



2023 GREENHORN VALLEY



*Hiking ~ Camping ~ Dining ~ Lodging
Arts & Entertainment*

Stay and Play in the Greenhorn Valley!

Rye/Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana each Tuesday evening, 6:00 pm; Team Sorting the 2nd and 4th Friday evening, 6:30pm 5604 Cuerno Verde Rd. Colorado City www.rccsaddleclub.com

May 29, **VFW Post 7305 Memorial Service** 9am, Colorado City Cemetery, E. Jefferson Street, right on Sandy Court

June 4, **Craver Cheerleaders Golf Tournament**, Hollydot Golf Course, Colorado City

719-676-3341

June 6, **Opening Day at the Colorado City Parks and Recreation Swimming Pool.**

Open Swim: Tues - Sat, 12:30 - 4:30pm, Monday, 6-8pm. Daily admission - \$4. 719-676-3059

June 10, **Friends of Hollydot Tournament**, Hollydot Golf Course, Colorado City 719-676-3341

June 11, **PCRP Old Fashioned Family Picnic** - Apache Creek Fiddlers, 1-4 pm, Greenhorn Meadows Park

Pavilion, Colorado City. Adults \$20, Children \$10
www.pueblorepublicans.org

June 17, **Greenhorn Valley Chamber of Commerce - Reuben Ezpinoza Fishing Derby.** 7am - 1pm, Lake Beckwith Dam in Colorado City

June 17, **Bantam Football Tournament**, Hollydot Golf Course, Colo City 719-676-3341

June 21-24 **Spanish Peaks Rodeo Bible Camp** - 719-989-8756, sprbc@yahoo.com

July 4, **VFW Post 7305 - Veterans, Active Military & Family 4th of July Picnic** - noon, Greenhorn Meadows Park - 676-2375

July 4, **Independence Day Parade** - 10am-11pm, Main Street, Westcliffe.

July 6-9, **High Mountain Hayfever Bluegrass Festival**, Bluff & Summit Park, Westcliffe - highmountain-hayfever.org

July 8, **Round Table Golf Tournament**, Hollydot Golf Course, Colo City 719-676-3341

July 10, **Shakespeare in the Sangres**, The Misanthrope, 6pm - 8:30pm, Feedstore Amphitheater, 116 W. 2nd Street, Westcliffe, CO

July 14-23 **Pueblo County Fair - Pueblo**

July 15, **22nd Annual Mountain Aire Festival** at Brush Canyon Ranch, 4:00pm. Tickets include dinner and a live auction, available at the door. Old San Isabel Road, Rye, CO

July 29, **Greenhorn Valley Days**, enjoy a day of music, sports, food, and fun with vendors, co-ed softball, food trucks, a cornhole tournament, a horseshoe tournament, and musical entertainment all day. Greenhorn Meadows Park - Colorado City

August 4-6, **67th Annual Beulah Arts & Crafts Show**- Beulah School of Natural Science, www.beulahvalleyartscouncil.org

August 12, **SilverWest AirFest** - 7:30am-3:30pm, Butler Field, Westcliffe

August 30, **Wet Mountain Weaver Fiber Art Show and Sale**, 10am-5pm, Greenstone Artworks, 100 Main St. Westcliffe

September 9, **11th Annual High Peaks Music Festival**- Westcliffe high-peaksmusicfestival.org

September 10, **Rye Booster Club Golf Tournament** at Hollydot, 719-676-3341

September 16, **2023 Rye Town Square Fair**, 11am-4pm Main Street, Rye

September 23, **The Beulah Challenge**, 5K 10K Half-Marathon www.beulahchallenge.com

October 14, **9th Annual CC/Rye Lions Club Annual Autumn Car Show & Craft Fair** 9am-3pm, Greenhorn Meadows Park.

October 31, **Halloweentown**- twilight, Main Street in Rye




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18 holes/walking \$25
With cart \$40
9 holes/walking \$15
With cart \$25

Weekend Rates:
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With cart \$45
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With cart \$30

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Hollydot Golf Course
55 North way Drive
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Dining ~ with a view ~ in the Greenhorn Valley



Bolt Burgers & Shakes is a locally owned, fast casual eatery with a modern spin on the classic burger joint. The beef is fresh Angus, and the chicken is hand-battered and fried to perfection. The sauces and green Chile are made in house, and they offer over 30 flavors of milkshakes and malts! Check out the menu at www.boltburger-sandshakes.com. Located at 6675 Highway 165, and can be reached at 719-676-6297.

High Octane: Our specialty is BBQ, steaks and pasta. Our BBQ comes from a 750-gallon oak-wood barrel. We have a wide variety of comfort food and lots of side items. We also have a full bar. Watch sports on our total sports package TV system. Dine on the patio or inside. 8900 S. I-25, Colorado City, highoctanebbq.com (719) 676-2440.

The Round Table at Hollydot offers cool patio

seating with a full view of the mountains, while you enjoy a burger or sandwich with fries, appetizers or a fresh salad. Breakfast Burritos and sandwiches also available for the early birds. 55 N Parkway Drive, Colorado City, CO. Open 7 days a week. 719-676-3300.

Lodge at San Isabel - newly remodeled restaurant, tentatively opening on May 29 for the summer season. Please call 719-489-2280 for hours and menu specialties. sanisabellodging.com

Rye Café, where old friends meet and new ones are made. Come visit the century old Cafe in Rye, CO. The Rye Cafe is nestled in the foothills of the Greenhorn mountains and is less than 10 miles from I-25 off of highway 165. Stop on in on your way to San Isabel, Bishop's Castle, or any of the other beautiful nearby areas. Make our quaint and cozy Cafe your go to

spot for Pizza and more. 2115 Main St. Rye, CO. 81069 (719)489-3131

Subway Sandwiches at Fastbreak Convenience offers a wide variety of hot or cold sandwiches, made just the way you like them. Located across from the Travel Center at exit 74.

Three Sisters Tavern & Grill: Truly delicious food and great service. The

owners really are sisters and they make getting off I-25 worthwhile. For an unforgettable view take your meal outdoors or enjoy an ice-cold beer or glass of wine at the bar. Hwy 165, Colorado City. 719-676-2276.

The Valley Grind offers a delicious cup of coffee and iced or frozen drinks to meet anyone's tastes. The friendly and fast drive-through coffee shop is located in the Ace Hardware parking lot on highway 165. Daily Specials are posted at the drive-up window. 719-676-2905

Valley Market- Fresh Deli sandwiches, Chester Fried Chicken, or piping-hot Hunt Brothers Pizza may be just the thing as you begin your adventure in the Greenhorn Mountains. Stop in and stock up on cold drinks and all your camping needs. Open Mon - Sat, 8am-7pm, 719-676-3348

Viktorio's Pizzeria: has a wide variety of Italian and American menu items, with some big surprises for a small town. Join the pool tournament Friday or Karaoke on Saturday. Located on Bent Bros Blvd. in Colorado City. 719-676-4455



Daily Specials posted at the Drive-up Window
Located in the Ace Hardware Parking Lot

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 5am to 4pm
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beginning June 1 - August

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**Colorado City Parks and Recreation
 2023 Swimming Pool Schedule**

5000 Cuerno Verde Rd. 676-3059

POOL OPENS: Tuesday, June 6

POOL CLOSES: Saturday, August 5

OPEN SWIM HOURS:

Tuesday- Saturday 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm

DAILY ADMISSIONS: Monday-Saturday \$4

Punch Pass 2/\$40.00

Children 2 and under FREE

SWIM LESSONS: Registration forms are available at the Parks and Recreation office at 5000 Cuerno Verde, the Colorado City Metro District office at 4497 Bent Bros. Blvd. or online at

www.colorado.gov/cocityparksandrec

Each session is \$40.00 per student

Session 1 is June 12 to June 22

Session 2 is July 10 to July 20

LAP SWIM: Monday through Friday

7:30 to 8:30am

AEROBICS: Monday through Friday

8:30 to 9:30am

We Rent for Your Event or Party!!

Call us at 676-3059

Pool Party Pricing: Based on a 2-hour party

Up to 25 Swimmers: \$100

26 to 50 Swimmers: \$150

51 to 75 Swimmers: \$200

76 to 100 Swimmers: \$250



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ty. Perfect for that private getaway from the city or a little privacy for the married couple as they start their honeymoon.

Most people don't know about

www.craftsmanlodge.com or the Facebook page. 719-489-3157 or 719-989-0853

The Craftsman Lodge gives a discount to residents of the Greenhorn Valley.

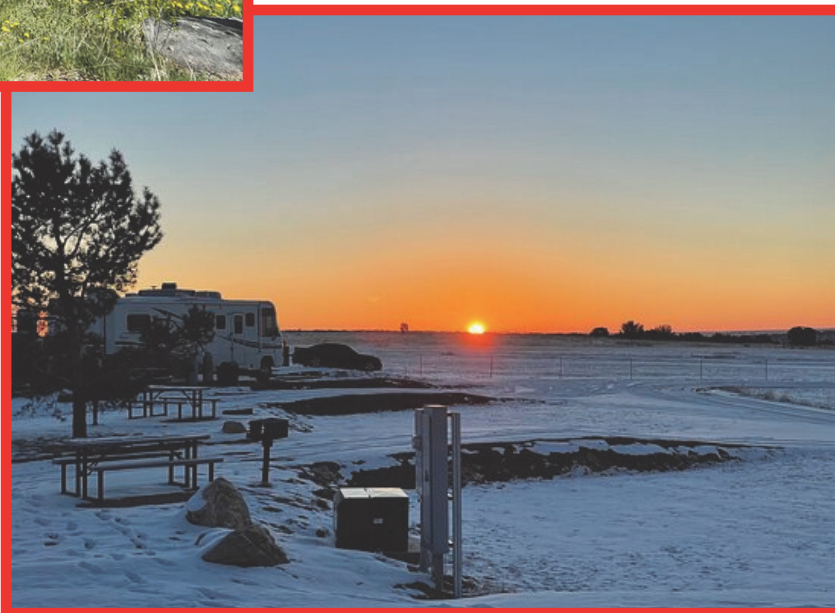
San Isabel area lodging includes **The San Isabel Lodge and Restaurant, The Pines, and Aspen**

watercraft. www.sanisabellodging.com 719-489-2280

Just across the highway, The Pines offers cosy cabins and is also located in close proximity to Lake Isabel

Aspen Acres now offers full-hookup sites, cabins, outfitter tents and tent sites, and a remodeled bathhouse. The area offers hiking, biking, fishing, ATVing, dirt-bike riding, paddleboarding, kayaking, and stargazing all at 9,200 feet in the beauty of the San Isabel National Forest.

Information can be seen at www.aspenacrescampground.com 719-485-3275



The KOA Kampground is just to the east at the Colorado City/Rye exit. Featuring excellent camping and RV parking, with great views and fun events throughout the summer, the KOA is a popular spot in southern Colorado. A refurbished swimming pool will open July 4, and miniature golf is available for young and old to enjoy as you get to know your fellow campers. Cabins are also available at the KOA. Call 719-676-3376 for reservations and information. Or go to Pueblo-South campground at koa.com

awhile, they have a few new updates and have something for everyone's taste attending that Family reunion, preparing for the perfect Wedding, or just a nice family/friends getaway.

For relaxation after a fun day of hiking and biking, they have built a dry sauna with a perfect view of the glorious Greenhorn Mountain. It also has a lovely deck if you just want to sit and enjoy the view with a nice beverage.

If you really want to just enjoy the outdoors with a spectacular view without being confined by a house, there are several tent sites and a compost outhouse to set the mood (although you can use the house toilet if desired). This year they plan to expand on this experience by adding a large Yurt to the proper-

the RV site with full hook-ups available as well. So get outdoors and enjoy what the Greenhorn Valley has to offer and spend your nights glamping in luxury in the Lodge or sleeping in the outdoors on the property. Visit

Acres. All recently remodeling, this favorite destination has much to offer including freshly updated cabins, the San Isabel Lodge Restaurant, and easy access to Lake Isabel. The lake is perfect for all types of non-motorized

The Day's Inn Motel offers fully remodeled rooms and a pool with a fabulous view of the Greenhorn Mountains. Conveniently located just off I-25 and Highway 165, with easy access to the San Isabel National Forest. Accommodations include a lounge and Japanese restaurant. 719-676-2340

Local residents are offered a discount for reservations.

The Pines of Beulah:

Vacation Rental Cabins nestled in the ponderosa pines near Middle Creek. Available for overnight, weekend or multi-night stays. Visit thepinesofbeulah.com - 8956 Grand Ave, Beulah CO 719-485-7463

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Activities we support:

- Social Programs
- Walsenburg Veterans Home
- Annual Memorial Day Observance
- Colorado City Cemetery
- Buddy Poppy Distribution



Supporting Veteran Services





How will you KNOW? What will you DO? 2023 Pueblo County Mountain Community Preparedness Provided by the Rye Fire Protection District

Pueblo County uses Twenty First Century Communications for their Emergency Telephone Notifications System (ETNS).

- Web-based
- Telephone based backup system
- On the fly or pre-recorded campaign
- Map or Contact List launch
- Detailed Reports

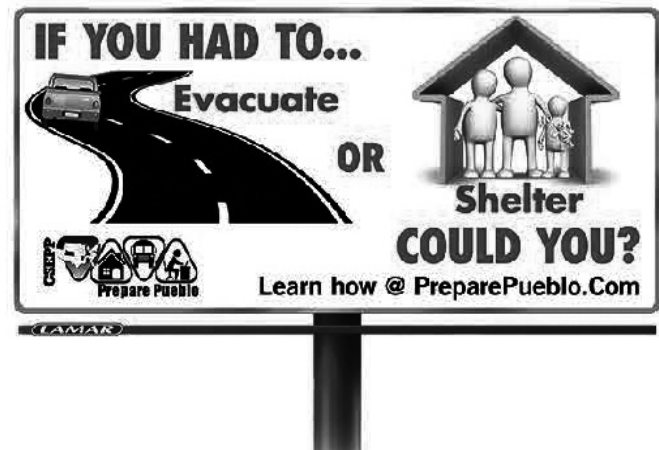
Home numbers are provided to the 911 center by local phone provider. Citizens can register their cellular phones or Voice over Internet (VoIP) phones at www.pueblocountyoptin.com

Aside from ETNS...First responders/officials notify via: Route Alerting (loud speaker patrol and door to door checks) telling residents to do one of two things.....

Evacuate or Shelter-in-Place

During an evacuation you will be asked to secure your home and take your family and pets (if able to load quickly) away from the threat. This is most likely requested by officials during a flood or wild land fire.

If you are told to shelter-in-place, it is likely a chemical or weather event. During this time period staying indoors is how best to keep your family safe. Going to an interior room with no windows and turning off ventilation systems may be requested.



The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Center houses the 911 center as well as an Emergency Operations Center and a Joint Information Center. During a community disaster, these centers will coordinate and order resources, manage situational awareness, and distribute public information.

You can be better prepared by taking some preparedness steps:

Pack a 72 hour kit

Food, water, battery operated flashlight and radio, tools, first aid kit, cash, plastic sheeting whistle, a change of clothes, duct tape, matches, etc. This kit will be important if you find yourself shut in for extended time periods with no electricity but it is also a great item to grab if you have to evacuate quickly.

Keep copies of your Vital Documents somewhere secure and easy to get to if you have to evacuate.

Copies of....

- Birth Certificates
- Social Security cards
- Drivers Licenses
- Adoption Records
- Wills
- Insurance policies
- Credit Cards
- Credit, Investments, and Bank Account #'s
- Titles, Deeds, Trusts

Know where to go for information during an emergency



Social Media Accounts

- **PCSO Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/pueblosheriff>
- **Twitter@Pueblo Count SO**
- **Twitter@Rye_Fire_Dist**

Websites

- www.puebloemergency.info
- www.ryefiredistrict.us

Emergency Alert Station

- KCCY 96.9

Camping Near the Wet Mountains



The Ophir Creek Campground is located about 48 miles southwest of Pueblo, eight miles north of Lake Isabel. This campground is situated along Squirrel Creek at an elevation of 8,900 feet.

There are 31 campsites in the campground. Twelve are back-in campsites suitable for small RVs. The remaining nineteen are walk-in tent sites. Each campsite has a picnic table and fire grate. Some of the sites are in an open meadow while the rest are shaded by spruce and aspen trees. This area is very pretty, especially in the fall and it is a great place to tent camp.

Reservations are not accepted. Open May through mid October

Activities
FISHING: Fishing is available in Ophir Creek, Lake Isabel and St. Charles Creek.

HIKING: Hiking is available on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle, Dome Rock and South Creek trails.

BIKING: Biking is available on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle, Dome Rock and South Creek trails.

MOTORIZED TRAIL RIDING : ATVs are permitted on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle trails.

Ophir Creek Road
 From the campground

follow Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360 12 miles, then turn left on Greenhorn Forest Service Road #369, which continues another 13 miles. Trailheads along this road include the Cisneros, 9 miles in on FSR# 369, Pole Creek, and the western trailhead of Barlett Trail at nearly 17 miles along #369. From the origin at the Ophir Campground to elevations above 11,000 ft., witness a beautifully changing variety of wildflowers culminating with abundant purple Wild Lupine scattered among the deep forest green of towering Poderosa Pine.

For the very determined, continue on FSR #369 and spend the afternoon fishing in the remote and peaceful alpine lakes at 11,220 feet.s.

Greenhorn Meadows Campground-

Located on highway 165, just a few miles from from the I-25 exit. The campground has 15 RV sites with electricity and numerous tent sites, city water, full shower and bathroom facilities, a gazebo and a cave if you can find it!

St. Charles Campground-

Located about 40 miles southwest of Pueblo near Lake Isabel, the elevation is 8,800 feet. Fifteen campsites suitable for both RVs and tents. About one mile

to Lake Isabel from the campground. No hookups for RVs. Ten of the campsites are reservable and five available on a first come/first serve basis.

The campground is one of three in the San Isabel Recreation

Area. Firewood is available for a fee. The nearby community of San Isabel offers limited groceries, paddle and rowboat rentals and a small restau-

rant for a cooks night out.

Hiking-Snow Slide Trail - 5 miles/Cisneros Trail - 15 miles

Fishing-Brown and Rainbow trout in the reservoir and Brook trout in the St. Charles headwaters. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend.

Directions-From Colorado City, CO, take State Rt. 165 west 12.2 miles to San Isabel Recreation Area sign. Turn left at sign and go 1.1 miles to campground sign. Turn left at sign and go 0.3 miles to another campground sign. Turn right at sign into campground.

La Vista Campground

La Vista Campground is a developed campground with the following activities: hiking, fishing, and boating. At Lake Isabel, activities include non-motorized boating and fishing. St. Charles Creek is close to the campground and may be fished. Access to motorized and non-motorized trails including Cisneros, St. Charles, and Snowslide.

From Colorado City travel west 18 miles on state Hwy 165. Turn into the south entrance at Lake Isabel, go about 1 mile and look for the La Vista campground signs. Located in South Central Colorado 43 miles southwest



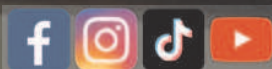
At SRDA we offer free, in-person help from our certified Connect for Health Colorado enrollment experts. Our certified Enrollment Assistants can help you apply for financial help and are very experienced with complicated situations, such as when one family member receives Health First Colorado or other public assistance while the others do not. Our Assistants can also provide education about affordable health insurance and help you enroll in a Marketplace plan. For more information Call SRDA at 719-583-6611.

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Hiking Trails from Easy to Difficult



The Wet Mountains, also called the Greenhorn Mountains, are named for the amount of rain that has traditionally fallen on

the range. Located within the San Isabel National Forest, it covers an area of 220,000 acres and is part of the San Carlos Ranger

District. The Wet Mountains are one of Colorado's lower ranges when compared to other major ranges in

Colorado. It spans for fifty miles in a north-south direction beginning at the Arkansas River near Canon City and ending at the Huerfano River just north of Walsenburg. The dominant peaks are Greenhorn Mountain at 12,347 feet; North Peak at 12,220; St. Charles Peak at 11,784; and Deer Peak at 11,572. Approximately 22,000 acres of the Greenhorn Mountain, is protected by the Colorado Wilderness Act. This designation provides an atmosphere that seems virtually untouched by humans. It also has eliminated all motor vehicle traffic, limits the number of hikers during certain periods of time, and requires strict camping guidelines.

Lake San Isabel a 40 acre reservoir was created by the WPA in the 1930's entirely for recreation. Other interesting sites include the abandoned Marion Mine, Maes Creek Burn Out, Apache Falls, the Blue Lakes, Chicken Lookout Point, Marion Lake and Dome Rock. Elevations: start 8,000', high point 11,580', end 11,580'

The Bartlett Trail #1310
Length: 12.1 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: summer and early fall; hiking, horseback riding

The Bartlett Trail is in the Greenhorn Wilderness Area, so wilderness rules and regulations apply (especially no mechanized vehicles, including mountain bikes and hang gliders). If hiking from the Rye end of the trail, it's a long way up to the junction with the South Apache Trail on the southern shoulder of Greenhorn Mountain. At that junction, if you go north you'll come to the other trailhead for Bartlett. If you go south, you'll go deeper into the Wilderness Area. The Bartlett Trail skirts the upper part of Greenhorn Mountain by staying

south and west of the upper mountain.

Access: The lower trailhead is south of Rye. Go through Rye on Main Street, turn left on Boulder, left again on Graneros Road, right on Hunter and right again on Baxter to the trailhead.

The upper trailhead is the same as for the Greenhorn Trail. Take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12 miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road #369, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. USGS Maps: Rye, San Isabel

The South Apache Trail #1311

Length: 4.3 miles, Rated: hard, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding
Elevations: start 9,600', high point 9,600', end: 7,300'

This trail is a hard drop off the eastern side of the Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness. The trail ends at private property so the only way out is to go back up that relentless hill. At the parking area at the end of the road, follow the signs for the Bartlett Trail. Follow the Bartlett Trail for about 5 miles to the junction with the South Apache Trail. Go right and follow the trail down the hill paralleling South Apache Creek.

Access: From State Highway 165, turn west at Ophir Creek Road (FR 360). Go about 12 miles and then turn left (south) on the Greenhorn Mountain Road #369. Go another 17 miles to the end of the road at the edge of Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness.

USGS Maps: San Isabel, Rye, Badito Cone, Hayden Butte

Cisneros Trail #1314
Length: 10.4 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: year around; hiking, horseback

See Hiking p. 23



Channe Stockman, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

4491 Bent Brothers Blvd.
Colorado City, CO

719.595.7525

Parkview welcomes Channe Stockman, NP to Colorado

Channe has over 16 years of experience working in the medical field. She obtained her MSN degree in 2022 from Simmons University in Boston, Massachusetts. She is certified as a family nurse practitioner by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. She values quality patient care and takes time to educate patients to help them understand their diagnosis and treatment options.

Outside of the office, she enjoys golfing, cooking with her husband and watching her daughters dance.

Channe is accepting patients of all ages.

Don't Miss Colorado City's Hollydot Golf Course



The 18-hole Hollydot Golf Course which celebrated its grand opening in May of 1973 is nestled in the Greenhorn Valley with the beautiful Greenhorn Mountains

towering majestically as a background for the golf course located just 20 minutes south of Pueblo in Colorado City.

The Par 71 course has five different tee-off spots:

Gold(6854 yards), Blue(6443 yards), White(6,000 yards), Red(5,000 yards), and Orange for Seniors (5,500 yards). The white was recently lengthened and

the red was shortened slightly.

Hollydot Golf Course is very well run, well laid out, and the weather seems to be unusually cooperative. The course hosts tournaments throughout the season with local teams, as well as many from Pueblo and other surrounding communities. The rates are very affordable, with junior, family and senior rates available.

The Hollydot Pro Shop is filled with top notch golfing apparel and equipment to choose from. Just right for a gift if you have a golf enthusiast.

The Round Table Sports Grill allows diners a choice of the cool air-conditioned bar and restaurant or dining alfresco on the patio with a full view of the Greenhorn Mountains. Don't miss this relaxing experience.

You'll enjoy the interesting mix of small-town locals and golfers who travel from far and wide to play at Hollydot Golf

Course. Helping keep Hollydot in top shape are the Friends of Hollydot, a non-profit volunteer organization that helps in a myriad of ways from painting, to picking up, cleaning, and just fulfilling their mission statement which is "to promote, support, and enhance the golf experience for the benefit of the community."

Hollydot History

The first nine holes of the Hollydot Golf Course were completed in 1961. Holland and Clyde Young designed the course and Ron Higgins built it. The course name is a combination of the owners of the land the course was built on: Holland and Dorothy Duell's first names: Holly and Dot. The West nine holes opened in 1965 and the clubhouse was built in the winter of 1966 to 1967. Eventually the course grew to 27 holes. The official Grand Opening was held in 1973

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Pueblo W. Branch | 18 E. Spaulding Ave. | 719-547-8992



The Charming St. Charles River and Trail



You'll take dozens of pictures on the short hike from the western edge of

San Isabel Lake, up the St Charles River, and through the picnic area.

This shady hike is easy enough for children and a great place to explore the variety of wading pools along the way. Many of the pools are foot-friendly with soft gravel bottoms, but water shoes will make the day



even better.

Pack a lunch or grab a sandwich at the Lodge and follow the boat ramp down to lakes edge; at the ramp go right and follow the sunny path around the lake to the west. As you reach the west edge you will find a trail leading into the forest to your right. Continue up

kids (or the dog) pick the path, and the wading pools. The cool water will get plenty of attention but the length of the trail to several well-placed picnic tables is short so there is no need to hurry.

Two footbridges will cross the river along the way and both sides of the river offer clean picnic

through the park until you hear the river just in front of you and stay to the right of the river. The trail will end and require an easy cross of the river about 500 feet in, with the trail picking up again on the other side of the river.

From this point, let the

spots and include fire pits at some points.

Near the top of the trail, watch for a beautiful natural staircase worth several photos. There is also a nearly waist deep pool at this point which may easily become your destination for the day.



FARMERS David Chucka
INSURANCE Agency Owner

1 North Parkway Colorado City, CO 81019

Office 719-676-3900 Cell 719-557-9069 Fax 719-676-3901

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Visit the Historic Pope Barn



This picturesque barn had a wooden floor that was used a dance floor for the all-night get-togethers early settlers enjoyed. The barn was built on the Nicklas and

Benedicta Peterson Christenson homestead. Nicklas was the older brother of Magnus Emil Christenson, whose descendents still live in the Rye area.

Both Nicklas and Benedicta immigrated to the United States from Sweden in 1881. They claimed this land, where they built the barn about 1886. On August 15, 1888, Nicklas became a naturalized citizen making him eligible for their homestead. The land was awarded in 1890 [24S 68W Section 7 SE ¼; SE ¼].

Nicklas and Benedicta had at least three children that lived to become adults. The children grew up on the ranch; but the family left the land a year or two after Benedicta's death in 1919 to live in Pueblo. The land was leased and after Nicklas' death in 1939, son Nels Barnard Christenson inherited it with the barn.

Nels was a widower by this time. He had married Mary Ann Savage, the daughter of George Washington and Adelia Matilda Austin Savage who homestead north of the Christenson homestead. Nels and Mary Ann's only child, Myra

was born and died in 1920. After her death, Nels took Mary Ann to California where they lived almost ten years. Mary Ann died in 1932, after they returned to Colorado. Nels lived in Pueblo until his death in 1955.

The Pope family acquired the Christenson Ranch. Daniel Lincoln and Ina Constance Price Pope combined her family's homestead into his family's Pope Valley Ranch. This land is located between Colorado City and Beulah off of Siloam Road.

Daniel and Ina Pope had one child, Walter Thomas born in 1927. Walter grew up on his family's ranch and married Mildred Marie McLallen in 1947. The couple worked his family's land and had eleven children.

The Nicklas Christenson homestead became Popes' Snowslide Valley Ranch. Eventually the land was sub-divided and sold; but the barn and the Pope name remain.

The historic Pope Barn is located near Lake Isabel just before the Lake near mile marker 19, you will see it on the east side of the road. You can use Google Maps to get directions to the location

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Colorado City Parks & Rec Swimming Pool, Park and Pavilion



numerous tent sites, city water, full shower and bathroom facilities, a gazebo and a cave if you can find it! The campground now offers Wireless Internet access for visitors.

Walk around Lake Beckwith or stop and fish the lake (stocked by the DOW), launch your boat (no gas

motors allowed), have a picnic.

There are numerous shady spots to enjoy, and ample parking on the west and east side of the lake.

Locals make use of Lake Beckwith for moonlight paddle-boarding or kayaking excursions throughout the summer on warm moon-lit evenings.

Please make use of the designated trash cans and help us keep the beauty of this area clean and maintained.

For more information about Colorado City Parks and Recreation call 719-676-3059, or check out their website at cocity-parksandrec.com.

The Colorado City Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of events and venues for summer enjoyment.

The beautiful Colorado City pool opens on June 6, offering open swim hours as well as aerobics and lap swim times. *See info on p. 4* The indoor pool is housed in a beautiful greenhouse-like structure, and there is an outdoor kiddie pool with ample deck areas for lounging and sunbathing

The cost is just \$4.00 per person, with punch passes

of 12/\$40 available as well. Children under two years of age swim free.

The swimming pool, as well as the nearby recreation center, is available to rent for pool parties and celebrations by calling 719-676-3059.

The new pavilion at Greenhorn Meadows Park features 14 covered picnic tables, lighting and electricity. It is available to all and can be reserved for special occasions. Play baseball, kickball, soccer, frisbee or just enjoy the beautiful grass at the ball

fields. Play on the playground (12 and under), enjoy a pickup game on the basketball courts, picnic at the many tables in the park; take a walk along the creek.

Cross the creek into Greenhorn Meadows Campground. The campground has 15 RV sites with electricity and

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Beautiful Lake Beckwith in the Heart of Colorado City



the name with Lieutenant (later Brigadier General) Edward Griffin Beckwith who led the Calvary escort for Captain Gunnison's ill-fated railroad surveying expedition and visited the Greenhorn Settlement in the summer of 1853.

The expedition roughly followed the 38th parallel, through Kansas and up the Arkansas River. After they left the Arkansas, Gunnison sent Lieutenant Beckwith out to find a guide to take them over the pass to Fort Massachusetts, the new military post in the San Luis Valley.

Beckwith found his way to the Greenhorn Settlement. He was greeted by Marcelino Baca and his Pawnee wife, whom Beckwith admired as a courteous lady of "matronly grace and dignity." Beckwith found six Mexican families living in a cluster of low adobe houses. For protection from the Utes, each house had a yard in front enclosed by poles planted in the ground, fastened to

horizontal strips of wood with rawhide thongs. In back, a corral was made the same way.

Baca agreed to guide Gunnison's party to Fort Massachusetts and Gunnison began the survey of a possible route, via the Huerfano River, through Cochetopa Pass. Captain Gunnison seeking to speed up the mapping divided his team into two detachments.

Gunnison and the eleven men in his group were attacked by a band of Paiute (Ute) Indians. Gunnison and seven of his men were killed. Survivors of the attack alerted the other detachment of the survey team led by Beckwith who rode hard to aid Gunnison and his party. Arriving too late, they buried the victims and Beckwith took the survivors to Salt Lake City to spend the winter of 1853-54.

The naming of Lake Beckwith in Colorado City can be attributed to three possible men: some claim it was named for a Mr. Beckwith who enlarged the small lake in the early 1900's; others attribute the name to a well-loved Dr. Beckwith who settled three miles east of Rye in 1876; and many associate



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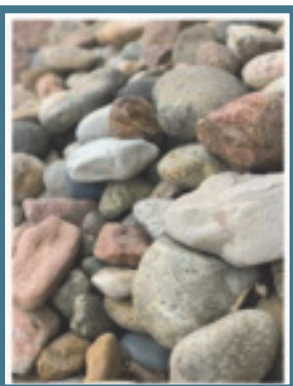
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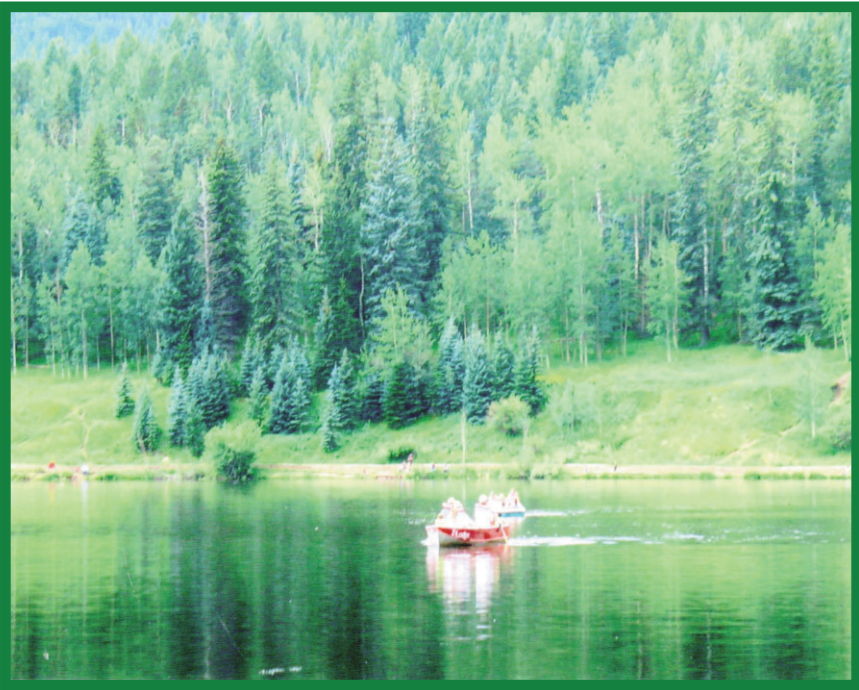
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Fishing Lake Isabel and Beyond



man, or working structures with a spinning rod.

Boats are allowed on the lake as well as electric motors. This is a technique I like to use, in order to reach locations that the shoreline fisherman cannot.

San Isabel is also an excellent location. It does not have the variety of species that Lake Beckwith has, but makes up for it with an abundance of

trout. It has lots of shoreline access, for bait, spin and fly-fishermen alike. Rainbows and/or Cuttbow Trout are stocked frequently, as well as wild Brown and Brook Trout. Fish are taken with a wide variety of techniques. Bait fisherman tend to do well with a variety of options including worms, salmon eggs and powerbait. There are a lot of spinners that

work well too.

Kastmasters are always a good option, as well as 1/8 ounce Krocodiles, Jakes Spin-A-lure, and Panther Martins. Another great technique is to fish a wet fly like a Pistol Pete or Wooly Bugger behind an Adjust A Bubble. My personal favorite technique is to get out on my float tube, and cast a double dry fly rig, towards the shoreline. Often, I can find some of the wild Brown Trout patrolling there, and have an opportunity for some of the bigger fish.

There are a number of small streams around here for those willing to do a little walking and a little bit of bush whacking. The key to success on these smaller fast moving streams is to make a stealthy approach, using some of the brush to break up your outline.

Rainbow's and Brown trout are found at the lower elevations and can be had on just about any type of well presented fly. But as you work your way

upstream you will find fewer Rainbow Trout, and more Brook Trout. Finally as you get near the upper reaches of the streams you can get into some Greenback Cutthroats as well. Check the fishing regulations manual before you fish these.

Finally, Blue Lakes, at the top of Greenhorn Mountain have had a very healthy stock of Cuttbow and Rainbow trout. They are a little bit bigger than the stockers found in Lake Isabel and Beckwith, and are a bit more finicky as well. Blue Lakes are located at the end of Ophir Creek road at the very top of Greenhorn Mountain, with one of the prettiest camping spots around.

Fish there are caught using a variety of standard techniques. My best advice here is to bring different options, so you can find the one that they are biting on. It's one of my favorite places to camp out and hopefully cook a couple of fresh trout while I am at it.

The two obvious choices for fishing are Lake Beckwith in Colorado City, and San Isabel, further up highway 165. Lake Beckwith has something for everyone in that there is a wide variety of species available. For the warm-water fisherman there are Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Perch, Saugeye (Sauger and Walleye hybrid) and catfish, as well as stocked rainbow

trout, and wild brown trout. There is deep, rocky bottom off of the dam, and a nice shallow shelf where the boat ramp is located.

Throughout the lake there are areas where there are submerged brush piles which make excellent structure for large bass and other predatory fish. This makes it an excellent location for any type of fisherman, whether it be a fly-fisherman, bait fisher-



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The Fascinating Bishop's Castle

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been building the castle in the mountainside, himself. Bishop estimates that every year since then he has gathered and placed over a 1000 ton of rock a

year. Visitors can climb steep steps or they can enter from behind to the second floor. The grand ballroom is one of the most impres-

sive features. Unique pieces of stained glass decorate the windows. A dragon sits atop one of the towers and a balcony surrounds large portions of

the castle. The entire sight is free although donation jars are available. The site is open seven days a week from

According to Roadsideamerica, "for most" of the 40 years he has worked on the castle "Bishop was engaged in a running battle with Washington bureaucrats over the rocks that he used," which came from the National Forest surrounding his property. "Bishop felt that they were his for the taking, the government wanted to charge him per truckload." That dispute has been settled. In 1996, he was challenged by the local and state government over unsanctioned road signs that pointed to the site. They settled the dispute by issuing official road signs.

The site has become a tourist attraction, describing it as a medieval fantasy construction"

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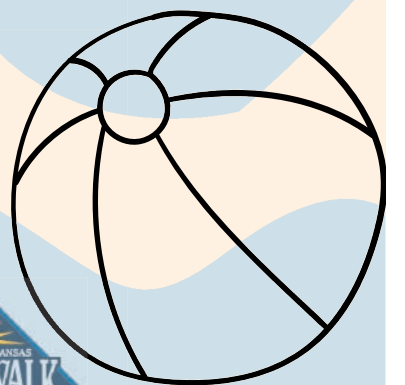


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Take a Drive through the Frontier Pathway and Taos Trail

Frontier Pathway: This old frontier zone marks the intersection of Native

American, Spanish, French and American territories. First were the Utes, then

the European explorers, then traders, trappers, homesteaders, ranchers,

and prospectors came through and left their marks on the land. Historic buildings from mining operations, Victorian towns and long lost cattle empires line the route. And the snow-capped mountains, carpeted meadows, jagged canyons, and aspen-covered hillsides have not changed.

Most folks start the drive out of Pueblo. I usually begin at Westcliffe. From Westcliffe I take State Highway 96 east, towards Pueblo. I usually just go as far as McKenzie Junction in Hardscrabble Canyon and then turn right and take State Highway 165 to Rye and Colorado City. It's a beautiful drive through forested mountain countryside.

At Ophir Creek there's a hairpin turn in the paved road. In the middle of the turn there is a dirt road leading westward to Ophir Campground, Deer Mountain and the Greenhorn Mountain Road. Just south of Ophir

Creek is Bishop's Castle. The road is excellent and, if anything, is too short. Shortly after Bishop's Castle the road passes by Lake Isabel and then leads out onto the flatter grassy slopes of Rye and then down the Greenhorn Canyon to Colorado City and the I-25.

The drive from Pueblo to Wetmore takes you out of the high plains climate zone and into the low montane zone. This is seen by the effects of the increase in precipitation: the grasses and cacti give way to the junipers and pinons of the foothills. There are several ranches along the way that qualify as Centennial Ranches: they've been held by the same family for over 100 years. When they look like this, it's easy to see why the original homesteader's descendants have not moved on.

Take a look at: Wetmore to McKenzie Junction and

See *Frontier Pathway* p. 21

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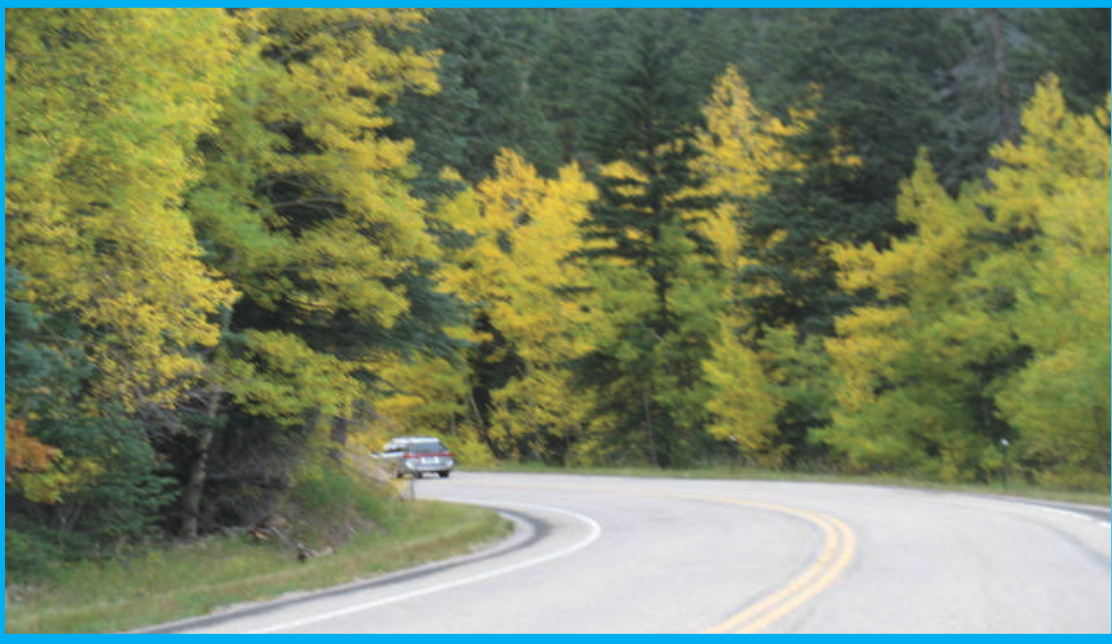


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Frontier Pathway
Continued from p.20

McKenzie Junction to Colorado City. Then there's the section of road from McKenzie Junction to Westcliffe and that gorgeous stretch from Westcliffe to Gardner.

The Taos Trail broke into three separate routes as it approached Colorado on the way to Santa Fe. All of the routes followed ancient hunting, trading and Indian raiding trails, but they were distinctly different and all presented unique challenges.

The shortest route (and, due to Indian attacks, the most dangerous) cut southwest through Kansas, into the Cimarron Valley, and crossed the northwest corner of Oklahoma into New Mexico. The Mountain Branch followed the Arkansas River west to Bent's Fort and onto La Junta Colorado, then southwest across the grasslands to Trinidad

over Raton Pass into New Mexico.

The Western Branch of the Santa Fe Trail was most commonly called the Taos Trail. It followed the Arkansas River further west to its confluence with Fountain Creek in Pueblo. The trail headed south across the St. Charles river into the Greenhorn Valley. After crossing the Greenhorn River it continued south to the Huerfano River at Badito, west up Oak Creek through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains by a pass of the same name and to Santa Fe by way of Taos.

The Taos Trail also was called the War Road and the Huerfano River Trail. Historic records indicate it led native tribes, traders, trappers, the Spaniards, French, settlers and eventually a stage route through the Greenhorn Valley.

The actual location of historic trails and sites are extremely difficult to prove. Early travelers would attempt to take the

easiest route depending on the weather conditions and other factors. Although remnants such as wagon ruts and historic building remains exist at some locations, such sites have not been located in the Greenhorn Valley.

To get a feel for the Taos Trail drive south from Colorado City on State Road 181, Apache City Road. The historic Greenhorn Settlement existed at the shady spot where the Greenhorn River crosses the road.

The Taos Trail headed southwest from here toward the landmark trail marker, Badito Cone*. The Bandito Cone is just above where the trail left the river and headed west

up Oak Creek. Today you must continue to Interstate 25 and travel south to the first Walsenburg Exit.

Turn right onto County Road 69 traveling northwest heading towards Gardner. The remains of the Badito settlement are just east of Farista, about half-way between Tioga and Gardner and just south on County Road 520. The Territorial Daughters of Colorado have erected a bronze marker to commemorate the Badito Crossing on the Taos Trail.

Continue on County Road 520 south. Historic as well, it is commonly

called the Yellowstone Road. Yellow stones appeared on the trail as by-products of mines in the area and were called Piedra Amarillas or Yellow Rocks. The road travels about 15 miles to meet up with State Road 160. Turn left to return to the valley through Walsenburg.

*Several other Buttes dot the plains around the Greenhorn Mountain. The Huerfano Butte, visible to the east of Interstate 25 between Colorado City and Walsenburg was a trail marker on the Santa Fe Trail—Mountain Branch which parallels the highway at this point.

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Hiking
Continued from p.8

riding, mountain biking, ATV, Snowmobiling Elevations: start 8,940', high point 11,220', end 11,220' This trail rises from Lake Isabel into the heart of the Wet Mountains. It winds through gorgeous country alternating between heavy forest and open parks. Lots of wildlife and great wildflowers.

About three-quarters mile from the Lake Isabel Campground is a trail junction with the St. Charles Trail. St. Charles Trail will take you north onto St. Charles Peak (11,784') while the Cisneros Trail turns left and heads southwest towards Greenhorn Mountain (12,347').

Access: The upper trailhead: From State Highway 165, turn west at Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go about 12 miles and then turn left (south) on the Greenhorn Mountain Road #369. Go another 17 miles to the end of the road at the edge of Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness.

The lower trailhead: Go through San Isabel around to the west end of the Lake to the upper campground. The Trail begins on the west end of the campground. USGS Maps: San Isabel

Greenhorn Trail #1316 Length: 7.8 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding Elevations: start 7,460', high point 12,000', end 11,340'

Although the summit

just nudges above the timberline at 12,347 and only ranks as the 1,107 highest peak in the state. There isn't a higher mountain for over forty miles. So Greenhorn's summit provides a wonderful 360 degree view. The endless vista of the Great Plains makes up the views to the east. The spectacular and rugged looking Sangre de Cristo Mountains dominate the view to the west. Looking south the Spanish Peaks with their twin looking summits rule your vision, and Pikes Peak makes its appearance to the north.

Access: The upper trailhead: Take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12 miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. The lower trailhead: Turn left into Rye off highway 165 onto Main Street. It becomes Park Road. Veer right at the Y in the road veer onto Cuerno Verde Road. The road heads west and then south. After 1.6 miles there will be a small parking lot with a bridge crossing over Greenhorn Creek. This is the trailhead. USGS Maps: Rye, San Isabel

#1317 Millset Length: 5 miles, Rated: difficult, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding Elevations: start 8,000', high point 11,244', end 11,244' Access: 9 miles nw of Rye 165 west side end at FDR 369

The Snowslide Trail #1318 Length: 5.7 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: summer and fall;

hiking, horseback riding. Elevations: start 8,720', high point 11,500', end 11,500' This trail climbs slowly up a ridge to the south of the Lake Isabel Recreation Area. This is pine and aspen country with great views and lots of wildlife. Bring lots of your own water.

Access: The lower trailhead is about 8 miles northwest of Rye on State Highway 165. To reach the upper trailhead take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12 miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road #369, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. USGS Maps: San Isabel

St. Charles Trail #1326 Length: 7 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding. Elevations: start 9,200', high point 11,200', end 8,200' From the northern trailhead, the St. Charles Trail works its way up to the west and wraps around the western edge of the St. Charles Peak summit "block" before heading south. The trail follows Beaver Creek for a short distance before rising again and crossing the ridge into the Amethyst Creek drainage, which it follows down to the lower trailhead. This is a beautiful hike through a lush aspen and pine forest with great views.

There is also a spur trail from the east end of Forest Service Road #335, off of the Greenhorn Mountain Road, that gives easy access to those just want-

ing to climb St. Charles Peak (11,784').

Access: The northern trailhead is in the Lion Park area, about 1.8 miles south of Bishop's Castle. The southern trailhead is at the confluence of Amethyst Creek and St. Charles Creek, at the west end of the Lake Isabel Recreation Area. USGS Maps: St. Charles Peak #1330 Lakeshore Length: .5 mile, Rated: easy, Use: year around; hiking Access: FDR 317 to lake Isabel

The Squirrel Creek Trail #1384 Length: 4.8 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: year around; hiking and horseback riding, ATV, Snowmobiling. Elevations: start 9,200',

high point 9,200' end 7,800' In the east central Wet Mountains this trail parallels Squirrel Creek down the hill from the main ridge of the Wet Mountains. Aspen and pine forest, big eastern views, lots of wildlife.

Access: The west trailhead is at the end of Forest Road #382, about 1.5 miles east of State Road 165 near Bishop's Castle.

The east trailhead is reached by passing through Pueblo Mountain Park along Squirrel Creek Road off of State Road 78 south of Beulah. USGS Maps: St. Charles Peak

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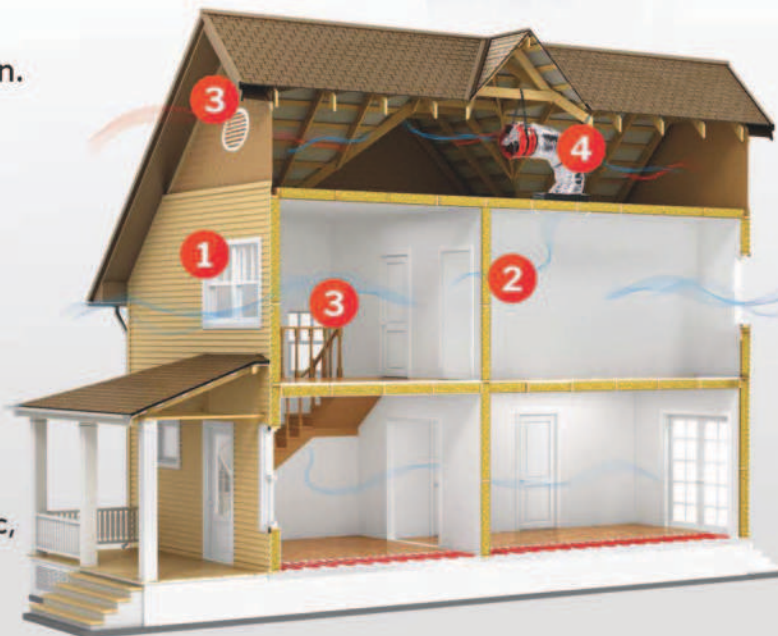
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