

# The Valley News

## CCBA News

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By Donna Griesel, CCBA President

What a good time we had at the Chili Supper and Auction in October! It is one of our annual fundraisers for the Community Building. We raised over \$1200, thanks to the participation and generosity of so many of you. There is a long list of people to thank for all the donations of time, cooking, baking, auction items, set-up and cleanup. It goes to show that this is becoming a community event, and I thank all of you for helping to make that evening such a successful one. And to you, Byron Alsop, who always makes the auction so much fun, a special thank you!

The CCBA was granted a Colorado sales tax exemption in November. It was Alvera Leitner, our secretary, who took the initiative to apply for this. We are very grateful for all that Alvera does for the Community Building and for Coaldale. She's always willing to give of her time and talent. The next time you see her, thank her.

The draft of the Historic Structure Assessment has been completed. We now have a couple of months to read through it and suggest changes. The copy that I have will be circulated to others on the board, but should anyone

in the community want to look it over, please let me know.

You may have noticed the covered shoe box in the Coaldale Post Office, asking for your ideas for using the building. What community events would you like to see happen there? How can the building be additionally utilized? We'd like your ideas.

The Annual Meeting of the Community Building Association will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 PM, with the meeting starting at 7:00 PM. In addition to Community Building business, you'll also hear reports from the Fire Dept., the Valley Health Clinic, the Cemetery Association, and the TV Club. This is your chance to find out what is happening in your community. There are yearly dues of \$20 per household. The money we receive from membership dues goes toward the continued maintenance of the building. I encourage all of you to join and show your support of our historic building. You do not have to be a CCBA member to attend the meeting, however. Come, meet your neighbors, enjoy a homemade dinner, and learn more about Coaldale.

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Plan to attend:

**Coaldale Community Building Association  
ANNUAL MEETING  
April 14, 2007**

**6:00 PM Pot Luck Dinner  
7:00 PM CCBA Annual Meeting**

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## Help Needed!

The Valley Health Clinic has several openings for Board Members who might like to serve. The present Board invites interested persons to attend meetings, which are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. A business, financial, or medical background would be helpful. For more information, please call 942-3719, 942-4422, or 942-3592.

## Bluegrass Music Jam

Do you like bluegrass music? Do you play it? Then, come to the Cotopaxi Store Thursday evenings, 6-8 PM. You can jam with others, or just enjoy the music. See the ad on page 5.

## Coaldale Valley Club

By Becky Olson

In November we put together 23 Christmas boxes for needy children. Thank you to everyone that gave us a donation. In December, we had a nice Christmas luncheon and gift exchange at Barry's Café in Texas Creek. We are now starting the New Year. Our meetings are held at the Coaldale Community Building on the first Friday of every month at noon. Please come and join us. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Becky Olson, President, 942-3071, or Sharon Clifton, Secretary, 942-4397.

## Coaldale Community Cemetery Association

By Shar Faison

The Coaldale Cemetery Association is pleased with the response of the community in the sale of spaces in the old cemetery --- Thank you very much! We are hoping with some money in the bank, grants can be applied for and obtained and we can proceed with some of the development of the new area. The items that need attention first will be signage -- to include mapping (for both the old and new) and roads. Other items will include fencing and gates; parking

lot; walkways; and a Kiosk. These are just a few of the needed items that have been identified. Any donation from community members is always welcome, and fundraisers in the future will help raise the needed monies to develop and maintain the cemetery. Several members of the community have attended the meetings (every other month) and several have expressed amazement as to how much goes into having a community cemetery --- not only the expense of development, but

lots of planning and meticulous record keeping.

Several trees were cut down to provide better access for opening and closing of the gravesites in early November. Members of the Board, community members, and Russ Gillespie met to determine which trees were to be cut. At that time, several trees were pruned to allow folks to walk under them and along the pathways without having branches hanging down in the way.

There has been some

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progress in identifying a couple of the "unmarked graves".... at least, we think we know who might be buried in them. If anyone in the community can provide info on "unmarked graves", the Board would gratefully accept that info. Some inquires have come to us

requesting info on folks buried in our cemetery. The next Cemetery meeting will be on January 28, 2007 at 6:00 PM at the Community Building. All community members are welcome and your input, questions, etc. are genuinely appreciated. The Board members as of

this date are: Bill Parks, President, Suzanne Tonnesen, Vice-President, Marleen Cooper, Treasurer, and Shar Faison, Secretary and Sexton. Members at large are Carol McNew, Roxanne Moore, Alvera Leitner, David Shields, and Diana Van Dyke.

**Coaldale Quilters**

By Shar Faison

The Coaldale Quilters are happily quilting away and enjoying the good companionship of all the participants. They continue to meet each Tuesday at the Community Building around 9:00 AM. No big projects have been planned at this writing, but don't be surprised if they

come up with something for the group to do ... that is if everyone gets all their own projects caught up with!

An outing to the Chili Bear in Westcliffe was enjoyed by the group during the Christmas season. Anyone that does embroidery, knitting, crochet, quilting, or any

other handwork is encouraged to come and enjoy the fellowship .... and there is always someone there to lend advice if a problem arises with handwork. The quilters have many talents in addition to a love of quilting. New members always add a spark. The group is very laid back and the get -

together is very relaxed, no big rules or regulations to follow. Just pack a lunch, your project, and come join the Coaldale Quilters on Tuesdays !! We need and would love to have some new participants in our Quilt Club.

**Thanks!**

**THANK YOU** to the kind soul who keeps the parking lots of the Community Building and Fire Station plowed when the snow piles high. Your efforts are much appreciated.

**Warm the World**

By Sharon Clifton

Warm the World is an organization started several years ago by Nan Sullivan, in Cañon City. Now it is a non-profit organization and is growing.

Volunteers knit and crochet afghans for adults and babies, lap

robes for nursing homes, baby afghans for new mothers at Ft. Carson, caps for all ages (some going overseas to soldiers – brown, green and beige – some to homeless people, or to a children's hospital in

Arkansas).

Yarn is always needed and money for shipping would be greatly appreciated. And, of course, knitters and crocheters are always needed.

For more information,

call Dee Trexel at 942-4083, or Sharon Clifton at 942-4397.

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of each month at 11:00 AM at 465 Valley Rd., Suite B (back door) in Cañon City.



## Christian Women's Connection

By Celeste Strid, Chair

Baby it's cold outside! But it's warm inside at the Coaldale Building at the Christian Women's Connection luncheon. About 50 to 60 women get together each third Wednesday at noon for a fun and inspirational program, plus a delicious hot meal prepared for us by Sandra Canterbury. Here's what's been cooking: In January our feature was called "Do's in a Dash" by Gusti of CJ &

Co. Hair Design in Salida. Even though we had all that snow, our speaker, a realtor from Craig, CO drove all the way down to share her story of a troubled childhood and how she found 'joy in the trash can'.

In February we are planning our "For Love or Chocolate!" luncheon with a cooking demo of some delicious chocolate desserts to tempt anyone

who has a heartbeat! Our speaker Beth Hartshorn, from Rocky Ford, will tell her story of "From Bitterly Self-Centered to Sweetly Self-fulfilled."

A special time is planned for March as Clogging instructors from Westcliffe, J.D. and Nona Teague will dance their intricate step-dances for us, and in April we are having "Game Show Mania" as we do our own wacky version of "The Price is Right!" and

"Name That Tune!"

Come on out for a good time and great food with some really friendly ladies. Every woman is welcome.

The luncheon runs from 12 to 1:45 at the Coaldale Community Building. Call Georgia Bennett for reservations and information. 942-4319 (Reservations are necessary)

## Looking Ahead to Gardening

By Suzanne Tonnesen

Thinking about spring yet?

When planning your garden this year, please keep in mind that western climates are (normally) very dry, and we should all be concerned about using water-wise strategies when possible. Salida Regional Library has several books on xeriscape gardening that are a great resource for information on establishing and maintaining "low water use" gardens. One of the best things you can

do to minimize water use is to mulch your gardens heavily. Just about any kind of mulch will do as long as it keeps the wind and direct sun off of the soil surface.

If your plants are already established, a heavier mulch such as a chipped bark can work well, but if you are trying to start plants from seed, you should use a finer, lighter mulch like straw. Under conditions of extreme wind it may be necessary to use netting to keep whatever mulch you use in place.

Here's a short list of beautiful locally hardy native plants that are relatively easy to grow in Coaldale. They are also drought tolerant once established. Look for them online or at your favorite local nursery.

### Wildflowers

Scarlet Gilia  
Chainpod  
Blanketflower  
Tansy Aster  
Annual Sunflower  
Rocky Mountain  
Beeplant  
Blue Flax  
Mexican Hat

Wild Four O'Clock  
Crownbeard Daisy  
Penstemons  
Dakota Vervain

### Grasses

Sand Dropseed  
Sleepygrass  
Indian Ricegrass  
Side-oats Grama  
Western Wheatgrass  
Blue Grama

### Trees and Shrubs

Fourwing  
Rabbitbrush  
Juniper

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*Bluegrass Music Jam • Thurs. 6-8 pm* Mon. - Sat. 7:30AM - 6PM  
20204 Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi Sun. 9AM - 6PM



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| Cabins Available. Restaurant Opens in April. 719-942-3811<br><a href="http://www.banderasbunkhouse.com">www.banderasbunkhouse.com</a> |

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*About the CCBA Newsletter...*

*The CCBA Newsletter is published quarterly at the end of July, October, January, and April.*

*Publisher: Donna Griesel, 942-4120*

*Editor: Ray Edwards, 942-3204*

*If you have any ideas, comments, etc., regarding this newsletter, please contact either one of us. Especially if you would like to contribute a story!*

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