

Art Ranch Project to Develop Vision for Ute-Ulay

Hinsdale County is partnering with Colorado Art Ranch to develop a vision for possible future uses of the Ute-Ulay mine and townsite.

Colorado Art Ranch is an arts organization with the mission that the arts are an agent for change. Members of the Art Ranch travel to Colorado towns each year to sponsor one-month residencies for visual and literary artists from around the world.

The Art Ranch has been looking for a community to host an exploration into mining issues and environmental and aesthetic mine reclamation. At about the same time, LKA International and Kye Abraham approached Hinsdale County with the idea

continued page 4

Youth Corps Hard at Work...



Those involved in the 2011 Youth Corps program include (l to r) Zoe Worthen, Braeden Smith, leader Jessa Fowler, Mariah McClung, Maddie McClung, Johnny Nichols, Mabree McClung, Ian Scroggins, Ryan Scroggins, Issac Borchers, Cameron Arthur, Shawnee Landry and leader Jon Sharpe.

Museum's Brand History Red Hot



Stan Whinnery, a fifth generation Hinsdale County rancher, left his indelible mark at last Saturday's branding iron exhibit at Hinsdale County Museum.

Whinnery, above, drew flames as he demonstrated the age-old branding process. Additional photos of a memorable day at the museum, page 11.

Youth Corps Busy With Community Projects

Eleven local teens are completing a variety of projects throughout the Lake City community as part of the 2011 Lake City Community Youth Corps, sponsored by Lake City DIRT.

The 2011 Youth Corps began work on July 7 and will continue until July 22. The middle school-aged children, 11 to 14 years old, will work a total of ten days this summer.

Under the director of leaders Jessa Fowler and Jon Sharpe, Youth Corps members are Cameron Arthur, Johnny Nichols, Mariah McClung, Mabree McClung, Maddie McClung, Zoe Worthen, Isaac Borchers, Braeden Smith, Ryan Scroggins, Ian Scroggins, and Shawnee Landry.

Jobs already completed by the Corps include clean up of litter and debris at Hinsdale County's Wupperman Campground, Red Mountain Gulch and Lake San Cristobal boat dock; clean up of litter at the transfer station; cleaning out the garage at Wee Care

Child Care Center, and weeding around the Armory and the 3rd Street Market. The workers worked on an irrigation system with Town Trustee Henry Woods for the new cottonless cottonwoods that have been planted at the school, cleaned up at the school tennis courts, weeded trails around Hinsdale County Museum, and raking trail mix on the walking trails in downtown Lake City.

The Corps also attended a presentation by Jim Lovelace with BLM on invasive plant species, including "cheat grass," and then removed cheat grass along the Henson Creek walking trail.

Work ahead for the Youth Corps includes two days at Lake City Ski Hill, construction of a walking trail around the Moseley Health Care Complex with members of Hinsdale Trails, oiling the exterior of Hinsdale Public Health building, removal of old fence at IOOF Cemetery, and a day of clean up at the

continued page 5

Firefighters Respond to Lightning Strike Fire at High Bridge Ranch

Firefighters from Lake City Fire/Rescue, U.S. Forest Service, and Colorado State Forest Service converged on a one-acre forest fire started by a lightning strike on Monday, July 1.

The fire occurred in mixed ponderosa pine and sagebrush near the extreme west corner of Kimball and Vicki Wetherington's High Bridge Ranch, approximately eight miles north of Lake City overlooking the Lake Fork.

Onlookers told Hinsdale County Sheriff's Dept. they sighted smoke rising from the hillside location shortly before 1:30 p.m. on Friday.

Lake City Fire/Rescue Fire Chief Pat Holley tells SILVER WORLD a concerted force of fire fighters

from Lake City and the U.S. and State Forest Service in Gunnison arrived at the scene at 2:20 p.m. and worked throughout the afternoon to contain the blaze.

Mop up operations continued until 3:30 p.m. the following day, July 2, when the blaze was fully contained.

Holley says the blaze started from a ponderosa pine which was struck by lightning and ignited; burning sap from the tree spread the fire after dripping onto the needle-strewn ground beneath the tree, Holley said.

A majority of trees and brush on a .7-acre parcel on the ranch were burned, according to Holley, including a number of mixed-age ponderosa pine which were killed in the fire. Some of the trees at the site were merely singed, Holley said, and should recover.

The blaze would have probably spread to adjacent acreage without the firefighters' efforts, he said.

In addition to Holley, others responding from Lake City Fire/Rescue were Justin Mitchell, Blake

continued page 11

Ute-Ulay,

continued from page 1

of a potential land donation for the Ute-Ulay townsite. Hinsdale County started work with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE) to complete a Phase I Targeted Brownfields Assessment on the site to determine any environmental conditions.

A vital part of a Brownfields project is the redevelopment and reuse of a site. Colorado Art Ranch proposed a one-month project to create a vision for future uses of the Ute Ulay. Local sponsors include Hinsdale County, Lake City DIRT, Hinsdale County Historical Society, The Texan Resort, LKA International, and Lake City Arts.

The Colorado Art Ranch Project will take place in Lake City from July 17 until August 17, consisting of discussions, workshops and individual Q & As.

Colorado Art Ranch also hosts a public forum to promote conversations on how art and science intersect with land and social issues. According to Commissioner Stan Whinnery, "Colorado Art Ranch is doing our community a long-term service by helping define our vision for the redevelopment of the Ute Ulay. There are also immediate economic development benefits by hosting this type of month-long event."

This specific program of Colorado Art Ranch tailored for the Ute Ulay visioning is called the "Hardrock Revision." The month-long residency will bring to Lake City a team of seven visual and literary artists, Colorado Art Ranch's executive director Grant Pound, and a project assistant from the University of Colorado.

The team members, along with eight scientific advisors, are volunteering their time to delve into the local community fabric to develop ideas for how the Ute Ulay site can be used to benefit the residents of Lake City and Hinsdale County, as well as heritage tourists. The team will consider recreation, economic development, tourism, community, heritage, safety, water quality, and aesthetics.

"I am intrigued with the possibility of a transdisciplinary community that works collaboratively to imagine the future," says Linda Wysong, one of the applicants chosen to participate on this team.

A Colorado Art Ranch jury selected the seven individuals to be members of Hardrock Revision's collaboration team. These artists, writers, and practitioners are donating their time to help envision solutions for the Ute Ule Silver Mine's town site.

Hannah Fries is a Massachusetts poet with an MFA from Warren Wilson and an interest in ecology and natural history and the associate editor of Orion Magazine. Bland Hoke is a transdisciplinary artist and sculptor. He hopes to be able to use the Hardrock Revision experience to address resource issues in his home state of Wyoming. Julia Lewandoski is a public historian, writer and musician living in Montreal, Quebec. Her primary interests are rural and indigenous history, cultural geography, and how imagined landscapes interact with lived experiences. Anna Macleod is a lecturer in Fine Art at the Dublin Institute of Technology. This

Irish sculptor is also a curator and environmental artist. Lydia Moyer is a videographer, documentarian, and educator who lives and works in central Virginia. She has experience engaging with complicated issues from a creative standpoint and is sensitive to the fact that there are always multiple sides to every story. Becky Sobell is a landscape architect and senior lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University, in Manchester, England. Linda Wysong, an Associate Professor at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, is a cross-disciplinary artist who examines the connections between the natural and built environments.

Technical and environmental advisors for the project include: Rob Blair, Ph.D. is the editor of Western San Juan Mountains: their geology, ecology and human history, and is the co-founder/president of the Mountain Studies Institute in Silverton, Colorado; Todd Bryan, Ph.D., is the Project Facilitator and senior associate with The Keystone Center. Ronald Cohen, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of

Hollingsworth, Casey Carrigan, and Russ Brown).

Input from the entire community is vital to a successful vision. Community members are invited to participate in a variety of ways:

- complete an online survey <http://webroot.qualtrics.com>
- schedule an informal interview with the team
- share oral stories, writings, or photographs about the Ute Ulay
- attend presentations
- participate in the August 13th Hardrock Revision Artposium.

This all-day event will include a Welcome by Kye Abraham of LKA International and Closing Remarks /



The Ute-Ulay and townsite contains many buildings built as far back as the 1870s. The Colorado Art Ranch is conducting a month-long project in Lake City to develop possible future uses for the area.



Next Steps by Hinsdale County Commissioner Stan Whinnery.

More information about the month-long residency, the Hardrock Revision team, and the Artposium can be found at: www.coloradoartranch.org/hardrockrevision.htm or at www.lakecity.com or by calling Hinsdale County at 970-944-2225.

Scheduled Hardrock Revision presentations include: July 17 7:30 p.m., Meet The Artists (First Four – Hannah Fries, Bland Hoke, Julia Lewandoski, and Anna Macleod); July 19, 7:30 p.m., The San Juan Mountains: a Dance of Rocks, Energy and Time; Rob Blair, Ph.D. and 8:30 p.m., Meet The Artists (Second Three – Lydia Moyer, Becky Sobell, Linda Wysong); July 20 2 pm, AMD&Art: How Art Was Used in a Coal Mine Reclamation; T. Allan Comp, Ph.D.; July 22 7:30 p.m., Jamestown Colorado and the EPA. The experience of the people of Jamestown, CO, who resisted EPA intervention and found it to be difficult to do a stakeholder-initiated cleanup by Joseph Ryan, Ph.D. ; July 22, 7:30 p.m., How'd We Get Here: A Story of Hardrock Mining and Its Aftermath in the American West, David Stiller, Ph.D.; July 26, 8:30 p.m., Hardrock Revision: Using Art, Science and Community to Envision Uses for the Ute Ulay Mine Site; Grant Pound and Hardrock Revision Team; July 27, 7:30 p.m., The Latest Poop On Mine Reclamation: Reducing Acid Mine Drainage; Ronald Cohen, Ph.D. July 29, 7:30 p.m., When Tailings are Habitat: Hardrock Mining and the American Pika Chris Ray, Ph.D.; August 13, All Day, Hardrock Revision Artposium, discuss the vision that the Hardrock Revision Team has helped the community develop.

Environmental Science and Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines.; T. Allan Comp, Ph.D., holds a doctorate in history and leads the OSM/VISTA Team and Brownfields Initiatives at the Office of Surface Mining in the U.S. Department of the Interior, he founded AMD&ART, a non-profit that integrates the Arts and the Sciences in environmental remediation; Chris Ray, Ph.D. is a Research Associate in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado and an expert on pikas, an indicator species; Joseph Ryan, Ph.D. is a Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of Colorado and co-author of Cleaning Up Abandoned Hardrock Mines in the West; David Stiller, Ph.D., is the author of Wounding the West: Montana, Mining, and the Environment; and Grant Pound, the executive director of Colorado Art Ranch who serves as this Project's Leader.

Through the programs of Colorado Art Ranch, Pound has connected communities, inspired collaborations, fostered creative exploration, and built the creative capital of rural areas. His work has been recognized for promoting art as a catalyst for change. "This is an ideal type of project for the Colorado Art Ranch where we can facilitate a visioning process for a community," Pound said.

A local Community Advisory Group has been created to interact with the team (Stan Whinnery, Danielle Worthen, Grant Houston, John Smith, Leslie Nichols, Kristine Borchers, Matt Ingram, Marian

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- **Tuesday, July 19th** - Chicken enchiladas, chili rellano bake, black beans, soup, salad, chips & salsa - \$8.95
- **Wednesday, July 20th** - Beef lasagna, eggplant parmesan, soup, salad and bread - \$8.95
- **Thursday, July 21st** - Thai shrimp, curry chicken, rice, potstickers, soup & salad - \$8.95
- **Friday, July 8th** - Soup, salad and bread - \$7.95

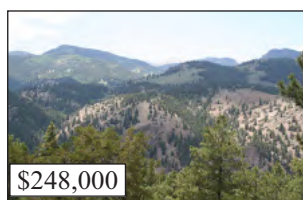
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