



SPRING-FALL, 2021

Aspen Mine Center, Cripple Creek, Colorado

Vol. 10, No. 1

# BEATING THE COVID BLUES

*"Tough times never last, but tough people do."*

Tough times may last longer than you'd like, but it's true. Bad periods come and go, but tough people ride with the punches and find ways to not only survive but become stronger, happier and more productive in the process.

This terrible Covid pandemic has not only severely tested us all, it's gone on for a very long time and is still a major threat in many ways, with no end in sight. It has caused countless personal upheavals, torn families apart, created hardship, hopelessness,

fear and anguish for everyone from infant to ancient, and at this writing has ruthlessly taken the lives of three-quarters of a million Americans of all ages, leaving millions more to grieve for their losses.

It is without mercy, devoid of the slightest pity or sympathy for anyone it touches. A formidable foe leaving heartbreak in its wake wherever it goes.

Each of us has been affected by this evil plague, some more profoundly than others. So the questions are: how do we overcome our fears, depression or the downward spiral toward paralyzing

*(continued on page 4)*

## In Loving Memory of our dear friend and colleague, Hank Nelson.

*Always in life and forevermore, a gentleman . . . and a gentle man.*

The morning after Hank left us, Ted Borden, our leader and Executive Director, sent out the following message to many of those who knew Hank, loved him, worked with him, deeply respected his talents and the dedication he brought to his job, and marveled at how he unfailingly managed to approach clients, problems and life itself in such an easygoing way. His loss to us all, and especially to this community, cannot be measured. Ted's words come admirably close.



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Hello Partners and Friends,

It is with great sadness that I share the news that Hank Nelson passed away suddenly on Sunday, January 17, 2021 from a tragic car accident in Teller County. As most of you know, Hank was the face (and the voice) of the Pikes Peak Workforce Center satellite office here at the Aspen Mine Center for nearly 18 years. Hank helped hundreds if not thousands of clients over the years. His unmistakable "radio voice" resonated throughout the Aspen Mine Center as his memory will resonate forever in our hearts. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers and remember him for his gentle smile, his pride of being from the "Windy City," his love of family, his appreciation for really good food and his great integrity. Rest easy, Hank...we will miss you.

Ted

## Support for Seniors

### Social Security: Don't get scammed!

The bad guys are out there in droves. They want your money, they are slick and ruthless about scaring you into giving it up, and when you've given them what they want they laugh at how gullible you were.

The Social Security Administration will never threaten, scare or pressure you to take an immediate action.

#### **If you receive a call, text or email that...**

- Threatens to suspend your Social Security number, even if they have part or all of your Social Security number
- Warns of arrest or legal action
- Demands or requests immediate action
- Requires payment by gift card, prepaid debit card, Internet currency or by mailing cash
- Pressures you for personal information
- Requests secrecy
- Threatens to seize your bank account
- Promises to increase your Social Security benefit
- Tries to increase your trust by providing fake "documentation", false "evidence", or the name of a real government official

**...it is a SCAM! Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore Them!**

**Protect yourself and others from Social Security-related scams.**

- **Try to stay calm.** Do not provide anyone with money or personal information when you feel pressured, threatened, or scared.
- **Hang up or ignore it.** If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email, hang up or do not respond. Government employees will not threaten you, demand immediate payment, or try to gain your trust by sending you pictures or documents.
- **Report Social Security-related scams.** If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email that mentions Social Security, ignore it and report it to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Do not be embarrassed if you shared personal information or suffered a financial loss.
- **Get up-to-date information.** Follow SSA OIG on Twitter@TheSSAOIG and Facebook @SSA Office of the Inspector General for the latest information on Social Security-related scams. Visit the Federal Trade Commission for information on other government scams.
- **Spread the word.** Share your knowledge of Social Security-related scams. Post on social media using the hashtag #SlamtheScam to share your experience and warn others. Visit [oig.ssa.gov/scam](http://oig.ssa.gov/scam) for more information. And please share this message with friends and family.

## AMC recent hires & job changes bring more help for seniors & others

Thanks to several generous grants, our ability to help seniors, families and individuals has expanded with new hires and the creation of new positions over the past 18 months. Additionally, several of our veteran staff have moved to new positions where their talents and specialties are especially useful in providing the best possible service to those in need.

Say hello to our current new lineup, and note there are many new telephone numbers to provide you with quick and easy direct contact.

### RECENT HIRES

**Katelynn Brown** - Medicaid Health Care Coordinator, (719) 452-1986 mobile direct

**Nicole Walker** - Senior Advocacy Manager, 689-3584 ext 101

**Shanon Conley** - Senior Advocate, 689-3584 ext 120

**Stephanie Egan** - Family & Adult Advocate, 689-3584 ext 126

### POSITION CHANGES

**Lisa Noble** - from Senior Advocate to Client Programs Director, 689-3584 ext 124

**Krys Arrick** - from Medicaid Health Care Coordinator to Family & Adult Advocate, 689-3584 ext 111

**Angie Trelstad** - from Client Services Director to Family & Adult Advocacy Manager, 689-3584 ext 100

**Denise Wilson (Gutierrez)** - from Client Services Specialist to Pikes Peak Workforce Center Job Coach, (719) 663-9368 mobile direct

### NEW JOB TITLE

**Veldean Myers** - Financial Services Director

**SAVE THIS PAGE FOR RAPID CONTACT WITH THE STAFF MEMBER YOU NEED!**

# Director's Corner

by **Ted Borden**

***A baby is God's opinion that life should go on.***  
— Carl Sandburg

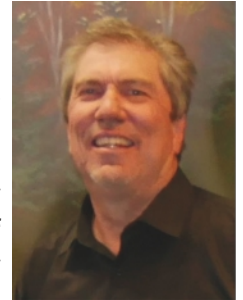
My buddy, Terry Smith, selected this quote. It is simple and powerful. Most of all, it makes us think. In a time when our view of life and the way we live is disrupted by an unprecedented event such as a pandemic that affects virtually every society around the globe, it is good to meditate on such things; to think.

In our desire for control and to try to make sense of our surroundings, we often like to project to others that we have the answers. Social media and news media would have us all believe that everyone around us has the answers. Armchair warriors and politicians are we, stating our opinions as facts. We are a society who loves to promote our “selves”. We are “selfie-obsessed opinion machines” who want so badly to feel special that we crave the feedback from others at every opportunity, begging for validation because inside we are afraid of being empty.

My simple question is this: Why are we so afraid to admit that we do not know? How refreshing would it be for a politician to say, “I really don’t know the answer to that question but let’s work together without any preconceived agenda to find out.” Now, I am really not so naïve to think that this will ever happen in Washington, but on a smaller scale, in our immediate community, I think we need to be able to admit when we do not know the answers.

I absolutely love it when clients come to the Aspen Mine Center and during the intake interview to assess their needs they willingly admit that they

made a bad choice or a series of bad decisions that led them to ask for help. By admitting that they made a mistake or that they really don’t know how to solve a problem and being willing to ask for help to figure out the answers together, it opens a whole world of possibilities for their future. It is the beginning of embarking on a journey together and it opens up channels of creativity they often have never experienced. It also is an inspiration for our staff to be able to help others in the future.



Blaming others for where we are in our journey, playing the victim, prevents us from being open to opportunity, to growth, to our own instincts and wisdom from others. Well, that is my own opinion anyway. I think it would be refreshing and helpful to start a new trend, a new norm, to simply be able to say without shame or without couching it behind some defense mechanism or justification, “I don’t know!”. The far more important follow up statement could be, “But I would really like to explore this with you to see if we can find out together.”

Let’s stop pretending that we know the answers to life’s problems. Once we think we have the answers we stop looking for other solutions. If we admit that we do not know, the journey to find the answers has just begun. I don’t know about you, but some of my most exciting times have been just before I embark on a great and wonderful journey!

Ted Borden  
Executive Director, Community of Caring

**NEW! Donate to COC on mobile devices! GIVE4TELLER to 44321**

**Make a contribution to Community of Caring today!**

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$  Or donate using PayPal, click here [PAYPAL](#)

Name  Address

City  State  Zip

Mail to: Aspen Mine Center, ATTN Veldean, PO Box 1587, Cripple Creek CO 80813 or online @ [www.aspenminecenter.org](http://www.aspenminecenter.org)



## Beating the Covid Blues

FROM PAGE 1

immobility so many are battling now? How can we conquer the disruptions, setbacks and changes in lifestyle that are causing us multiple problems? And, likely most important, what do we have to do to simply *feel* better, safer, more secure, not frightened, and once again looking forward to life instead of being mired in it?

This article is filled with ways to help you accomplish all of that. But understand that before anything in here will be of value to you, it requires you to take a first step. One that will make everything else possible. It all begins with you.

Trust yourself. Believe in who you are, how much you're worth, how much you want your life to improve and are willing to make it all happen. It's a sign of great strength, not weakness, to reach out for assistance, to ask questions, to seek answers, to engage with others willing and ready to support your efforts, build your self-confidence, and guide you toward success. And every time you do these things, your strengths and your

opportunities for betterment will multiply and you will be rewarded in ways and amounts you never believed were possible.

By simply being willing to spend a little of your time to read this entire article, you'll have put a foot forward in beginning to take that first step.

As president Franklin Roosevelt once said, "The only thing we have to fear is...fear itself." Challenge yourself to believe in that truth. Challenge yourself to live it and commit to it. Fear can't hurt you unless you allow it to. Show it who's the boss.

The Aspen Mine Center relishes serving, working with and uplifting anyone willing to put the same effort into seeking a better life as the effort we are ready to put out to help you achieve it. Listed below is useful information plus many suggestions, contacts and forms of assistance you'll find valuable in helping you to move forward and upward. We wish you good luck, good health and infinite success as you begin your journey toward "Beating the Covid Blues."

### **If you're depressed, feel fatigued or powerless, here's an easy way to help you start to feel better and motivated into taking actions.**

Sit in your favorite comfortable chair, on a couch, or even lie down on that couch or on your bed. Close your eyes. Slowly inhale a deep breath—fill your lungs fully. Hold it for a few seconds while picturing filling your whole body with energy and strength. Then fully exhale very slowly, emptying your mind and relaxing. Repeat the process enough times for several minutes until you can actually feel positive changes in your body and mind. Maybe your body will feel as if it is expanding slightly, or your arms or legs will begin to tingle a bit. Maybe your mind will feel clearer and more active.

You are practicing low-level meditation and self-healing. Your entire body and mind are teaming up to fill you with the mental sharpness and physical power you need to overcome your lethargy. It will set you in motion to begin rewarding yourself for actually *accomplishing* something. *Anything*. Start with simple tasks. Take short breaks when you need to, *but finish what you start*.

Then relax, observe your achievement and give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done. Tell yourself: I did it! I really did it!, And it feels very good! I like the way this feels and I want to feel this way more and more often! Do this easy exercise every time before you begin a new project. And do it anytime you're feeling a little down. The more often you do it, the easier it gets and the faster it works.

### **OK, I'm interested. But where do I go from there? What can I do?**

Remember: start with simple things. Organize your bedside table, or your desktop or wherever you write notes or chat on the phone. Trash what's no longer needed or of any value. Do your laundry (clean clothes feel and make you look sooo good!) Vacuum your house. Thoroughly clean your kitchen or bathroom. A sparkling home is a pleasure to live in and will keep any bugs or bacteria under control.

### **OK, I get it. What's next?**

Climb your ladder to success one step at a time. Tidy up your closets and dresser drawers. If you haven't worn something for a year or two, chances are it's just taking up space. AMC's Clothes Closet accepts donations of clean, unstained clothing in good shape for everyone from infants to adults. Drop off at our Gift & Thrift Shoppe Tues-Sat between 10am-3:30pm. Clothing is given FREE to the needy. You've done a very good deed!

Making your personal space more comfortable, clean and functional will go a long way toward improving your attitude and building self-esteem. From there, get creative. Start expanding your horizons. How about

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## Beating the Covid Blues FROM PAGE 4

learning a new skill or improving the ones you've got? Cooking, knitting, crafts, art classes, you name it...there are loads of local organizations and social clubs—including AMC—who would love to see you get involved. Call us for ideas and contacts or do Internet searches or read your local newspaper where you'll find lots of ads by local help organizations and "things to do" activities listed. And getting involved comes with a special bonus, which we'll talk about next.

### **If you're lonely, feel isolated and miss companionship...**

Joining activity groups not only keeps your mind and body active, it offers you the opportunity of making new friends who have similar interests to your own. Humans need enjoyable social interaction to be happy. Group participation is a great way to find new friendships that can last a lifetime.

If you are a senior, the Senior Clubhouse at AMC meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-2pm in our dining room, offering bingo games with prizes, board games and more. And lots of laughs and friendship.

If you are a senior who is housebound and concerned about your safety, AMC has a terrific program made for you. Contact our Senior Advocate/Reassurance Caller at (719) 689-3584 ext 113. She will create a make contact schedule you desire, ranging from once daily to once a week or so and will then call you for a friendly chat to make sure you're comfortable, feel safe and have no urgent needs.

### **If Covid or any other reason has led to an abusive situation at home and you feel trapped or unsafe...**

You need to take action *right now*. For your safety and theirs if children are involved, call us immediately at AMC, (719) 689-3584. Set an appointment to meet with one of our Family & Adult Services Specialists. All client meetings are confidential. We will gently talk through your problems, offering options and solutions that will get you out of a dangerous and destructive situation.

Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, verbal and financial. We partner with a number of agencies who can give you meaningful help including counseling for you and your children, temporary court-issued protective orders, temporary financial assistance, even temporary shelter and much more. One of our partners specializing in these services is TESSA, who maintains an office at the Aspen Mine Center. Their direct Safe Line is (719) 633-3819, a 24-hour crisis and information contact.

### **If Covid has caused you to lose your job and you're struggling financially...**

The Pikes Peak Workforce Center branch in the Aspen Mine Center has much to offer you. Current job listings in our area, paid apprenticeships, help with creating a solid résumé and dressing for interview success, even guidance and contacts to help put you on a new and exciting career path. AMC may even be able to offer emergency financial assistance for things like utilities or rent if you're in trouble. And our Food Pantry and Clothes Closet will help make sure you and your family aren't hungry or cold. Call Brent Kennedy, our Workforce Development Specialist, at (719) 502-9862, or Denise Wilson, our Job Coach, at (719) 663-9368 to make an appointment.

### **If you are a US armed forces veteran...**

A Teller County Veterans Service Officer is onsite at AMC on Wednesdays to assist you with problems in many ways. Call (719) 689-3584 ext 107 for information or to make an appointment.

### **If you have paid fully or partially for funeral expenses for a Covid-19 death...**

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) currently has a program to ease the financial burdens of having had to pay for a death caused or contributed by Covid-19. Up to \$9,000 for a single occurrence or a maximum of \$35,550 for multiple deaths can be reimbursed for money you put out.

Website: [www.fema.gov/disaster/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance) will give you complete information on how to apply. Pay special attention to the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section. Applications are not taken electronically. Call (844) 684-6333 to speak with a FEMA representative who can determine if you're eligible and assist you in applying on phone. About a 20-minute conversation should get you started. You'll need to gather considerable information and documentation but it's certainly worth the effort.

### **If you want current information on Covid vaccinations...**

It's your choice, of course, but be aware that currently the overwhelming number of Covid hospital admissions and deaths are unvaccinated people. CDC-approved vaccinations are now available for adults of all ages and children as young as 5 years old. See [www.tellerCovid.com](http://www.tellerCovid.com) for comprehensive info on testing, vaccinations, boosters, clinic locations and times of operation.

# Math Wizards!

## What's wrong with this equation?



$$1 + 1 = 15$$



The answer? Nothing. Not one thing.

Not when the Aspen Mine Center can turn **ONE** hour of volunteer service that **ONE** person contributes into **FIFTEEN DOLLARS** of actual value in services we provide for our community.

We do it every day. At least, we do it every day someone like you volunteers to help us make it happen.

It's easy, it's fun, and you'll go home feeling better about yourself than you have in a long time.

Our reception desk will show you how. Just do it. It's a wonderful feeling you'll want to have over and over again.

# VOLUNTEER!



# GOLD CAMP Christmas

## PRE-PARTY

Nov 22-Dec 8 Christmas Tree Decorating Contest—Aspen Mine Center

Nov 24 Aspen Mine Center Community Thanksgiving Dinner—11:30-3:00

Nov 26-Dec 31 "A Cripple Creek Christmas Carol"—Butte Theater

Nov 26-Dec 31 Lighting of the Headframes - self-guided driving tour after dusk

Dec 4 The Lighter Side of Christmas Parade—Woodland Park—6:00

## CELEBRATION

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, Aspen Mine Center will be serving FREE hot chocolate and S'mores at our sidewalk starting at 10:30am until end of the Gold Camp Christmas Parade!

### DECEMBER 10

- 11:30-1:00 Soup for the Soul & Cookie Contest—Aspen Mine Center
- 5:30 Lighted Headframe Guided Tour—Leaves Aspen Mine Center
- 6:00 12 Redneck Days of Christmas Parade—Victor
- 6:30 Community Gathering at Pinnacle Park—Victor

### DECEMBER 11

- 9:30-3:00 Annual Gold Camp Christmas Craft Fair—CC Parks & Rec
- 12:00 Gold Camp Christmas Parade—Bennett Ave
- 12:30 Visit with Santa—Aspen Mine Center
- Silent Auction Winners & Contest Winner Announced—Aspen Mine Center
- 3:30-5:00 Colorado Springs Chorale—CC Baptist Church



Dec 14 CC-V High School Cafetorium—4:30-7:00







## AMC EVENTS TO WARM THE 2021 HOLIDAY SEASON



### DEC 10 & 11 - SOUP FOR THE SOUL & GREATEST GOLD CAMP COOKIE CONTESTS!

The Gold Camp's Greatest Gourmets (individuals & businesses) serve up samples of their most delectable creations of savory soups, enchanting chilis and scrumptious cookies to community ticket holders who will serve as judges to determine the winners in the soup/chili and cookie categories.

Samplings will take place upstairs in the Aspen Mine Center on Friday, December 10 from 11:30am-1:30pm. The festivities continue at 1:30pm on Saturday, December 11 with the announcement of winners, who will be awarded either the coveted GOLDEN LADLE or GOLDEN GINGERBREAD Trophy! Sampling tickets are \$5.00 per person and can be purchased at the event on Friday only. It's a tasty AMC fundraiser for worthy causes. All ages welcome!

### NOW thru DEC 11 - GOLD CAMP CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CONTEST and SILENT AUCTION

Every year, Community of Caring can't wait for this event to happen—and neither can our entire community. From traditional warmth and beauty to whimsical, light-hearted fancy to sheer off-the-wall fantasy, it's all pure creative genius gone wild and so very wonderful to behold and participate in.

Our two themes for this holiday season are "It's a Home Town Christmas" (Traditional theme) and "Most Creative" (Artistic theme).

COC will award a \$500 prize to the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of each theme category following Saturday's silent auction.

But maybe the best part is while you roam the Aspen Mine Center feasting on a treasure house of magical Christmas eye candy, YOU just might be lucky enough to take one of these incredible works of art home for



your very own to enjoy every minute of the holidays.

It works like this. Come in to view the trees during our 8-4 business hours between Thursday 12/9 and 12/11 Saturday's silent auction which begins at 1:30 or shortly thereafter.

When you see a tree you've just gotta have, we'll show you how to place a silent bid. If you end up worrying your bid won't be enough to win, you'll get one last chance to increase it just prior to when contest winners are announced at the auction.

Tree creators can either keep their sale profits (less 20% to COC for benevolent usage) or designate sale \$\$ go to a charity or a local family. We wish you the best of luck!



### VISIT WITH SANTA AT THE ASPEN MINE CENTER!

Bring the kiddies! Bring your cameras! Go home with a lifetime memory. Saturday, December 11, starting around 12:30pm (right after the Gold Camp Christmas Parade).



### COLORADO SPRINGS CHORALE AT CRIPPLE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH - Saturday, December 11 3:30-5:00pm, 137 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

Witnessing this magnificent vocal ensemble fill this historic 1898 house of worship with the glory of Christmas will leave you breathless. FREE to the public. Your donations are deeply appreciated and will help the Aspen Mine Center spread Christmas joy to needy families. Don't miss it!



## Wednesday Free Lunch Lovers, Rejoice. WE'RE BACK!

When Covid restrictions on social gatherings hit early in 2020, a whole lot of things Cripple Creekers had always taken for granted went down the drain in a hurry. Suddenly our doors were open to clients by appointment only, often only one at a time allowed inside.

It didn't take long to hear from a whole lot of folks we'd come to know and love about another burning issue. "Can you guys still do Wednesday lunches?" quickly morphed into "When are you gonna start up free lunches again?"

We scrambled to find an answer. We did manage to put together very limited sidewalk table dining and do drive-by takeout during summer, but plummeting fall weather killed that approach. During spring of this year we tried again, takeout and sidewalk only. It was hit and miss...fewer customers when the weather got iffy.

But by summer, the mandates against close gatherings relaxed, We were back in business, happily serving those great FREE Wild Wonderful Wednesday lunches everyone had clamored for. And doing it in our comfy dining room just like old times!

Come see us. We've missed you as much as you've missed us. It's time we got together again. Best part is, we're doing it every single Wednesday. See you soon.

*Good Food + Good Friends*

=

*Good Times*

## AMC FREE Thanksgiving Dinner rocks out, sets new record

Whoo-ey! Thanks to great planning, AMC staff and volunteers firing up their ovens at home and on their own time to expertly roast a flock of turkeys, and a small army of staff and more volunteers smoothly prepping and serving the meal and then bussing tables to quickly make room for more diners, this year's FREE Thanksgiving extravaganza surpassed all previous years. The grand total exceeded 380 dinners served.

From 11:30am till 3:00pm on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, the house was truly rockin'.

A packed dining room filled with smiling faces and stuffed tummies. Staff and additional volunteers who bravely faced an intermittent snowstorm to deliver more meals than ever before to shut-ins and others lacking transportation to see us in person. We brought turkey with all the trimmings topped off with a delicious slice of pie to folks unable to make it happen on their own, covering Cripple Creek, Victor and Florissant areas.



*Our youngest dinner guest, with family*

Gigantic kudos go out to our staff and volunteers for their tireless efforts before, during and after the meal. To each and every patron who enjoyed dinner with us or at home, we hope we helped to bring you the warmth and togetherness that Thanksgiving is all about. You certainly made our day. We trust we made yours more meaningful too. We look forward to doing it all again next year. Peace and the blessings of life to you all.



**ARF! MEOW!**

**Please remember us.  
We're hungry too!**

## **THE AMC FOOD PANTRY NEEDS DONATIONS IMMEDIATELY FOR PEOPLE AND PETS!**

It will be another long, cold winter. A LOT of hungry folks and their pets need emergency assistance to survive. Our reserves are depleted. The hungry are still out there.

*Bring canned and packaged goods for people and pets to us for distribution to the needy, "Best if used by" date still fresh. Open Mon-Fri 8-4. We and they thank you for your kindness.*

## OUR CURRENT OPERATING HOURS

**ASPEN MINE CENTER OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8am-4pm. If seeking emergency food or clothing help, please arrive no later than 3:30pm.**

**ASPEN MINE GIFT & THRIFT SHOPPE OPEN TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10am-4pm. Donations may be dropped off between 10am-3:30pm during those days.**

**HOLIDAY CLOSURES: Friday Dec 24, Monday Dec 27, Friday Dec 31, Monday Jan 3/2022**

### Forget-Me-Nots: the road back from overwhelming grief

*Sadness, anger, depression and isolation* are common and normal feelings after the death of a beloved family member or dear friend.

Forget-Me-Nots is the brainchild of Krys Arrick, AMC's Family and Adult Advocate Specialist. From a special place in her heart, she continually hatches uniquely compassionate ideas that can help those who are especially lost and lonely to find a better place inside themselves...to overcome, to regenerate, to find their way back from the darkness into the light.

Sponsored by Community of Caring/Aspen Mine Center and facilitated by Krys, this peer-led support group for adults who are grieving in the days, months and years after the passing of a close family member or friend meets on the third Saturday of every month at 10:00am at the Aspen Mine Center, and may well prove to be a godsend toward easing your suffering.

Please call Krys Arrick at (719) 661-3539 to register or for more information. Then join us at the Aspen Mine Center for coffee, conversation and companionship.

Grief and sadness after the loss of a loved one is always difficult. In your struggle to regain strength, sometimes talking with others who have experienced similar losses can help ease the pain. You don't have to grieve alone.



### AMC Gift & Thrift Shoppe bounces back from Covid shutdown with BIG shopper savings

Like just about every other retail store around, the Covid shutdown took a heavy toll on our Gift & Thrift Shoppe. No group gatherings allowed meant no business meant no income meant bye-bye for awhile.

As soon as things loosened up earlier this year, we hustled hard to reopen and provide more pizzazz, more variety and especially even better bargains than before for our shoppers to enjoy.

The word came down from on high: "Our storage facility is jammed with donations that came in while we were closed. Price everything we sell to equal or beat any other thrift store so we can increase rotation of our stock and continually add new types of items."

We did it. Whatever you're looking for, there's a very good chance we've got it. Or even several of it. Our shoppers are loving it. Come join the party.

**Happy holidays to all of you  
from all of us at the  
Aspen Mine Center**



## Community Of Caring Board Member Updates

Judge Jackson Peters, Marc Dettenrieder and Crystal Petersen have resigned, moving on to other endeavors. We thank them for their invaluable and dedicated service. New members are:

**Tony Perry** – Tony is the President & CEO at Park State Bank & Trust in Woodland Park. Consistent with the mission of the bank and his personal philosophy, both he and the bank are focused on supporting the entire community from non-profits to small businesses and families. He has served on the boards of a multitude of local and Teller County community service organizations.

**Dan Williams** – Dan has served Teller County as a consultant, the Teller County Planning Official and now as the District 1 County Commissioner. He is a retired US Army Colonel, West Point graduate, Apache Pilot and decorated 30-year Combat Veteran. He currently serves on numerous local and regional boards and organizations. Dan lives with his wife Suzan, a retired US Army Nurse, on their ranch near Cripple Creek.

**Miriam Mondragon** – Graduated from Central HS in Pueblo and went on to earn a BS and teaching degree from CSU-Pueblo. After nine years as an elementary school teacher, Miriam joined the CC-V school district in 2011, serving as Cresson Elementary School principal for seven years. Following a 2 year break, she returned to the district she loves to become the CC-V superintendent.

### ***VOLUNTEER!***

Just bring your time and a smiling face.  
Call 719-689-3584 or see our Receptionist.

The Aspen Mine Center  
Community Clarion newsletter  
is published by the  
Community of Caring Foundation,  
a 501(c)3 organization.

Our Board of Directors:

Mary Bielz

Reed Grainger

Joan Rook

Richard Ingold

Martha Hubbard

Scott Porter

Mike Rulo

Tony Perry

Dan Williams

Miriam Mondragon

**The Aspen Mine Center**

**166 E. Bennett Ave.**

**Cripple Creek, CO 80813**

**(719) 689-3584**

[www.aspenminecenter.org](http://www.aspenminecenter.org)

**Open Mon-Fri 8-4**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Ted Borden, Executive Director**

**Veldean Myers, Financial Services  
Director**

**Lisa Noble, Client Programs Director**

**Angie Trelstad, Family & Adult  
Advocacy Services Manager**

**Fill those quiet hours on chilly evenings  
with a good book.**

Our Lending Library is open  
Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
We also usually have DVD and  
VHS tape movies available.

**FREE bookmarks too!**

A complete list of our services,  
agencies, partners and affiliates  
is on our website:

[www.aspenminecenter.org](http://www.aspenminecenter.org)

A comprehensive contact list of  
helpful area resources is also found  
there. Or call us for assistance.