are looking for something special for you, your home, your family or your horse, it can be found in the Platte Valley. Hungry? Choose hand-crafted burgers, tasty sandwiches, the perfect steak, or homemade ice cream in one of the many restaurants and cafes.

The Valley hosts several events throughout the year including Saratoga Lake Ice Fishing Derby, Sierra Madre Winter Carnival, Don Erickson Memorial Chariot Races, Festival of Birds, Woodchopper's Jamboree & Rodeo, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet, Independence Day Parade, Grand Encampment Cowboy Poet Gathering, Living History Days, Platte River Rodeo Association Rodeo, Steinley Cup Official State Microbrewery Competition, Chili Cook-Off and Saratoga Bullfest, Sierra Muzzleloaders Mountain Man Rendezvous & Black Powder Shoot, Coppers Days Festival, Antique Tractor Pull and Melodrama, Lighted Christmas Parade, Winter Wonderland, and Festival of Trees!

For more information about the "Good Times Valley," visit our website www.saratogachamber.info or call 307-326-8855. RH



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Ontario is nestled on the lush banks of the Snake River and is proud to be the first Oregon city you encounter when traveling west from the Idaho border. Once you enter the uniquely rugged landscape of the Treasure Valley, you will come to understand why many people never want to leave. Those who choose to live here understand the meaning and importance of a quality, family oriented lifestyle. Thus, the community reflects the energy, distinction, and diversity of the surrounding geography.

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Ontario boasts a myriad of recreational activities for all ages, interests and skill levels within driving distance from its downtown area. Here you can enjoy mountain biking, hiking, golfing, camping, sport fishing, bird watching, kayaking, river rafting, horseback riding and much more. Ontario is situated only two hours from four separate ski resorts including the world renowned Tamarack Ski Resort in Cascade Idaho. You can not only downhill ski to your heart's content, but also snowmobile, cross country ski and ice skate as well. There are also 61 acres of lush parks within the city, so there are many opportunities to just enjoy the landscape.

Ontario is a city full of things to do, places to see, and four distinct and beautiful seasons, so anytime you choose to visit will be the perfect time. Visit us on our web site at www.ontariochamber.com RH

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Stallknecht Museum and Gem and Mineral Society

The Stallknecht Museum is a non-profit, private museum open by appointment only. It is a traveling, natural history museum that goes on-site to schools, groups, and science teachers' conferences. It features thousands of rock, mineral and fossil specimens from the local area and all around the world. Yearly rock club memberships are \$15 for adults, children under 12 years old are free. Family membership is \$25, lifetime membership is \$250.

The museum became a member of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies in 2006.

Margaret, President of the Stallknecht Museum, was elected Education Chairwoman for NWF in April of 2006. She was awarded show Chairwoman-ship for the 68th Annual NFMS Show and Convention in Ontario, Oregon for 2008. Margaret is also the Education Coordinator for the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The Stallknecht Museum is run by Margaret Stallknecht, a self-taught rock-hound, archaeologist, anthropologist, Egyptologist and stamp collector with over 58 years experience teaching chil-

dren of all ages. Margaret has spoken before more than 275 different classrooms at schools, public libraries and other facilities throughout the United States. She has taught a night class in rock-hounding through the Boise Community Education program for 13 years and has served as a lecturer for the Idaho Historical Society's Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month for the last 8 years. She routinely provides classroom demonstrations to science teachers in Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Washington, and Utah.



Margaret has been an active member of many rock clubs over the years, and has served as show chairwoman, field trip chairwoman, and vice president of several clubs. She also attends and organizes rock and stamp shows where she

not only sells rocks, minerals, stamps, art and jewelry, but also provides show demonstrations and workshops. She is an experienced tour guide for anyone interested in rock field trips in the Idaho and Oregon areas.

Margaret has appeared on numerous local television segments promoting rock-hounding. In April 2003 she was profiled on Boise channel 2 KBCI TV-CBS as an "Idaho Gem" (see 'Features' at www2.kbcitv.com). Margaret is also an experienced taxidermist and an avid gardener.

BACKGROUND

Margaret was born and raised in Brewerton, New York where her father has worked for the Fort Brewerton Museum for 40 years. Both her parents have had an enduring interest in the history and archaeology of the French and Indian War. In 1971 Margaret moved to Idaho where she raised her two sons, Gordon and Glen, who are now married with 7 grandchildren.

In 1992 Margaret retired from her 35 acre ranch in Emmett, Idaho where she lived for 12 years. Since June 2004 she has lived in Vale, Oregon and works at the museum and rock show full time.

RH

STALLKNECHT MUSEUM

and Gem and Mineral Society

The Stallknecht Museum is a non-profit, private museum open by appointment only. It is a traveling natural history museum that goes on-site to schools, groups, and science teachers' conferences. It features thousands of rock, mineral and fossil specimens from the local area and all around the world.

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