

Wild Animals on the Run



In the summer of 1908 there was an incident, one we can be familiar with, that caused some panic in Ute Pass. Fortunately, it did not affect us in Fountain! I suppose times have changed a little thanks to the number of people who live out in this vicinity. Have I made you curious enough?

It seems there was a forest fire in the mountains between Woodland Park and Colorado Springs that we now know as Rampart Range. The area at that time was fairly isolated, which provided shelter for a number of wild animals. The fire burned down a canyon toward Woodland, chasing the animals with it. A number of black bear and mountain lions were fleeing the area with many deer and probably smaller animals rushing from the flames. A line of firefighters was working toward the fire and scattered when they spotted the stampede. The animals continued on toward the town, which was much smaller than today. The rush slowed as they reached town, thanks to being out of the danger of the flames and smoke. They were no longer in a narrow canyon, and a number of them scattered. The residents in town started seeing many of these creatures on their streets in the daytime. They had probably seen them at night, one or two at a time, but this was still quite a parade!

The fires burned for a couple weeks, getting closer and closer to the populated areas in the pass. It continued to drive the wild animals into this area too. As it developed these evicted animals found the open country west of Woodland Park eventually, but the time it took certainly upset the town's residents.

This was not the first time fires had burned like this, and we well know it was not the last. The number of humans living in the woods has kept the amount of wild animals down somewhat. The wild population is still driven from the danger of incineration, but the number in this situation is not what it was back over a hundred years ago.

Pages of the Past

(1958 - Present)



Sixty Years Ago (1962)

"THEY JUST DON'T TRUST ME!"

Prince, a beautiful German Shepherd dog was owned by the Ben Sabol family in Rangeview, Fountain in 1962. (Fountain Valley News file photo)

Fifty Years Ago (1972)

CHECKING IT OUT

Carl H. Wiese (left), co-publisher and general manager of the Advertiser and News, and Ken Longaker (right), head pressman, Canon City Daily Record, check the publication for quality after it rolled off the press.

(Daily Record photo by Jeff Ormandy, award-winning photographer)



For 'PEACE OF MIND' Trash Removal...

W.S.I.
Waste Systems, Inc.

4040 Clearview Frontage Rd. Security
Serving
Security-Widefield
Fountain-Stratmoor Valley

390-5097

Locally Owned and Operated!



Forty Years Ago (1982)

"I'M NOT A HERO"

Lt. Colonel John G. McCurdy insisted he was not a war hero, "I'm not a hero, it took everyone to win the war." On Feb. 20, 1982 he received a letter from President Ronald Reagan that brought him to tears. (Fountain Valley News file photo)

Protect What Matters Most

COVERAGE	COST
\$5,000	\$240.00
\$10,000	\$345.00
\$15,000	\$450.00
\$20,000	\$555.00

MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS AVAILABLE

Protect your loved ones with \$20,000 of life insurance coverage until age 26 for only \$555. What a perfect way to protect what matters most.

Michele Thompson-Koch, Agent
3520 Galley Rd. Suite 100,
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719-574-0507 OFC
MThompson@ShelterInsurance.com

We're your Shield. We're your Shelter.
ShelterInsurance.com

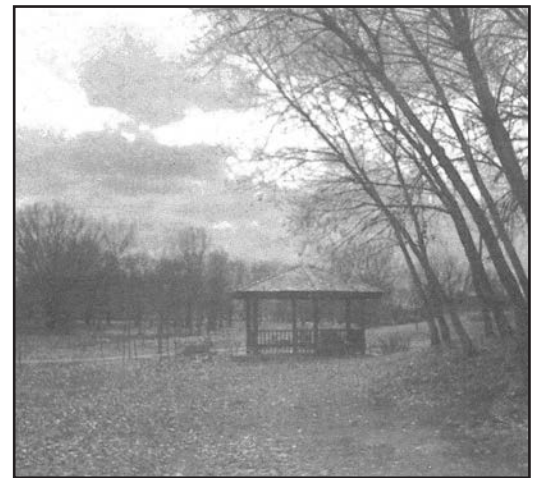
Shelter Life Insurance Company • Columbia, Missouri

Thirty Years Ago (1992)

UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT #585

A gazebo and a tree-lined walkway were placed at Widefield Community Park a year after Flight #585 crashed there. A tree was planted for every person on the flight who died in the tragic crash.

(Photo by Patricia St. Louis)



Twenty Years Ago (2002)

"WHY I LIKE LIVING IN FOUNTAIN"

These essay winners were recognized at a State of the Community Address in 2002. Students Sarah Polley of Aragon Elementary, Amanda Kachevar from Jordahl Elementary and Kara Siemen of Mesa Elementary were presented awards.

(Photo by Jerry Bahner)