



PV TIMES



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Serving • Collbran • Mesa • Molina • Plateau City • Powderhorn • Vega

Collbran Café Receives Mesa County Variance Protection Program 5 Star Rating

Just before Thanksgiving, Mesa County, like many counties, was placed under Level Red, Safer at Home requirements as a result of increased COVID-19 cases around the state. This required bars to close completely and restaurants to close to in-person seating.

Britany Miller and the Collbran Café switched to take-out only and began planning for the long term effects to her business in the coming months. Thankfully, she received her 5-Star rating from the Mesa County Variance Protection Program (VPP) a few days later allowing her to re-open to the public as long as she follows a strict list of guidelines including further reduced seating, health checks for employees, and of course, masks worn by all employees and guests.

The Café joins more than 200 businesses who are participating. Mesa County first introduced the

VPP program, also known as the Five Star Program, this past August. It was a plan put together by Mesa County Health Department and was approved by the State Health Department. This program focuses on rewarding businesses for following strict health protocols and hopes to lessen the efforts needed to help the local economy recover in the coming months. There was some concern before Thanksgiving that the state would put the Five Star Program on hold due to the continued rise of cases in Mesa County. This resulted in numerous calls to the state from County Public Health Director Jeff Kuhr, Commissioners Scott McInnis and Rose Pugliese, local hospital officials and business leaders. As a result, the state agreed to maintain the



program. "Ultimately what we ended up saying was, according to our two hospitals, the Five Star program was not a threat," said Jeff Kuhr. "Mesa County is open with control." The State and Mesa County agreed that the increased cases did not seem to be from businesses who follow the strict guidelines. Instead they tend to be

Continued pg 13

Continued from pg 1

Inside this issue:

Poetry, Growing Things	2-3
Veterans Day	5
Obituary, Operation Christmas	6
Town of Collbran	7, 15
Games & Puzzles & Calendar	10, 11
Classifieds and Celebrations	12
Mesa County Variance Cont...	13
PVCW Beef Industry Update	13
Lookin' Back	14

Ty Wallace heads to Texas for his fourth NFR

It's been three years since Ty Wallace, born and raised in Collbran, has travelled to compete in the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, (WNFR), but 2020 will find him once again competing amongst the top 15 bull riders in the nation. Only this time it's in Texas, not Vegas.

In late summer it became apparent that COVID restrictions would prevent Las Vegas from hosting this year's Super Bowl of pro-rodeo so they opted to move the event to the Globe Life Field in

Arlington, Texas instead of canceling. Event organizers feel confident they can provide a safe experience for the guests and competitors as the venue is much larger than the Thomas-Mack Arena in Las Vegas.

This trip to the NFR is Ty's 4th in his professional career. He finished in 3rd place at his last NFR experience in 2017. He is sitting in 9th place going into this year's competition and while some family and friends are headed to Texas to watch him, we know everyone will be cheering him on at home.

THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS

Thanksgiving thoughts are
The kind of thoughts
That we should have
All year long.
For it is the folks with
Thankful hearts
Whose lives are filled with
Song.

We should take time for
Kindness
To those we hold most
Dear,
And just extend a helping
Hand
To others through the year.

Let's set aside some
Quiet time
And share it with a friend.
For friendships bring
A special joy
And pleasure without end.

So may the blessings
Of this day
That I would ask for you,
Now fill you with
Thanksgiving Peace
That lasts
The whole year through!

Where Is This?



Can you guess where this is located?



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We Sell Lifestyle

Growing Things

By: Annie Hughes

Growing Herbs Indoors

Herbs can add a lot of flavor to winter fare. All you need are a warm windowsill with some sunlight, pots, potting soil, and starting plants or seeds/bulbs.

Types of Herbs

Local nurseries will carry seed and will also often have plants.

Bookcliff Gardens currently has the following herbs available:

- ~ Sage
- ~ Italian Parsley
- ~ Curled Parsley
- ~ Lime Mint
- ~ Sweet Perpetual Pesto
- ~ Basil
- ~ Spicy Globe
- ~ Spearmint

Bookcliff Gardens also offers pre-planted herb bowls with a combination of sage, basil, thyme, rosemary and lemon thyme.

Mesa Bloom Market carries seeds and sometimes has potted herbs.

Some of my favorite online seed companies are:

- Fedco Seeds (<https://www.fedcoseeds.com>)
- Johnny's Selected Seeds (<https://www.johnnyseeds.com>)
- Botanical Interests (<https://www.botanicalinterests.com>)
- Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds (<https://www.rareseeds.com>).

You can get chives, garlic chives, and green onions right out of the garden and plant them in a

pot. If you're not growing them yourself, ask someone who is. Most folks are happy to share. You can get green garlic leaves by simply planting a few garlic cloves.

Cooking with Herbs

Here's a shortlist of herbs and foods that I think go well together. Of course, you need to go by your own (and your family's) tastes.

Refer to the care tags on your plants and on the seed packets for planting, fertilizing, and watering. Potted plants in the house will likely dry out more quickly than outside plants, especially if you have forced air heating. Be sure to check the soil every day or two. It should be moist but not

wet. If your water has chlorine in it, fill your watering can and let it sit out for a day or two before using so that the chlorine evaporates. Misting your plants every day or so with the same water can be helpful.

Wishing you many tasty winter meals!

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Thyme, Sage, and Rosemary in a sunny window.

Sage	Turkey, Chicken, Venison, Elk, fried and added to Squash Soup
Parsley	All meats, Potatoes
Rosemary	Turkey, Chicken, Beef, Pork, Venison, Coffee Cake, Focaccia Bread
Oregano	Mexican and Italian dishes.
Thyme	Turkey, Chicken, Fish
Cilantro	Meatballs for Albondigas soup, Tortilla Soup, Tacos, Salads
Coriander (the seed of Cilantro)	Marinades, Spice Rubs, Curries
Fennel (both leaves and seeds)	Pork, Kraut, Salads
Dill (both leaves and seeds)	Fish, Pickles
Mint (Peppermint, Spearmint, Lemon Balm)	Meatballs for Albondigas soup, Lemonade
Green Garlic, Chives, Green Onions (chopped)	Meats, Soups, Salads, Tacos, Beans, Rice, Eggs, and more.



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9am-1pm Saturday

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 Taco Tuesdays: \$2.00 Tacos
 Wednesday: Meatloaf
 Friday: Fish & Chips
 Saturday: Prime Rib

970-487-0141



Home Town Heroes: Veterans Day

American Legion Post 86 would like to thank some of the veterans who have served the American Legion and our community.

We live in a valley filled with men and women who have ensured our freedom.

These service members have offered their lives in the defense of the greatest country on Earth.

In our ongoing recognition of Plateau Valley servicemen and servicewomen American Legion Post 86 would like to request current or former area residents to submit service information about prior or current military members of their families.

Legionaries came together this past Veterans Day at the Clover Cemetery and took part in a time-honored tradition of providing ceremonies for comrades lost.

Veterans Day to many of us is much more than just a day off. It is a day we reflect on our comrades who are still with us and a day we mourn for those we have lost. I, along with many in our community have had the honor of swearing that *"I will protect and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."* This oath did not come with an expiration date.

To this day, I find myself taking offense to those that do not share or respect my patriotism. You see, I feel that many Americans have forgotten how we got here. We got here through the blood of patriots. We are a free country because our soldiers are willing to lay down their lives to defend the constitution. You have the right to protest and burn our flag,

the same flag that I would give my life to protect.

– Commander, Post 86



Plateau Valley Historical Preservation Society

"Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it." Burke

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Compiled by Anis Kelley
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Anis 250-1766, Ladonna 268-5017, Sylvia 487-3402, Val 579-0012.

UPCOMING: BOOK SIGNINGS

Saturday, December 5th, 9 A.M.-Noon: **Harvest House in Collbran**

Saturday, December 12th, 10-2 P.M.: **Mesa Bloom in Mesa**

Obituary: Nancy Louise Drexel Kauffman

We lost a wonderful woman on Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020. Beloved grandmother, wife, mother, daughter, sibling and friend, Nancy Louise Kauffman lost her battle with cancer.

We will always remember her tireless love, selflessness and nurturing spirit. Nancy lived a full and adventurous life.

Nancy was born on October 4, 1951 to Richard and Arlys Drexel of Collbran, Colorado. Nancy grew up on the Western Slope of Colorado and graduated from Plateau Valley High School in 1969. She moved to Greeley to pursue a degree in Business Education. She graduated with her

Bachelor's Degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1973. While in Greeley, she met Mark Harold Kauffman and was married for 37 years, until his death in 2010. Nancy taught high school and worked at a community college in Greeley prior to earning her Master's Degree in Special Education in December of 1993. Her passion for supporting students with special needs, led to a career as the Director of Disabled Student Services at the University of Northern Colorado. She retired from the position in 2007. After Mark passed away in 2010, Nancy moved to Fort Collins in order to be closer to her children and grandchildren. She met and married John Lansaw in 2016. Nancy was able to fulfill a lifelong dream of traveling the world. Nancy and John

visited several countries, including New Zealand, Norway, Italy, Ireland, Scotland and Spain.

She is survived by her husband, John, son Zach and his wife Rachel, daughter Leah and her husband Joe, her father Richard, her brother Robert and her grandchildren (Myciah and Joseph, Niah and Helena), step-children and grandchildren.

May God's light shine upon you and grant you peace. Our world will never be the same without you.

A private ceremony at Linn Grove Cemetery in Greeley will follow at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Nancy to Pathways Hospice, 305 Carpenter Road, Fort Collins CO 80525.

Operation Christmas Child a Success in Plateau Valley

Our community gathered together this fall to pack 601 shoeboxes and our region, including Montrose, Rifle, Craig, Delta, Gunnison, Grand Junction, Fruita, Moab, and New Castle, packed more than 9023! Thank you to all who helped donate, pack, and deliver.

The Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child collects shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way.



Every Wednesday from 4:25-6pm
at Molina Baptist Church.

Ages 3-18 welcome
Transportation provided upon request.



The Town of Collbran is rolling out a month long program!*

“The CARES Act provides assistance for State, Local, and Tribal Governments. Through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, the CARES Act provides for payments to State, Local, and Tribal governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. The CARES Act established the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund.”

The Town of Collbran has received approval to put together a program that will help our senior population, veterans, and health compromised individuals with a few daily meals during the week and a small grocery tote on the weekends until December 31, 2020 (when the CARES Act funding ends for this year). If you know of anyone that would benefit from this short-term program please email Kris Melnikoff at k.melnikoff@townofcollbran.us or call Town Hall 970-487-3751.

The Town of Collbran would like to thank the following for participating and helping us with this program!

Main Street Liquor Store
Marigold Market

The Collbran Café
The Harvest House

*Please note, this program is designed for the senior population of our valley, health compromised individuals, and veterans of the Valley.



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HOME TOWN HERO

Buzzard-Monce Post 86 is getting ready for the Holiday Season and cordially invites all community members to the following events. These events will be held at 1006 High Street (a.k.a. The Grand Mesa Tavern).

November 1st – December 13th: TOYS FOR THE DEPLOYED

Toys or cash for toys can be dropped off at Valley Ranch, Julius Equipment office or Thursday evenings at the Country Club at the Grand Mesa Tavern. In the past 7 years, we have reached over 2000 families of deployed troops. All donations are greatly appreciated.



Saturday, December 12th 3:00 – 9:00 pm: CHILI & CORN BREAD COOK-OFF

Air Force looks (again) to out-cook the competition – Bring your best chili and/or corn bread. ENTRY FEE: Free to those who participate / \$20.00 per adult for non-participants. We are also seeking holiday treats to be donated for our local veteran care packages. All leftover chili and corn bread will be distributed around the valley to our local veterans. This event is BYOB!

Sunday, December 13th: PLATEAU VALLEY CARE PACKAGE DISTRIBUTION

Legionaries will deliver care packages to veterans and families around the Plateau Valley Community. If you would like to add a veteran or family to our distribution list, please email jkaleb@yahoo.com or call Kaleb at (970)250-6587.

Monday, December 14th: OPERATION AIR DROP

Local pilots will be deploying to Hill AFB to deliver toys to children and care packages to spouses of deployed troops. We are needing help with the care packages. We have over 75 spouses that we are trying to reach. We are seeking bottles of wine, food items & gift bags. All can be dropped off at the Julius Equipment Office located at 209 Main street in Collbran.



You can contact Kaleb Julius at (970)250-6587 with any questions or donations.

Thank you for your Support



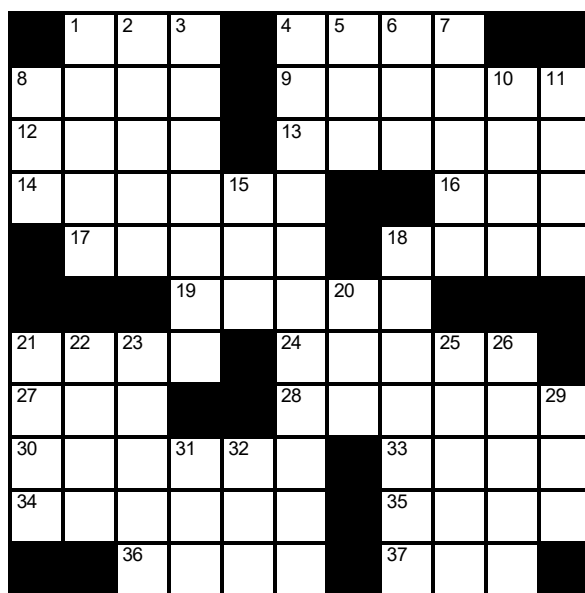
Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 1 London radio and TV network
4 "As --- alone, by blue Ontario's shores" (Whitman)
8 Miles of "Psycho"
9 Incendiary gel
12 Wide smile
13 Oscar winner --- Loren
14 Brush expert
16 Surgical procedures
17 Up and about
18 Assay
19 --- Hauptmann, the Lindbergh kidnapper
21 Twenty-four were baked in it
24 Overtake
27 Neuman's mag
28 Bay State capital's nickname
30 Native American village
33 Partiality
34 Executioner
35 Formerly, one sixteenth of a rupee
36 Woodpile
37 Stage joke

Down

- 1 He coined the comment: "A nickel ain't worth a dime any-



- more"
2 Cockneys, Liverpudlians et al.
3 Incredulous response
4 Trainers
5 Portuguese holy one
6 Software program, briefly
7 California border lake
8 Computer monitor letters
10 Hot --- (M A S H role)
11 Nuts
15 Respectful form of address
18 Carryall
20 "Forget it!"
21 Current units
22 Revere or Robeson
23 Best possible
25 Crockery
26 --- He (Chinese river)
29 Youth org.
31 Letters on some party invitations
32 Section of a race

Picture Answer

Did you figure out the picture from the November 13th issue? It's the new sign at the corrals in honor of Mike Ralston on 57 Rd.



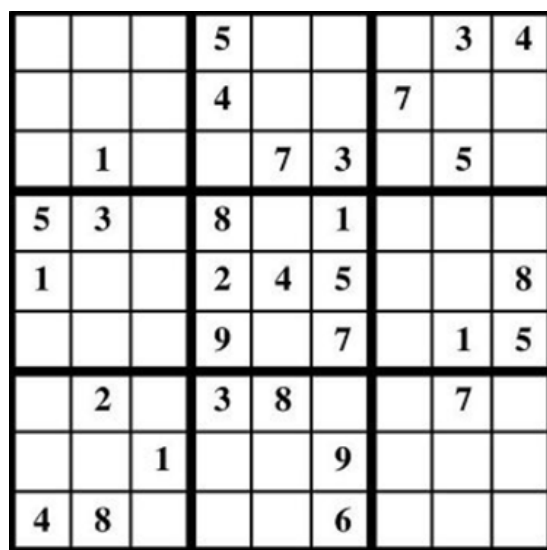
Have a suggestion for a picture? Shoot an email to ReadPVTimes@gmail.com or call 487-0291

Word Search: Food

- Bacon
Beat
Bin
Bloody Mary
Bowl
Bun
Cake
Can
Chef
Cup
Dill
Egg
Grog
Gyros
Ham
Ice box
Infuser
Jug
Lime
Mace
Mild
Mince
Mop
Mug
Nougat
Peel
Plug
Pot
Round
Sieve
Snow
Soy
Tea
Thyme
Tin
Toss
Towel
Urn
Wiper



Sudoku - Medium 1.2



Answers: Pg 12

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Community Events Calendar

December:

Dec 3: Powderhorn is Open
Dec 11: Friday School: 8-11am @ PVS
Dec 12: Chili Cook Off: See pg 9
Dec 13: PV Care Package Distribution: See pg 9
Dec 14: Operation Air Drop: See pg 9
Dec 16: School Board Meeting: 6pm @ PVS
Dec 19: Christmas Decoration Competition: See pg 15 for more details
Dec 21-Jan 1: PVS Winter Break

*In an effort to maintain the health and safety of the community, Mesa Community Center has cancelled its events for the remainder of the year.

PV Times Issue Schedule

**Next Issues:
Dec 18**

**Printed in Dec:
1st & 3rd Friday**

*Next Deadline:
Dec 11*

Pick up your copy in

Collbran Café,
 Marigolds, Wagon Wheel,
 Harvest House,
 Mesa Bloom Market, or
 Valley Ranch

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Mon-Fri: 8:00am-5:30pm
 Sat: 8:00am-3:00pm
 Sun: Closed



Key:

Bldg. B: Collbran Bldg. B next to Clinic
CCC: Collbran Congregational Church
CJCC: Collbran Job Corps Center
GBC: Grace Bible Church
GMC: Grand Mesa Church
GVB: Grand Valley Bank, Collbran
MCC: Mesa Community Center
MBC: Molina Baptist Church
MCPLD C: Mesa County Public Library Collbran
PVAG: Plateau Valley Assembly of God Church
PVS: Plateau Valley School

Know of events we've missed or want to add an event free of charge?

**Send an email:
ReadPVTimes@gmail.com**

Church Service Times:

Collbran Congregational: 11am
 Grace Bible Church: 1030am*
 Grand Mesa Church: 11 am
 Molina Baptist: 845 am* and 11 am*
 Plateau Valley Assembly of God: 1045 am

*Online services available on Facebook

Re-Occurring Monthly:

AA:

Every Friday: 7pm @ Bldg. B

American Legion:

1st Thursday: 530pm @ Julius Offices on Main Street

Awana:

Every Wednesday: 4:25-6pm @ MBC

Board of Trustees Collbran:

1st Tuesday: 6pm @ Town Hall

Community Relations Committee: 2nd Thursday: 10am @ CJCC

Crafter's Time, Art, Knit, Weave, Create, Gather:

Every Wednesday: 1030am-noon @ MCC*

Harvest House:

Wed-Fri: 9-6 on Main Street
 Sat: 9-2

Horizon Club: 2nd Monday @ 11am Call Judy for details 4873539

Lions Club:

2nd Tuesday: 6pm @ CCC Dining Hall

PV CattleWomen:

4th Tuesday: 6pm @ GVB

PV Historical Preservation Society:

2nd Tuesday: 9am @ Heritage Center (Forest Service Bldg.)

Work Sessions every Tuesday @ 9am

PV School Board:

3rd Wednesday: 6pm @ PVS Media Center

Some activities have resumed.

Don't see your re-occurring meeting listed and meetings have resumed?

Let us know.

ReadPVTimes@gmail.com

Help Wanted/Opportunities:

Medical Assistant Wanted: Immediate full time opening at Plateau Valley Medical Clinic. Contact Jessi at 487-0211 for information. Email resume to jclark@pvhealth.com. Will consider training the right person. EOE.

Collbran Job Corps is hiring 14 full time positions. Call for more information: 970-487-3576

Plateau Valley School District is hiring bus drivers. Please call 487-3547 for more information.

Music lessons students 7 years and older. Piano, guitar, and wood or brass band instruments. Instruction for beginner to intermediate Call Sue Bellotti 487-3474

For Sale/Rent/Free/Wanted:

DINING TABLE: Light hardwood with leaf and 8 chairs. Good condition. \$400 Call or text 530-623-4934

For Rent: 3 Bed, 2 3/4 bath house for rent. Fenced with attached garage. No smoking. Outside pet negotiable. Available immediately. \$1200.00/month Call Sandy or Trent 487-3469

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Champion Shortie Jack Russells. Ready for forever homes. \$600.00 970-986-0800 or 970-250-5188. Leave a msg.

Plateau Valley CattleWomen Brand Napkins & Afghans are available at Harvest House or Mesa Bloom Market, or Contact Sylvia Spangler 487-3402

Custom Kydex, Knives, Holsters, Sheaths, etc.... Offer self defense instruction: 813-730-0303 www.primaloptions.com or at Collbran Supply

Services Provided:

For any Carpenter work needed in Plateau Valley, call Brooks Ealy. 970-210-5912

Owens & Son's Inc. Septic, pumping, plumbing repairs and drain cleaning 20 years experience 970-986-7426 or owensandsonsinc.com

Home Repair Service by J. Stoner LLC Powderhorn area specialist, home, property maintenance, remodeling, carpentry, cleaning etc.. 352-316-2497

Lawn Care and maintenance, mow, trim, etc.... Call Delbert Koehn 970-623-6370

For Rent or Hire: 14 foot dump trailer for rent or hire 433-2842 Chris Clark

Trash Pick Up. \$15/month up to 7 bags/wk. John Blair: 970-487-0242

Certified Automotive Technician in Collbran. Work on all makes & models. Zachary 970-296-0131

Cowboys and Angels Hair Salon in Mesa. 970-644-1477

Custom fabrication, water boxes & installation, small excavator work. Call Kaye Donne Ferguson 270-2281

Community Celebrations



Sincere thanks for your prayers for Penny the last few years. Thank you too for your prayers, cards, food, visits, and support since her passing. A special thanks to those who donated to the Plateau Valley Cancer fund in Penny Fulham's name.

A grateful, heavy heart,
Mary Lou Ridenour



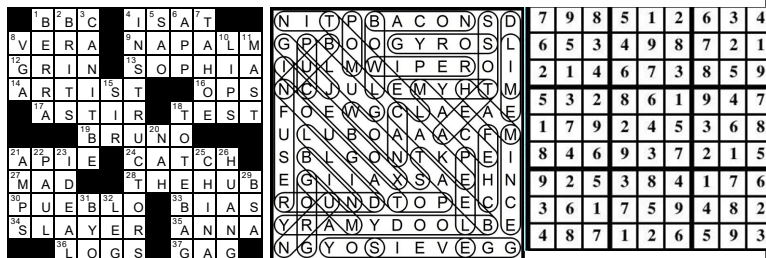
I just want to say how thankful I am to be living in Plateau Valley and with being granted the privilege, to do what I am able, to provide care for your pets and livestock. I have had the opportunities to travel the world and I have seen many wonderful places. I am glad to have made it back home. I feel blessed to be a part of this valley. Thank You and may God bless you!

~Dr. Clint Dennison, Plateau Valley Animal Hospital



*Have a message you would like to share?
Send it to PO Box 89, Collbran
Email: ReadPVTimes@gmail.com or call 487-0291
Community Celebrations are free of charge.*

Do you provide a service in this community or know someone who does?
Have your information listed for free in the Classifieds section of the PV Times.



*Please send your 10-15 word Classifieds to ReadPVTimes@gmail.com
Put "Classifieds" in the Subject Line. Please designate how long you would like your ad to run. Free of charge.
Do you provide a service in the community or know someone who does? Have your information listed in the classifieds, free of charge.

Gratefulness in the face of adversity

By: Amanda Radke of
Beefmagazine.com

This Thanksgiving, let's find the hidden blessings in the face of a challenging year.

Earlier this week, I watched the livestream footage of the ceremony featuring President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump as they officially pardoned the Thanksgiving turkey, "Cob."

Feeling inspired, I decided to also pardon a turkey this year and forego the traditional poultry fare in favor of prime rib.

And while I'm very thankful for the homegrown beef on my plate, I'm even more thankful for the people I get to share a Thanksgiving meal with.

In November, the kids and I have tried to focus on practicing an attitude of gratitude. In one of our homeschool crafts, I instructed the kids to make turkeys by tracing their hands on construction paper and then writing things on each feather (feather) that they were thankful for this year.

Their responses included our family, Jesus, the ranch, our new puppy and living in America. My son added in hunting for good measure, and my daughter added her baby dolls to her list.

It was sweet to hear their thankful lists, and it inspired me to reflect on what I'm thankful for in 2020.

Without question, for many Americans and for people around the world, our burdens have been heavy and it can be hard to see the blessings during these challenging times.

However, when I look at some of the changes our family has experienced due to this pandemic, I realize that this year's blessings include spending more time together, enjoying the great outdoors, cutting out time-wasters and activities that were draining us each week and truly enjoying each other as we work alongside each other on the ranch.

Has this been a stressful, draining rollercoaster of a year? You bet! But if we choose to seek what's good and positive and beautiful, we will discover that there are plenty of shining lights that are balancing out the darkness we are experiencing.

One habit I've gotten into this year is, even on my busiest days, I force myself to pause and watch the sunset for a few minutes. I feel closer to God, closer to nature and more in tune with myself and the world around me. That might sound hokey, but that small habit has done wonders for my mental

health and my feeling of purpose during a year when everything seems so uncertain.

This Thanksgiving may have looked a little bit different than what we are used to, but today, I urge you to find the blessings that have been brought into your life this year. It doesn't have to be big or grandeur. Even the most humble of gifts — your health, your family, your job or just keeping it together during a really rocky time — are worth celebrating and embracing.

Happy Thanksgiving from my ranch to yours! May you feel blessed, content, safe and renewed on this day and every day!

Amanda Radke is a fifth generation rancher from Mitchell, S.D., who has dedicated her career to serving as a voice for the nation's beef producers.

Industry articles

Sponsored by:



Next Meeting:

Jan 26 @ 6pm
PV Clinic Building B
New Members always
welcome!

Contact Us:

PVCattleWomen@gmail.com

from large, personal, and family gatherings where no protocols are followed. It has been said that the state would like to see the program succeed and then implemented in other counties around the state in an effort to protect both the health of the people and the businesses themselves.

Recently there were some protests outside the Mesa County Public Health Department. These protests show just how confusing much of these variances are. Many people were protesting, calling for Mesa County to protect small businesses instead of recognizing that Mesa County has done exactly that with this program.

Mesa County is the only county in the state with this program to protect businesses. Any business is free to apply as long as they agree to the terms and then follow those terms. There is no catch, no payment; just honest businesses trying to make it in uncertain times. Businesses are able to lose their rating but can be re-instated. Mesa County's goal is to put the power in the people's hands, letting them choose to frequent the businesses on the Five Star list, giving businesses the best reward possible, increased business.

One person who is incredibly thankful for the program is Britany as she was able to re-open her doors and welcome in guests. She does

ask for people to help her maintain her status by following the guidelines and wearing a mask, and reminds guests that while it may look a little different inside, the food and the service are still top notch.

To see which businesses made the list, or to apply, visit <https://health.mesacounty.us/variance-protection-program/> or follow the Facebook page at Mesa County Variance Protection Program @ MesaCountyVPP

<https://grandjunctiondailysentinel-co.news-memory.com> & https://www.gjsentinel.com/news/western_colorado/county-dodges-bullet-for-five-star-program/article

Annual Turkey Dinner

By: Pastor Anne Djokic

"Our traditional Thanksgiving dinner is a favorite of the Collbran Community. We decided to go ahead with the 'take out only' option. Following every COVID-19 guideline/rule, our ladies and gentlemen did an awesome job! A little piece of love and 'normal' in these times. We served the most dinners ever enjoyed!"

An enthusiastic "Thank You" goes out to the hard working women who prepared and served the dinner and the men who peeled potatoes and made home deliveries.

A very special thank you goes out to the Valley for their generous support. There were 140 meals served this year. The fully gluten free option was very much appreciated. Toffee sales were at an all-time high with 45 pounds sold. The money from these fundraisers supports the church and the chosen ministries.

- WF Pres. Sue Bellotti
- Pastor Anne Djokic



Jeannie Reeves, Cindy Leinberger, Cindy Price, Debbie Hamm are smiling behind those masks!

Lookin' Back

By: Lauren Michaelsen

The Collbran Congregation Church has just had their Annual Turkey Dinner. With COVID around they did take out dinners this year. They served 140 dinners. That's a lot of turkey and fixing! Everyone knows if you want to have something good to eat and finish it off with pie, you go there to eat. It has always been well attended and supported by the community.

So many memories come flooding into my mind. I remember my first time helping. There were two Women Fellowship groups at that time. The one I attended was the younger group, most of us had children.

They had the gym upstairs full of goodies to sell. Tables were stacked full of hand embroidered pillowcases, with crocheted edges, embroidered tea towels, and Roylee Walck use to make cowboy aprons. Seems to me Dorothy Hawkins and Dorothy Kenny were in charge of the table. Roberta Kitson would do the baked goods table covered with bread, pies, rolls and brownies and cakes and probably some home-made jellies. Sue Bellotti was in charge of the candy table for the choir. We use to make Sharon Hill's recipe for Walnut toffee. In fact, I still do. Who could afford to make and buy the expensive Almond toffee fixings? We all were young raising kids! One year we

had a cake walk and a fishing booth. Loi Hittle and I made dozens of hair ribbon barrettes from patterns her mom sent us. We had a White Elephant table one year with donated items so the kids could buy presents. It was a big hit. There was a year we sold knives. I still use mine! A table full of items from Africa, filled with handmade items that supported a missionary there. Almost forgot about the pecans we sold every year! For years we sold tickets for a handmade quilt. They were beautiful! The Plateau Valley Nursing Home always had a basket full of goodies to take a chance on. It was wonderful to have so many people coming together for a common goal. I wish I could remember all their names!

People would go upstairs to search for gifts or goodies to take home and then at 11:30 they would go down to eat. At that time they had steps inside leading into the dining room.

There was a lot to do. Setting up tables and the continual job of washing dishes (by hand, with bleach in the rinse water). The first year I worked I was side by side with Mable Collins in her beautiful dress, helping to do the dishes so more people could eat. Rolling silverware, pouring coffee, refilling pickle dishes and the plates on the table were piled high with rolls made by Mrs. Beals and Ethel Click. Then, dishing up of pieces of pies; they were all different flavors. Shirley Lyons always made lots of apple pies. I'll never forget the big coal stove that was hot to keep things

warm in.

The years have brought so many changes to the valley. The Collbran Congregational Church has changed its name. So many of the women I loved are no longer alive. But the memories are still alive.

It makes me happy to know that some things have stayed the same in the valley. I'm pretty sure if I had peeked in the window, many of the same women who were there 50 years ago were there on Saturday. It's been 11 years since I helped; it was hard work and our feet hurt. But the blessing of comradery and friendship is something I'll never forget. So thank you to the many who kept this dinner going and I pray younger women will step up next year to keep the tradition going. May God bless you all.

Walnut Toffee

1 cup Sugar	1 cup Margarine
1 Tbsp Karo yrup	3 Tbsp water

Cook over medium heat until brittle stage. Add 3/4 c of chopped walnuts, stir and cook 3 minutes more. Pour in buttered pan. Sprinkle 1 c. chocolate chips – when melted – spread and top with 3/4 c nuts.

Sometimes mine came out rather soft and fudgy like which always made my husband smile, as he loved it that way best. He always had to sample it as it cooled.

Lauren Michaelsen shares being a wife and mother in Plateau Valley.

Some Christmas Fun



How about a Christmas Decorating Contest?!?!?

Get out all those decorations and let us know your address. We will put together a fun map of houses and businesses that are participating.



On Saturday, December 19 we will hand out maps from Town Hall. After you have completed the "tour", stop back by Collbran Town Hall for some to-go goodies and you may catch a glimpse of someone special.

Prize Basket from local
stores and restaurants!



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PO Box 89 Collbran, CO 81624 Phone: 487-0291

Email: ReadPVTimes@gmail.com

Plateau Valley Times Staff & Contributors:

Rachel Schowalter
Lynne Sherrod
Judy Schowalter
Nona Kelley Carver
Annie Hughes
Lauren Michaelsen
PVHPS
Grumpy Smith
American Legion

Owner/Editor in Chief
Proofreader/Distribution
Proofreader/Distribution
Poetry
Growing Things
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lance@grossexcavatinginc.com

P.O. BOX 417
MESA, CO 81643-0417

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