

June 2023

CONNECTING COMMUNITY

Mesa County CONNECTION

Volume 2, Issue 11



- » CINCO DE MAYO 2023
- » HIGHLAND GAMES
- » AUTO SWAP MEET

See Strawberry Days on the Back Cover.



LAVENDER FESTIVAL P. 20
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CONNECTING

June 2023



CINCO DE MAYO 2023 P. 8



HIGHLAND GAMES 2023 P. 12



RUGBY WESTERN SLOPE MISFITS P. 13

Grand Junction Events CONNECTION

<p>June 2 TUCKER ROSE 9 - 11:30pm Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar 2565 American Way, Grand Junction **FREE SHOW**</p> <p>June 2 HIGH ZOMBIE 7pm Mesa Theater 538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO \$12 All ages!</p> <p>June 3 JOEY ROWLAND & The Over and Under 8:30 - 11:30pm</p>	<p>June 5 The Workhorse Tour 7pm Mesa Theater 538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO \$27.50 - \$32.50 All ages!</p> <p>June 9 OLAND TUCKER 9 - 11:30pm Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + 2565 American Way, Grand Junction **FREE SHOW**</p> <p>June 9 SHANE TORRES</p>
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EVENTS CONNECTION P. 15

P.19 WHEELS WEST CAR CLUB AUTO SWAP MEET



LAVENDER FESTIVAL P.20

COMMUNITY

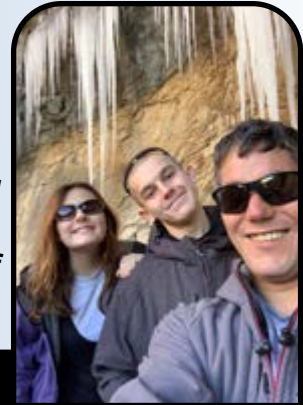
Acknowledgments

Camping, fishing, biking, racing; let June begin! We are very fortunate to live in a county with so many possibilities. This month is when all the summer fun starts earnestly. Mesa County has way too many events for going on for us to cover everything.

Mike the Headless Chicken festival is this month in Fruita, as well as Country Jam and Fruita's Farmers Market. Busy season is upon you.

Grand Junction has all kinds of stuff going on. A Juneteenth block party is happening. Come down to Lincoln Park and help celebrate our freedom! and Palisade we love you; It's time for lavender, bluegrass and Band in the Barrel series. The Lavender Festival, Bluegrass and Roots Festival, and live music at some of Palisades best wineries are all this month!

CONTACT
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Sales@MesaConnection.com



PUBLISHING & DESIGN JESSE FORNWALT

If you missed the Cinco De Mayo Festival in 2023, Mesa County Connection has your back. Live music, dancing and great food made this a wonderful event! Thank you to Jerry Martinez and the Latin American Alliance Foundation for receiving us warmly.

Mesa County Connection has covered two Highland Games, and it was wonderful both times. We got to check it out from the vendor point of view, as we handed out free water, and of course, free magazines. Checkout what was different about this year's event compared to the previous.

Wheels West Car Club and The Moose Lodge hosted an Auto Swap Meet, and with it being the second one, the turnout was great and they look forward to the next one in October.

Lastly, we covered the Lavender Festival for July's magazine last year, and were motivated to do a preamble article by Olivia Coe of the Lavender Association of Colorado. This informational event gives

insight to anyone that might be interested in the cultivation of lavender in Colorado. Make sure and catch them on page 20!

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EDITED BY PAM MIERA

Editor@MesaConnection.com

Connecting Community

PICK US UP AROUND THE VALLEY



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An event that always attracts a diverse crowd, is the Annual Cinco De Mayo Festival. Some dress in their best, and some in their casual Saturday attire, all have come for a great time! Held May 6th this year, the 41st Annual celebration at Las Colonias park was a mild day filled with music, dancing and partying!

Hosted by the Latin-Anglo Alliance Foundation, the Cinco De Mayo celebration in Grand Junction has more recently been held downtown on Main Street; however, the attraction of Las Colonias amphitheater is too strong. The grassy knolls are pretty irresistible as well! With people lounging about everywhere in this spread out venue, the atmosphere was relaxed, with a lazy Saturday feel; until the crowd was coax into dancing with the performing dancers from Nuevo Generacion Folkorico. The beautiful ladies did a wonderful job of adding some spice and color to this event. Their grace and elegance were unmatched by myself, the clumsy, two-left footed participant who got circles danced around him!

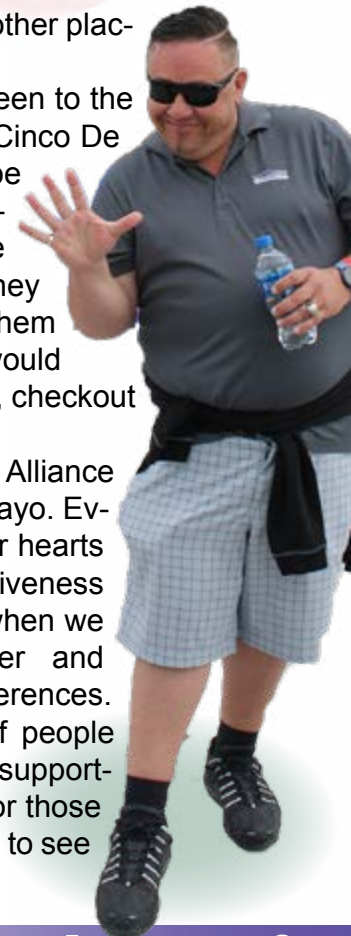
The festival has really evolved says Jerry Martinez, to

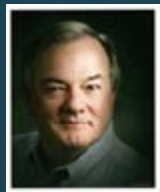


the right. He has been involved with the Cinco De Mayo Festival since 2013, where he says, "In 2012 the Event was held in a gravel parking lot on the backside of what is now the Avalon Theater. The event seemed more of an afterthought. We eventually grew it to 4 blocks of Main in 2022. It makes me really proud of my heritage and all the people who worked hard to grow this event to a huge success." Jerry says there have been some differences between Main Street and Las Colonias park. The trees did offer some great shade on Main Street, and all the businesses allowed for a more eclectic group. We were also competing with another event, which was an unfortunate tribulation. Because the amphitheater is quite expensive to rent, and the Alliance is a non-profit group providing scholarships, we are considering other places.

The bands such as the Latin Knights and Alto, seen to the top, liked the venue as well, but would also like to see Cinco De Mayo back on Main Street. Drummer Carlos says the vibe seems to be better, and the shade was a plus. The Latin Knights who are local have performed at 3 Cinco De Mayo Festivals and have been together since 2010. They enjoy playing this cultural music, which was played to them as kids and they want to pass the tradition along. If you would like to learn more about them or book them for an event, checkout their Facebook Page.

Jerry would also like to thank the Latin Anglo Alliance Foundation for their tireless work organizing Cinco de Mayo. Every member does this simply from the goodness of their hearts and the betterment of the community. Diversity and Inclusiveness make us stronger when we can come together and celebrate our differences. Thank you to all of people who came out and supported the event, and for those who didn't, we hope to see you next year!





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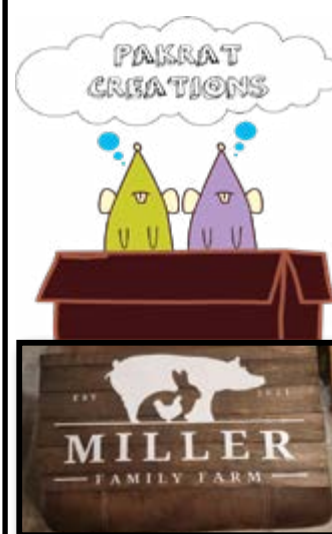
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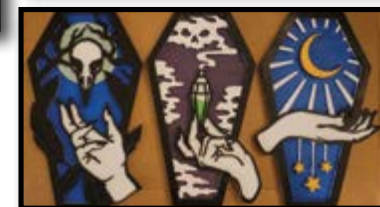
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Highland Games 2023



One of the most unique festivals in the Valley, is the annual Highland Games. This 3 day event, which is scheduled every May, attracts a fun filled crowd looking to shake their kilts!

Scottish and Irish clans, from across Colorado, come to compete in a number of sports that aren't so main stream. Caber Toss, Hammer Throw, Stone Put and Sheath Toss are some of the competitions to look forward to.

There were some clear differences from this year to last. Some may not have noticed, but rugby replaced one part of the program, and we were blessed to see Highland dancing, as well as several live bands. This year we also got to enjoy Clydesdale Wagon Rides, and a Bag Piping Workshop. As an enhanced feature, people dressed for the occasion in vintage costumes, which set a wonderful ambiance. Not all of the bands from last year were present, but it's always good to switch things up a little!

There was no shortage of wonderful foods either. If you haven't had a real shepherd's pie, you will be delighted when you try one at next year's festival. From imported Welch cakes and candies, to Deconstructed Carmel Apples and Whiskey Tasting, everyone found something to satisfy themselves. If you don't want to wait until next year, Taylor's Croft in Grand Junction sells many imported meat pies, pastries and confections.

As the food settles, there were many abstract ways to pass the time. The local Rugby associa-

tion held their championship to coincide with the festival.

Started in 2011 by Doug and Hayden Evans, who coached the Grand Junction Griffins, the Rugby Association was shut down during Covid. The Western Slope Misfits were created in 2019, and they would like you to know they are taking players. If you are interested in starting on with them, call or email Hayden today: 970-210-7892 / WesternSlopeMisfits@gmail.com.

Music is always a wonderful way to pass time at the Highland Games! With new performers hitting the stage, they capture our attention with flaming bagpipes and a sound unlike anyone else. Celtica Nova, to the right, gave an absolutely spirited performance, and we had the pleasure of seeing them several times throughout the event.

Always a crowd favorite, The Wicked Tinkers on the bottom right, wooed the crowd with their sweet mixture of instrumental talent. Playing a number of classic cover songs mixed with their own originals, we also got to witness The Wicked Tinkers several times throughout the festival.

This lovely weekend, which got light rain sprinkles right when it was needed, turned out to be a great experience. It was fun to see what changed and stayed the same. We all wonder what will be different next year!



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-Joshua Lammar

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Grand Junction *Events* CONNECTION

June 2
TUCKER ROSE
9 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
FREE SHOW

June 2
HIGH ZOMBIE
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$12

All ages!
June 3
JOEY ROWLAND & The Over and Under
8:30 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
** FREE SHOW**

June 3
Taco and Margarita Festival
12 - 5pm
Amphitheater at Las Colonias Park
925 Struthers Ave, Grand Junction
Enjoy Tacos, Margarita's, LIVE Pro Wrestling, LIVE DJ, Local Shopping and Much Much More!
\$10 - \$45

June 4
Paranormal Cirqued
5:30 - 10:30pm
Mesa Mall
2424 US-6, Grand Junction, CO
\$15 - \$60

June 4
LILIAC
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
5-piece Los Angeles-based, family Rock/Metal band
\$22 - \$26

June 5
The Workhorse Tour
Prof
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$27.50 - \$32.50
All ages!

June 9
OLAND TUCKER
9 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
FREE SHOW

June 9
SHANE TORRES
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$30
18+

June 10, 11
juxtapositions: An Introduction to Collage
Saturday 1pm
Sunday 4pm
660 White Ave, Grand Junction, CO
Learn the basics of collage. Materials included.
\$65 a person

June 10
Michael Morrow & The Culprits
9 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
FREE SHOW

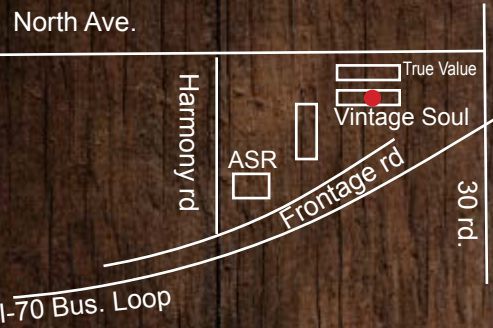
June 10
PSYCHOTIC REACTION
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$12
All ages!

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Grand Junction

June 10
55th Annual Kiwanis Pancake Day & Kids Fun Fest

8am
Mesa County Fairgrounds
2785 US-50, Grand Junction, CO
Enjoy the world's best pancakes, live music & entertainment, Fun booths, and games for all. Also check out other Kids Events & Activities in Grand Junction, Music Events in Grand Junction.
\$6 for adults and kids under 12 eat free!

June 11
THE STEEL WOODS
9 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
\$20

June 12
Planet of the Apes
7:30 - 9:20pm
Avalon Theatre
645 Main Street Grand Junction
\$7

June 13
Canning Class
10am - 3pm
Orchard Mesa Research Station
3168 B 1/2 Rd, Grand Junction, CO
Join CSU Agent Ann Duncan to learn the canning basics.

June 15
PEPPER
The Elovaters
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$12
All ages!

June 16
NEON SKY BAND
8:30 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
*FREE SHOW**

June 17
Juneteenth Block Party
2 - 5pm
Lincoln Park
910 N 12th St, Grand Junction, CO
Art, food, activities, guest speaker, dancing and live music.

June 17
DJ-RUN DANCE NIGHT
8pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$15 - \$20

June 17
EXIT 42
8:30 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
*FREE SHOW**

June 17
Dad's BooJee BBQ!
1pm
Good Judy's
103 N 1st St, Grand Junction, CO
Included in your ticket purchase: Coffee, Iced Tea, and Water Our Best Judy's Drag Show Judy's BooJee Brunch Spread Menu: BBQ Judy's Biscuits & Gravy v. Breakfast Taters Fresh Cut Fruit Yogurt

June 20
FULL DRAW FILM TOUR
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$10
All ages!

June 21
Ladybug Love
3 - 5pm
Angelo's Pottery Studio
2478 Patterson Rd STE 11, Grand Junction, CO
\$20 for the class. Ages 6-11

Events CONNECTION

June 21
GIOVANNIE AND THE HIRED GUNS
7pm
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$20 - \$25
All ages!

One of the most crowd-thrilling bands to burst onto the national scene in recent years, Giovannie and The Hired Guns have pushed the boundaries of rock-and-roll and country to forge an irresistibly gritty sound all their own

June 22
KOLBY COOPER
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$20 - \$25
All ages!

June 23
ROCK THE WAREHOUSE
8:30 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
*FREE SHOW**

June 23
Mommy and me park day
1pm
Canyon View Park
730 24 Rd, Grand Junction, CO
EXTREMELY tentative date!
Depending on weather and schedules. For our first meeting a simple park day would be fun and we can get more creative later on in the summer.

June 24
OFF WITH THEIR HEADS
Mesa Theater
538 Main St, Grand Junction, CO
\$18 - \$22
All ages!

CONTINUED P. 21

Continued

Alley Katz

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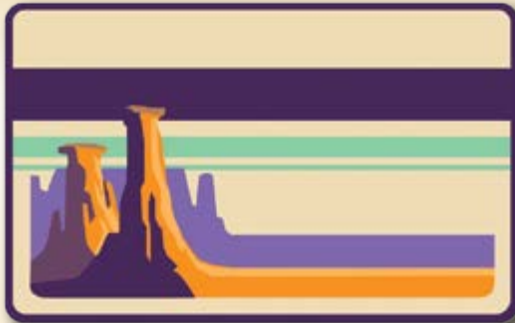


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& Grand Junction Moose Lodge Present



Wheels West Car Club and the Grand Junction Moose Lodge, coordinate several events around the year. One held every May and October, is the Auto Swap Meet.

Bringing the community together, these two organizations offer a chance for everyone to get rid of their old automotive related items, and search for things they might find as treasures themselves. From random parts, to whole cars, people were able to purchase their heart's desire, and grab a bite to eat.

Joe Sullivan, representing the Wheels West Car Show, says this second biyearly swap meet was a success. All the vendors seemed happy and made money, and the event had a wonderful turnout. He says last October's was a little more successful; however, several factors might have played a roll. There were multiple events during this May weekend. Mesa County Connection covered the Highland Games that same weekend, and it was Mother's Day weekend, which seemed to affect the Games as well.

Keep your eyes peeled for October's Auto Swap Meet, and the Wheels West Car Club hopes to see you at one of their upcoming car shows:

June 3rd Mikes the Headless Chicken Festival

June 11th Meas County Fire Authority Car Show and Fundraiser.



THE AUTO SWAP MEET

Don't Miss The 2023



Lavender Festival

Last year, we were introduced to an educational event about a herb that is becoming more and more popular. The cultivation of lavender around Mesa County as a cash crop is undeniable. The beautiful fields inspire art work, and the sweet, relaxing smell seems to be in all kinds of products.

This year marks the 12th Annual Lavender Festival. On June 24th, you are invited to Palisade's Riverbend park to join the festivities. Learn about the herb and it's medicinal purposes, why Colorado's climate is perfect for farming it, and meet the inspirational people who work with lavender on a daily basis.

The Lavender Association of Colorado, a nonprofit organization that was started in 2009, has rapidly grown into a wealth of information. On their website you can find articles written by experts in the industry. They have resources available if you are interested in taking up lavender as a hobby, or considering it for more industrial purposes.

Besides the yearly lavender festival, they also host the Artisan Christmas Fair in downtown Palisade. We look forward to seeing you at one of their events! For more information and tickets to this years festival go to:

www.coloradolavender.org



Grand Junction

June 24

ROCK THE WAREHOUSE with GRATISFACTION

9 - 11:30pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
*FREE SHOW**

June 29

Dirty Heads: Island Glow Tour

5 - 11pm
Amphitheater at Las Colonias Park
925 Struthers Avenue Grand Junction
Following in the footsteps of their California brothers Sublime, Huntington Beach's Dirty Heads mix hip-hop, reggae, and rock along with that laid-back South Cali attitude.

\$50 - \$150

June 29

Classic Albums Live: David Bowie – The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars

7 - 10pm
Avalon Theatre
645 Main Street Grand Junction
Since 2003 we've been using the world's greatest musicians to faithfully recreate these albums exactly the way they were recorded: note for note - cut for cut.

\$27 - \$47

June 30

A BAND CALLED ALEXIS

9 - 11pm
Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
2565 American Way, Grand Junction
*FREE SHOW**

June 30

Community Family Fun Fest Carnival

5 - 8pm
Jubilee Family Church
483 30 Road Grand Junction
Open to all. Come enjoy fun games, activities and free food for the family.

Palisade

June 2

VAIL Bailliage – Palisade Wine Road Trip

Pêche. Restaurant
336 Main St, Palisade, CO
Join the Vail Bailliage for their... Palisade Wine Road Trip! When: June 2-4 This trip will include several winery tours that are Governor's Cup winners.

June 2

Grand Valley Yoga Fest

3pm
The Grand Valley Yoga Fest has 30+ yoga classes to choose from that will allow you to try a variety of styles and of all things Yoga related
Palisade High School
3679 G Rd, Palisade, CO

June 3

VINO + VINYASA with Julia | The Ordinary Fellow Winery

10:45am - 1pm
The Ordinary Fellow
202 Peach Ave, Palisade, CO
Vino + Vinyasa at The Ordinary Fellow is back! Meet us monthly all summer long for a Saturday of yoga and wine tasting.

June 8

Le Snack + Ordinary Fellow Wine Dinner

9pm
The Ordinary Fellow
202 Peach Ave, Palisade, CO
oin us for a special 4 course winemakers dinner with our friends from Buckel Family Wines

June 9

Dine in the Vines

6 - 8pm
Carboy Winery at Mt. Garfield Estate
3572 G Rd, Palisade, CO
\$120

Palisade

June 9 - 11
PALISADE BLUEGRASS AND ROOTS FESTIVAL

Friday 3pm - Sunday 10pm
Riverbend Park
451 Pendleton St, Palisade, CO
For over ten years, Palisade has been celebrating its love for hot pickin guitars, outstanding artistry, blazing fiddles and Colorado sunshine.
3 day pass \$140

June 11
Yoga in the Vines at the Winery
10am - 12pm
Colterris Winery
3907 N River Rd, Palisade, CO
This hour class is designed to enliven your day!

June 11
Plaid Up to Level Up
5:30 - 9:30pm
Orchard River View
3926 HWY 6 &, 24, Palisade, CO
The evening will include fabulous food provided by local chefs, amazing participant and volunteer stories, silent & live auctions, and More!

June 23 - 25
Colorado Lavender Festival
Friday 9am - Sunday 5pm
Riverbend Park
451 Pendleton St, Palisade, CO
Annual Colorado Lavender Festival is a celebration and promotion of Colorado's lavender industry.

June 24
Hip Replacements - Band in the Barrel
1:30pm
Restoration Vineyards
3594 E 1/2 Road
Palisade

Fruita

June 2, 3
Mike the Headless Chicken Festival
Friday 4pm - 9pm
Saturday 7am - 7:30pm
Downtown Fruita

June 7
June 7th Full Day Dig
8am - 3:30pm
Dinosaur Journey Museum, Museums of Western Colorado
550 Jurassic Ct, Fruita, CO
Dig for dinosaurs with the Museums of Western Colorado!

June 16
Coffee Club Network
9 - 10am
FWorks
325 E Aspen Ave, Fruita, CO
The Coffee Club is a new networking group hosted by FWorks, The Fruita Chamber & The Business Incubator Center The Third Friday of Every Month

June 22 - 25
COUNTRY JAM 2023
Thursday 12pm - Sunday 12pm
Country Jam Colorado
1065 Old US Hwy 6 & 50, Loma, CO
Blake Shelton, Jason Aldean, Cody Johnson & more are bringing the party to Colorado! CJCO full lineup is here! Get your tickets now!

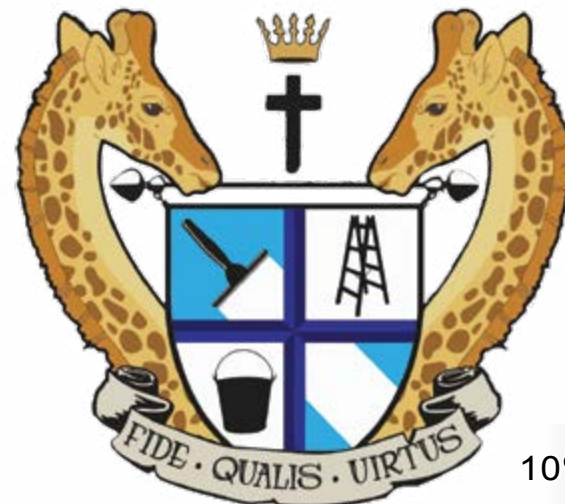
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126th Annual *Strawberry Days*



JUNE 16th - 18th

Two Rivers Park - Glenwood Springs - Free Admission

Strawberry Days Parade

Community Events

Arts & Crafts

Family Fest

StrawberryDays.com
for more information

