

December 2021

Mesa County

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Connecting Community

December 2021

Nothing in this publication is supposed to be offensive. There is an honest effort to give the community a fair analysis of the events attended. Any cynical language is supposed to have undertones of humor. The Livery didn't find the article on them too humorous. Empathy is in the air though; read on for a call back on criticism.

Lets come into this month with love and respect that puts aside petty differences. Sometimes we forget that we are all neighbors trying to make it through life stress free.

Editor@MesaConnection.com

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My very first negative review from a local shop owner told me they would be in another publication because "they work hard." The insult was then covered with "you're cute as ever though." Well thanks lady, every ounce of my effort goes into this magazine in an attempt to be a productive member of this community while trying to feed my family the best way I know how. She did help me remember the audaciousness of some people, as well as inspire and revive my resolve to push forward. Cute didn't help this magazine, but perseverance will.

J.O. Fornwalt

Acknowledgments

Mesa County CONNECTION

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GIVEAWAY!
PG.19



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VETERAN'S DAY parade



Grand Junction

There is no reason to skate around the truth. My tardiness to this event didn't allow me to get the type photos that could actually commend veteran's in more appropriate way. They deserve all of the one on one attention and understanding that anyone stepping foot on this soil should pay them.

The next attempt to sort of vindicate this late arrival could also be described as a miserable disaster.

Get-a-vet-drunk-night seemed

like a good idea; however, when you go to the VFW expecting to take pictures of drunk Vets after a long day of parading around; we could just say arms weren't open and welcoming.

Of course after having a beer and showing a concerned vet all my pictures to make sure I didn't take a single one of him, and the camera was put away, the conversation and smiles broke out all around.



Palisade

December 3

Christmas Market
9am – 5pm
Kokopelli Farm Market
952 I-70, Palisade, CO
2nd annual Kokopelli Christmas market!

December 3

Olde Fashioned Christmas
5pm – 8pm
The Plaza Downtown Palisade
The tree will be lit up and accompanied by the singing of Taylor Elementary carolers. Festivities continue with the Parade of Lights

December 4

GV Christmas Market
10 AM – 3 PM
Bella Bolettino Farms
3857 N River Rd, Palisade, CO
This is our 12th year offering a free holiday event to the public to support our community's makers.

December 6

Colorado Concealed Permit Course - WOMEN ONLY - Palisade, CO
5:30-8:30pm
Wine Country Inn
777 Grande River Drive, 777 Stub

Palisade Events

Ditch Rd, Palisade, CO
****WOMEN'S ONLY *** Sign Up Here:** <https://www.focusedfire-training.com/event/concealed-handgun-permit-course-women-only-palisade-co/>
December 7
Planning Commission Meeting
Time not listed Call 970-464-5602 For information

December 13

Colorado Handgun Permit Course
5:30 – 8:30 PM
Wine Country Inn
777 Grande River Drive, 777 Stub
Ditch Rd, Palisade, CO

December 14

Board of Trustees Meeting
W 7th St, Palisade
Time Not Listed
Call 970-464-5602

December 15

Business After Hours
5:30-7:00pm
Grand Valley Bank
600 W 8th St, Palisade, CO
Each month the Chamber hosts Business After Hours. These events offer a

great opportunity for you to network and visit with other area businesses. RSVP online or email julia@paliasdecoc.com

Clifton

December 4

Memorial
9-11am
Clifton Christian Church
3241 F 1/4 Rd, Clifton, CO
Richard Lee Marcus, age 78, died on the 26th of October, 2021 following a brief illness. Born on the 26th of December, 1942 in Washington, District of Columbia, he was the son of Mary Louise Marcus and the late George John Marcus.

December 4

Celebration of life
6pm
Clifton Christian Church
3241 F 1/4 Rd, Clifton, CO
Here is Ellie Morris's obituary. Please accept Echovita's sincere condolences. It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish.

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Downtown

CONNECTION



Tree Lighting

What a turnout! This had to be one of the busiest times for Downtown in November. With barely room to stand, the crowd was delighted by a magnificent musical club from Colorado Mesa University called Mesa Out!oud. Their performance was outstanding. Settling in after a song or two, we could see the passion and confidence intensify as the group could feel the crowd's overwhelming welcome and gratitude for them.

Each one of the singers contributed a unique element that made them very entertaining. We were pleasantly surprised by the vocal variety that was offered by the well prepared artists!

Known as an Capella Group, it was surprising to find out that they had only been working on this program for 3 months! The eight were very intune with each other. Ryan Heinsheimer, the gentleman using his elaborate beat box skills says Mesa Out!oud is housed in the Theatre department of the College.

Formed in 2014 after a very successful performance for the Taste of CMU hosted at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, the program found a permanent home.

The group has performed for Grand Junction's Farmer's Market, CMU's Donors and Scholars

Event, a dinner hosted by Bob and Louise Sammons for contestants at Porks 'n' Hops, and for Community Hospital's Annual Gala.

The members are comprised

of scholarship students from the music theatre, acting/directing, and dance programs within the Department of Theatre Arts at CMU.

Playing 40 minutes worth of classic songs with complimentary twists, the group was awarded with applaud of well deserved appreciation.

The sea of citizen's face were all lit with joy as the Capella Group sang

until Santa Showed up on the roof top. Also a great performance for the waiting children who danced and played carelessly reminding us all what life is really about!



Mesa Out!oud

Left to Right

Kylie Carroll, Margaret Brophy, Siana Gutierrez (student director), Isa Sanchez, Nic Rhodes, Hao Tran, Dovoan Kriskowski, Jacob Lende and Ryan Heinsheimer

Douglas Morrow- pianist, Austin Jensen - Sound Technician

Grand Junction



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December 4

42nd Annual Toy Run

9am 2747 Crossroads Blvd, Grand Junction, CO

Presented by the Western Slope HOG Chapter - a fun filled day in support of our local families in need at Christmas.

December 4

CCGJ's 10th Annual Christmas Bazaar

9am-3pm

Calvary Chapel

492 Morning Glory Ln. It's Craft Fair Season again! Calvary Chapel Grand Junction is excited to be holding our TENTH annual Christmas Bazaar

December 4

DOWNTOWN PARADE OF LIGHTS

5pm

The Parade of Lights is the biggest parade of the year! Thousands of people line Main Street as more than 100 lighted entries enchant viewers.

December 5

Fire pit + pumpkin bread + NEIGHBORS!

800 Colorado Ave Downtown

Randall Reitz has generously offered the use of his yard for an outdoor gathering. He'll have a fire pit set up as well as some

delicious pumpkin chocolate chip bread, but please bring a snack/beverage as well as a camp chair to come hang out.

December 6

Grand Valley Gives Fundraiser

11am

Kannah Creek Brewing Company

1960 N 12th St

Order our fundraiser beer of the day to give 100%

Official Giving on the 7th

December 10

Elf the Musical

Dec. 10-11

& 17-18

7pm

1400 N. 5th St.

ELF is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole.

Presale \$7

At the Door \$10

December 11

Santa Cause Run

10:15 - 12:pm

Grand Junction Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the Kiwanis for an event that will help fund inclusive playground equipment.

970-254-3866

For more info

December 11

Best of the West Final Concert

3pm

Moss Performing

Arts Center

1100 North Ave

www.coloradomesa.edu/music

For more info

December 11

Centennial Band FREE Winter Concert

3pm

The Avalon Theatre

645 Main St, Grand Junction, CO

December 22, 23, 24

Nutcracker 2021

1 - 2:30pm

Robinson Theatre

1299 N 12th St,

Grand Junction, CO

December 11

MAMMA MIA! 2021

5pm

Robinson Theatre

1299 N 12th St,

Grand Junction, CO

Join High Desert Opera in its 19th Season with a reprise production of MAMMA MIA! at CMU's Robinson Theatre starting New Year's Eve.

Fruita

December 3

2021 Christmas Party

6:30pm

Copper Club Brewing Company

153 N Mulberry St,

Fruita, CO

We will have drinks, food and good cheer!

Friends and family are welcome!



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HISTORY OF RAILROADS IN GRAND JUNCTION



Where's Your Elder?

Chances are you don't know where Grandma & Grandpa are at noon on a Thursday. Of course not, most of us are working. It is nice to leap into the future to see what might fill our time.

It was surprising how packed this event was. The seats quickly filled as Curator Matt Darling of the Cross Orchards Museums of Western Colorado started his presentation. As he discussed William Jackson Palmer and the start of the Rio Grade

Rail Road a realization became clear. There was not a single person in my age range here. It felt a little awkward. The vibe was a little standoffish. Maybe surprising the guests with flashes and some young fellow crawling around them looking for a better angle was a little intrusive.

In my defense, someone had to shed light on the History of Railroads in Grand Junction and find out where all our elders go in their spare time!

Thanks to Matt Darling and the group for putting up with me. It won't be the last time, this much can be promised!

If there is an event you think should be covered in Mesa County Connection you can email us. We also want all your questions, comments and jokes as well!

EDITOR@MESACONNECTION.COM



LOKI



Free Jacket Giveaway



Post your goofiest face in front of the Loki Headquarter store to Mesa County Connection Facebook. Tag Loki to enter.

Results will be printed in January 2022; when you really need the jacket!

445 Colorado Ave.

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Fruita CONNECTION



WESTERN SLOPE VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL PARK

Dedicated to the men and women who served in the United States of America Armed Forces during the Vietnam War 1959-1975

It was nice to figure out what this memorial actually stood for. As Mr. Jim Doody founder of the memorial explained each element and the significant, the crowd looked on with silent admiration.

The Veteran's were saluted by gun fire, a moment of silence and bagpipes playing a number of songs including *Amazing Grace* and *Going Home*.

Coming from a civilian, we don't always take the time to properly give thanks to our Veteran's who passed away or were injured on their tour of duty.

To take a moment and learn why this park was setup is way to honor our fallen heroes. It doesn't have to be specific to Veteran's Day either. Anyone can pay their respects anytime here. The next time you and your kids are driving by, stop and let them see and take a picture with the helicopter. Life, laughter and freedom on and around this memorial is the best way to celebrate those who gave everything.



Fruita

December 3

2021 Christmas Party

6:30pm
Copper Club Brewing Company
153 N Mulberry St,
Fruita, CO

Join us for our annual Christmas party. We will have drinks, food and good cheer!

December 5

Devil's Cabin Christmas wreath hike/run - D3 trail

9:30am - 1pm
Devils Canyon Rd,
Fruita, CO

Join us for the annual MMS Christmas Wreath hike/run. We will take the D3 loop out to the cabin and "decorate" the cabin for the holidays with some garland and a wreath. The loop is approximately 7 miles.

December 6

Historic Preservation Board Meeting

11am
Fruita, Colorado
325 E Aspen Ave,
Fruita, CO

December 7

Medicare Open House/Seminar

9am
Fruita Community Center
324 N Coulson St,
Fruita, CO

Register for this Medicare Seminar to

get your questions about Medicare answered by one of our licensed agents.

December 7

Holiday Potluck & White Elephant Gift Exchange

6pm
Copper Club Brewing Company
153 N Mulberry St,
Fruita, CO

Our Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange & Holiday Potluck is back, Yippee! Bring a wrapped gift for the White Elephant and your favorite holiday dish to share.

December 8

Arts and Culture Board Meeting

5:30
Fruita Parks & Recreation Department
324 N Coulson St,
Fruita, CO

December 11

Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

10am to 3pm
Fruita Community Center
324 N Coulson St,
Fruita, CO

Still need to get your Christmas shopping done? Well come on out to the Fruita Community Center and check out the variety of vendors at the 2021 Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair!

December 11

An Enchanted Evening

4 - 7:30pm
Fruita Middle School
239 N Maple St,
Fruita, CO
Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children 5 and up, 4 and under are free!
Contact info@adagiodancegi.com for more info.

December 11

CBB CHRISTMAS PARTY

5pm
Colorado Backcountry Biker
150 S Park Square,
Fruita, CO
SAVE THIS DATE AND MAKE PLANS TO COME TO OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY!

December 17

Movie Night: Polar Express

6:15pm
Fruita Community Center
324 N Coulson St,
Fruita, CO
Fruita Youth Action Council and Chesnick Reality are putting on a FREE Movie Night

December 19

Fruita Monument PeeWee Tournament 2021

7:30am
Fruita Monument High School
1102 Wildcat Ave,
Fruita, CO
Registration for this tournament is not yet open.



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