



THIRD
QUARTER
2018

CITY OF
MANITOU SPRINGS
NEWSLETTER
NONPROFIT &
COMMUNITY EDITION

Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce

By Leslie Lewis,
executive director

This has been a year of growth for the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau & Office of Economic Development.

We were fortunate to have Aaron Schultz, Americorp VISTA, join our office team in June. Aaron adds capacity to our staff and has been busy assisting many of Manitou Springs' boards and departments with various projects.

Unfortunately, we lost Stephanie Willie at the end of September as she moved on to other opportunities.

One of our goals for 2018 was to create a new website, which we're still working on.

The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses, as well as the visitor information we provide.

It will also better incorporate the new logo and branding we launched in 2017.

We are still collecting information on home-based businesses and services to share with residents.

In addition to again taking the lead on the Great Fruitcake Toss, we expanded Carnivale! events to include CarniBall on Friday evening, and added two Wine Walks (March and September) and two Silent Disco/Food Truck Rally events in June and August. We also pulled together



Courtesy image

Volunteers, board members and staffers at the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce pose in front of the office.

the free July 4th concert to replace the canceled fireworks.

the 24th Annual Emma Crawford Coffin Festival with expanded events.

We're also working on a promotion for Small Business Saturday in late November.

Supporting Manitou Springs businesses is

great all times of the year, but the annual "Shop Manitou Ski Monarch" promotion adds extra benefit for skiers and will begin in November.

Our Visitor Information Center sees visitors from all over the country and the world. Through September, we have assisted 20,885 visitors.

If you enjoy meeting and talking with people and have some free time

All of these events will become part of our annual event schedule. Manitou Paints!, a plein air event, returned for the second year in October. We just held an appreciation concert in partnership with Woodshed Red and are looking forward to the sold-out Billy Strings concert in November.

Currently, we're gearing up for

“ **The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses.** ”

TO LEARN MORE

Stop by 354 Manitou Ave.,
go to manitousprings.org
or call 685-5089.



available, we're looking for volunteers to assist our guests.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with events and would welcome resident suggestions on other events you would like to see in Manitou Springs.



THIRD
QUARTER
2018

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS

NEWSLETTER

NONPROFIT &
COMMUNITY EDITION

Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce

By Leslie Lewis,
executive director

This has been a year of growth for the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau & Office of Economic Development.

We were fortunate to have Aaron Schultz, Americorp VISTA, join our office team in June. Aaron adds capacity to our staff and has been busy assisting many of Manitou Springs' boards and departments with various projects.

Unfortunately, we lost Stephanie Willie at the end of September as she moved on to other opportunities.

One of our goals for 2018 was to create a new website, which we're still working on.

The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses, as well as the visitor information we provide.

It will also better incorporate the new logo and branding we launched in 2017.

We are still collecting information on home-based businesses and services to share with residents.

In addition to again taking the lead on the Great Fruitcake Toss, we expanded Carnivale! events to include CarniBall on Friday evening, and added two Wine Walks (March and September) and two Silent Disco/Food Truck Rally events in June and August. We also pulled together



Courtesy image

Volunteers, board members and staffers at the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce pose in front of the office.

the free July 4th concert to replace the canceled fireworks.

the 24th Annual Emma Crawford Coffin Festival with expanded events.

We're also working on a promotion for Small Business Saturday in late November.

Supporting Manitou Springs businesses is

great all times of the year, but the annual "Shop Manitou Ski Monarch" promotion adds extra benefit for skiers and will begin in November.

Our Visitor Information Center sees visitors from all over the country and the world. Through September, we have assisted 20,885 visitors.

If you enjoy meeting and talking with people and have some free time

“ **The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses.** ”

All of these events will become part of our annual event schedule. Manitou Paints!, a plein air event, returned for the second year in October. We just held an appreciation concert in partnership with Woodshed Red and are looking forward to the sold-out Billy Strings concert in November.

Currently, we're gearing up for

TO LEARN MORE

Stop by 354 Manitou Ave.,
go to manitousprings.org
or call 685-5089.



available, we're looking for volunteers to assist our guests.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with events and would welcome resident suggestions on other events you would like to see in Manitou Springs.



THIRD
QUARTER
2018

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS

NEWSLETTER

NONPROFIT &
COMMUNITY EDITION

Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce

By Leslie Lewis,
executive director

This has been a year of growth for the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau & Office of Economic Development.

We were fortunate to have Aaron Schultz, Americorp VISTA, join our office team in June. Aaron adds capacity to our staff and has been busy assisting many of Manitou Springs' boards and departments with various projects.

Unfortunately, we lost Stephanie Willie at the end of September as she moved on to other opportunities.

One of our goals for 2018 was to create a new website, which we're still working on.

The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses, as well as the visitor information we provide.

It will also better incorporate the new logo and branding we launched in 2017.

We are still collecting information on home-based businesses and services to share with residents.

In addition to again taking the lead on the Great Fruitcake Toss, we expanded Carnivale! events to include CarniBall on Friday evening, and added two Wine Walks (March and September) and two Silent Disco/Food Truck Rally events in June and August. We also pulled together



Courtesy image

Volunteers, board members and staffers at the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce pose in front of the office.

the free July 4th concert to replace the canceled fireworks.

the 24th Annual Emma Crawford Coffin Festival with expanded events.

We're also working on a promotion for Small Business Saturday in late November.

Supporting Manitou Springs businesses is

great all times of the year, but the annual "Shop Manitou Ski Monarch" promotion adds extra benefit for skiers and will begin in November.

Our Visitor Information Center sees visitors from all over the country and the world. Through September, we have assisted 20,885 visitors.

If you enjoy meeting and talking with people and have some free time

All of these events will become part of our annual event schedule. Manitou Paints!, a plein air event, returned for the second year in October. We just held an appreciation concert in partnership with Woodshed Red and are looking forward to the sold-out Billy Strings concert in November.

Currently, we're gearing up for

“ **The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses.** ”

TO LEARN MORE

Stop by 354 Manitou Ave.,
go to manitousprings.org
or call 685-5089.



available, we're looking for volunteers to assist our guests.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with events and would welcome resident suggestions on other events you would like to see in Manitou Springs.



Courtesy images

Miramont Castle has served as both a private residence and a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients.

Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs Historical Society

By **Peggie Yager,**
treasurer

Miramont Castle has seen a lot of changes and renovations this year. In 1972, when the castle housed apartments, the Tower Room on the fourth floor burned and only minimal repairs were done.

This year, we tore off the drywall and 1970s paneling and exposed original walls, which we repaired. During this process, we exposed a transom over the doorway and a

window that hasn't been seen in almost 50 years. We replaced florescent lights with period light fixtures.

We've installed an incredible 1890s cast-iron fireplace in the Chapel that was original to a house on Ruxton Avenue.

The gardens have had a complete makeover. We've dug out all the undesirables and planted a lot of new flowers. We added seating, birdbaths and other small things to catch your eye.

Then three hailstorms in three weeks left the gardens looking like a war zone. They have made a pitiful comeback but at least next year, we'll have a good foundation to build on.

The hail also did extensive damage to the castle and we're still trying to get estimates.

The historical society has completed recording the Sawyer & Garstin collection of historic maps and survey books. We still need to scan all the documents and attach them to their files.

We continue to enter all the old paper accession records into our archival program and locate the items so new numbers and pictures can become a part of their records. The historical society welcomes anyone who would like to help with this ongoing project.

The Queen's Parlour TeaRoom staffers continue to delight people with their culinary skills. We are being compared to some of the finest tea rooms in the country. Our lunches are also delightful.

If you'd like to try us out, make sure you call 884-4109 for reservations; the TeaRoom is small and fills up quickly.

We're taking reservations for Christmas parties and have a few nights still available.

Emma Crawford's Wake will be our next big event, so if you haven't made your reservations you need to.

We present five vignettes based loosely on her life and death. Then, to



The Manitou Springs Historical Society has started posting excerpts of donated letters, with backgrounds of historic photos, on its Facebook page.

finish off the evening, we serve an incredible buffet dinner. This is one of our fundraisers.

Christmas is coming and we'll need volunteers to help with decorating. So if you want to get in the spirit early, we can help you with that. It takes us a month to decorate the Castle.

We may, also, need help shopping for Mercy at Miramont, our Christmas program for area children in need.

We'll be trying something new with our Facebook page in the coming weeks. The historical society has a huge number of donated letters, and we're going to start posting excerpts.

Some are hilarious and some are heart-wrenching, but they tell of a forgotten time and lifestyle. It's our hope that you'll enjoy reading them.

If you're looking for Manitou's history, Miramont Castle is a one-stop shop. Not only do we have one of Manitou's largest and most historical buildings, we have a huge archival base.

Come in and check us out — you won't regret it.



This 1890s cast-iron fireplace has been installed in the castle's Chapel.

TO LEARN MORE

Miramont Castle is at 9 Capitol Hill Ave. and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Information: www.miramontcastle.org or 685-1011.

Concrete Couch

By Steve Wood,
director

Concrete Couch is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that builds community through creative projects. We have completed about 180 projects in Manitou Springs, and all of our programming is free and open to all.

Concrete Couch also works in Colorado Springs, and works mostly at Title 1 schools, on post at Fort Carson, through the Colorado Springs Community Centers, and with other nonprofits.

Currently, we are buying a 5.6-acre parcel in downtown Colorado Springs to build an office. In the fullness of time, we will be building a park, designed and built by the community, which will include bike trails, climbing structures, disc golf, sculpture park, community gardens, solar demonstration farm, rainwater harvesting and raingardens and a science center.

In Manitou, we host FAB LAB at the Manitou Art Center, 513/515 Manitou Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

At FAB LAB, Concrete Couch staffers Chi Ito and Abraham Shubarth help participants learn construction and art skills. It's free and open to all, but participants younger than 13 need an adult to accompany them.

In 2019, we will host the 11th Annual Lantern Parade, and will maintain the Raingarden at Soda



Courtesy image

Concrete Couch staff and supporters celebrate the completion of the giant pumpkin sculpture in downtown Colorado Springs in October 2016. From left: William Putnam, Kendall Kultgen, Ruthie Markwardt and Paul Billups.

Springs Park.

We also will design and create

infrastructure for the city and for

Manitou Springs School District 14, as

projects arise that are appropriate for our groups to design and build.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs

By Jim Muncher,
president

I would like to reach out to this great community of Manitou Springs to invite new members to our club.

If you're seeking a way to give to children, not only locally but worldwide, the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club is a great organization to be part of. Our members are constantly involved with projects that raise money, 100 percent of which helps fund local charities and worldwide projects that Kiwanis International takes on.

For more than half of its 96-year existence, the club has awarded scholarships to selected Manitou Springs High School graduates — more than 700 total. We have a great team of members who are involved with this effort to help develop great leaders of tomorrow.

Manitou Springs Kiwanis

members are also involved with sponsoring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops. Some are also involved with the middle school's Builders

Club and the high school's Key Club, both of which we sponsor.

The Manitou Springs Kiwanis has been involved with several community events which have been around for

several years. They include Breakfast with Santa, the annual Easter egg hunt, our local Halloween carnival and the Pikes Peak Marathon spaghetti dinner.

We are also involved with tree

planting in the burn scar areas, an annual event, and with the Fountain Creek clean-up. We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.

“
We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.
”

We've been involved with Kiwanis International programs such as the Eliminate Project, which helps provide vaccinations to reduce tetanus in mothers and babies. We have met our goal of \$20,000 through fundraising projects such as

our St. Patrick's Day dinner and through donations from our members.

Our Manitou Springs High School Key Club, with members who are highly motivated and driven, also is involved in projects that not only

encompass the local community but international concerns.

This year, we're getting involved with the Connect 14 project, a Manitou Springs School District 14 initiative, in hopes of getting our kids involved with activities of all types, including music, science, various outdoor activities and even cooking.

I would like to extend an invitation to the community to come join us for dinner and learn more about our club and what we do. We meet at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Community Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, 103 Pawnee Ave.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs would welcome your support; as a member you would be giving back to our community.

TO LEARN MORE

Go to www.concretecouch.org
or call 641-7760.

TO LEARN MORE

Visit www.manitoukiwanis.org.

Mineral Springs Foundation

Story and photo by Terry Sharpton, president

It's been a busy summer here in the valley of the mineral springs.

This year, we added a second Springabout Tour to our schedule, and gave guided walking tours of our mineral springs and interesting community features to visitors and locals on Saturdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Comments from tour attendees were positive and encouraging this year, and we hope to see you on a tour next summer. Special tours for groups can be arranged throughout the year by contacting the Manitou Springs Chamber at 685-5089.

If you have any interest in becoming a Springabout tour guide for next summer, contact the chamber or the Mineral Springs Foundation at manitoumineralsprings@gmail.com.

Tours are just a small portion of what the Mineral Springs Foundation is all about.

Restoration and maintenance work on the various mineral spring sites is ongoing, and you'll see

changes in the coming months. This year we replaced the faux stone on the Stratton Spring font with actual Manitou greenstone and the results are stunning.

Now, with the help of a generous donation from the Lori Cohen Charitable Trust, we'll begin some other improvements at the site, including electrical and lighting upgrades, and a new bronze backsplash. Follow our progress in the coming months.

We also anticipate reopening Navajo Spring soon, as well. Plans call for inserting a new basin into the existing structure and following that up with the necessary plumbing to get it back into service. Many of these projects take time and we appreciate your patience as we work to make the necessary upgrades.

Behind the scenes and over the past several years, studies have been done on the area's unique geology in an attempt to better understand the aquifer system that supplies the mineral springs.

Much of this information is available to download from our

website along with brochures, mineral charts, tasty recipes and more.

The foundation and the city of Manitou Springs are discussing options for further studies with the U.S. Geological Service in hopes of gathering even more information about our precious mineral springs.

Stay tuned for updates on these and other projects and, as always, feel free to contact the foundation through the chamber, our website, email or Facebook page and we'll do what we can to get you better informed on the mineral springs.

In the meantime, stop by your favorite spring and have a glass of refreshing Manitou Springs mineral



Randy Bowen, a Black Forest artist, created the Wheeler Spring font on Park Avenue.

water — and if you haven't seen it yet, stop by the Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., and see the exhibit "Manitou Bottles and Bottling Plants."

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitoumineralsprings.org.

Manitou Springs Creative District

By Natalie Johnson, executive director

October is Arts Month!

Every year during the month of October, we encourage everyone to enjoy at least one NEW creative experience in the Pikes Peak region. There are hundreds of opportunities to participate in something amazing this month, start to finish. It's certainly not too late, so don't miss out.

Promoting the arts and creative activities in Manitou is far more than just a one-month campaign, of course.

The Manitou Springs Arts Council added its latest piece, "Kuyok" by John Kessler, this summer near Soda Springs Park. Manitou Springs School District 14 Superintendent Ed Longfield has been honored with the Future of the Arts Award, and the Manitou Art Center was nominated for Best Exhibit 2018 in the region.

Manitou Springs kicked off Arts Month with the 1st Friday Art Walk on Oct. 5, followed the next day by "Manitou Paints! A Plein Art Event." The Manitou Art Center celebrated its 30th anniversary with its annual MACnificent! gala on Oct. 13, and Manitou Springs Middle School students presented Mayor Ken Jaray with our new Manitou Springs flag.

The Pikes Peak Arts Council also is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month.

Skeleton Craze 2018 has taken over our downtown, and Manitou Community Markets finished the season with stone soup and sourdough bread. ArtPOP 2018 is hitting Manitou Springs this month with events including Merikai Dance on Oct. 27 at Memorial Park.

In addition to the annual Emma Crawford Coffin Races on Oct. 27, Smokebrush will present its Festival de los Muertos in Memorial Park — and don't forget about the Heritage Center's Ghost Tours. MSSD14 is featuring a production of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" on Oct. 26 and 27

through its theater program.

These are only a few of the many offerings that are available to us in and around Manitou. With this in mind, it's not difficult to believe that the economic impact of the nonprofit art and culture sector in the Pikes Peak region is more than \$150 million a year.

If you can't make it to something this month, consider participating in Creative events during November and December.

Just a few examples: 1st Friday Art Walk 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, the Commonwheel Holiday Market from Nov. 16 through Dec. 30, FAB LAB with Concrete Couch 3:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the MAC, the Manitou Community (Holiday) Market on Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, and the Repair Café with the Pikes Peak Library District 1-4 p.m. Nov. 17 at the MAC.



Bulletin file photo

"Kuyok" stands guard over the Manitou Avenue intersection with Park Avenue.

Without our artists, galleries and other creatives, Manitou Springs wouldn't be the magical community that it is, for us as well as the town's thousands of visitors. This October, we celebrate all that the creative scene brings to our lives and the livelihood of our business community.

Merry Arts Month to you!

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitouspringscd.org or call 200-1272.



Courtesy images

Miramont Castle has served as both a private residence and a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients.

Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs Historical Society

By **Peggie Yager**,
treasurer

Miramont Castle has seen a lot of changes and renovations this year. In 1972, when the castle housed apartments, the Tower Room on the fourth floor burned and only minimal repairs were done.

This year, we tore off the drywall and 1970s paneling and exposed original walls, which we repaired. During this process, we exposed a transom over the doorway and a

window that hasn't been seen in almost 50 years. We replaced florescent lights with period light fixtures.

We've installed an incredible 1890s cast-iron fireplace in the Chapel that was original to a house on Ruxton Avenue.

The gardens have had a complete makeover. We've dug out all the undesirables and planted a lot of new flowers. We added seating, birdbaths and other small things to catch your eye.

Then three hailstorms in three weeks left the gardens looking like a war zone. They have made a pitiful comeback but at least next year, we'll have a good foundation to build on.

The hail also did extensive damage to the castle and we're still trying to get estimates.

The historical society has completed recording the Sawyer & Garstin collection of historic maps and survey books. We still need to scan all the documents and attach them to their files.

We continue to enter all the old paper accession records into our archival program and locate the items so new numbers and pictures can become a part of their records. The historical society welcomes anyone who would like to help with this ongoing project.

The Queen's Parlour TeaRoom staffers continue to delight people with their culinary skills. We are being compared to some of the finest tea rooms in the country. Our lunches are also delightful.

If you'd like to try us out, make sure you call 884-4109 for reservations; the TeaRoom is small and fills up quickly.

We're taking reservations for Christmas parties and have a few nights still available.

Emma Crawford's Wake will be our next big event, so if you haven't made your reservations you need to.

We present five vignettes based loosely on her life and death. Then, to



The Manitou Springs Historical Society has started posting excerpts of donated letters, with backgrounds of historic photos, on its Facebook page.

finish off the evening, we serve an incredible buffet dinner. This is one of our fundraisers.

Christmas is coming and we'll need volunteers to help with decorating. So if you want to get in the spirit early, we can help you with that. It takes us a month to decorate the Castle.

We may, also, need help shopping for Mercy at Miramont, our Christmas program for area children in need.

We'll be trying something new with our Facebook page in the coming weeks. The historical society has a huge number of donated letters, and we're going to start posting excerpts.

Some are hilarious and some are heart-wrenching, but they tell of a forgotten time and lifestyle. It's our hope that you'll enjoy reading them.

If you're looking for Manitou's history, Miramont Castle is a one-stop shop. Not only do we have one of Manitou's largest and most historical buildings, we have a huge archival base.

Come in and check us out — you won't regret it.



This 1890s cast-iron fireplace has been installed in the castle's Chapel.

TO LEARN MORE

Miramont Castle is at 9 Capitol Hill Ave. and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Information: www.miramontcastle.org or 685-1011.

Concrete Couch

By Steve Wood,
director

Concrete Couch is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that builds community through creative projects. We have completed about 180 projects in Manitou Springs, and all of our programming is free and open to all.

Concrete Couch also works in Colorado Springs, and works mostly at Title 1 schools, on post at Fort Carson, through the Colorado Springs Community Centers, and with other nonprofits.

Currently, we are buying a 5.6-acre parcel in downtown Colorado Springs to build an office. In the fullness of time, we will be building a park, designed and built by the community, which will include bike trails, climbing structures, disc golf, sculpture park, community gardens, solar demonstration farm, rainwater harvesting and raingardens and a science center.

In Manitou, we host FAB LAB at the Manitou Art Center, 513/515 Manitou Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

At FAB LAB, Concrete Couch staffers Chi Ito and Abraham Shubarth help participants learn construction and art skills. It's free and open to all, but participants younger than 13 need an adult to accompany them.

In 2019, we will host the 11th Annual Lantern Parade, and will maintain the Raingarden at Soda



Courtesy image

Concrete Couch staff and supporters celebrate the completion of the giant pumpkin sculpture in downtown Colorado Springs in October 2016. From left: William Putnam, Kendall Kultgen, Ruthie Markwardt and Paul Billups.

Springs Park.

We also will design and create

infrastructure for the city and for

Manitou Springs School District 14, as

projects arise that are appropriate for our groups to design and build.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs

By Jim Muncher,
president

I would like to reach out to this great community of Manitou Springs to invite new members to our club.

If you're seeking a way to give to children, not only locally but worldwide, the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club is a great organization to be part of. Our members are constantly involved with projects that raise money, 100 percent of which helps fund local charities and worldwide projects that Kiwanis International takes on.

For more than half of its 96-year existence, the club has awarded scholarships to selected Manitou Springs High School graduates — more than 700 total. We have a great team of members who are involved with this effort to help develop great leaders of tomorrow.

Manitou Springs Kiwanis

members are also involved with sponsoring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops. Some are also involved with the middle school's Builders

Club and the high school's Key Club, both of which we sponsor.

The Manitou Springs Kiwanis has been involved with several community events which have been around for

several years. They include Breakfast with Santa, the annual Easter egg hunt, our local Halloween carnival and the Pikes Peak Marathon spaghetti dinner.

We are also involved with tree

planting in the burn scar areas, an annual event, and with the Fountain Creek clean-up. We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.

“
We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.
”

We've been involved with Kiwanis International programs such as the Eliminate Project, which helps provide vaccinations to reduce tetanus in mothers and babies. We have met our goal of \$20,000 through fundraising projects such as

our St. Patrick's Day dinner and through donations from our members.

Our Manitou Springs High School Key Club, with members who are highly motivated and driven, also is involved in projects that not only

encompass the local community but international concerns.

This year, we're getting involved with the Connect 14 project, a Manitou Springs School District 14 initiative, in hopes of getting our kids involved with activities of all types, including music, science, various outdoor activities and even cooking.

I would like to extend an invitation to the community to come join us for dinner and learn more about our club and what we do. We meet at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Community Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, 103 Pawnee Ave.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs would welcome your support; as a member you would be giving back to our community.

TO LEARN MORE

Go to www.concretecouch.org
or call 641-7760.

TO LEARN MORE

Visit www.manitoukiwanis.org.

Mineral Springs Foundation

Story and photo by Terry Sharpton, president

It's been a busy summer here in the valley of the mineral springs.

This year, we added a second Springabout Tour to our schedule, and gave guided walking tours of our mineral springs and interesting community features to visitors and locals on Saturdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Comments from tour attendees were positive and encouraging this year, and we hope to see you on a tour next summer. Special tours for groups can be arranged throughout the year by contacting the Manitou Springs Chamber at 685-5089.

If you have any interest in becoming a Springabout tour guide for next summer, contact the chamber or the Mineral Springs Foundation at manitoumineralsprings@gmail.com.

Tours are just a small portion of what the Mineral Springs Foundation is all about.

Restoration and maintenance work on the various mineral spring sites is ongoing, and you'll see

changes in the coming months. This year we replaced the faux stone on the Stratton Spring font with actual Manitou greenstone and the results are stunning.

Now, with the help of a generous donation from the Lori Cohen Charitable Trust, we'll begin some other improvements at the site, including electrical and lighting upgrades, and a new bronze backsplash. Follow our progress in the coming months.

We also anticipate reopening Navajo Spring soon, as well. Plans call for inserting a new basin into the existing structure and following that up with the necessary plumbing to get it back into service. Many of these projects take time and we appreciate your patience as we work to make the necessary upgrades.

Behind the scenes and over the past several years, studies have been done on the area's unique geology in an attempt to better understand the aquifer system that supplies the mineral springs.

Much of this information is available to download from our

website along with brochures, mineral charts, tasty recipes and more.

The foundation and the city of Manitou Springs are discussing options for further studies with the U.S. Geological Service in hopes of gathering even more information about our precious mineral springs.

Stay tuned for updates on these and other projects and, as always, feel free to contact the foundation through the chamber, our website, email or Facebook page and we'll do what we can to get you better informed on the mineral springs.

In the meantime, stop by your favorite spring and have a glass of refreshing Manitou Springs mineral



Randy Bowen, a Black Forest artist, created the Wheeler Spring font on Park Avenue.

water — and if you haven't seen it yet, stop by the Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., and see the exhibit "Manitou Bottles and Bottling Plants."

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitoumineralsprings.org.

Manitou Springs Creative District

By Natalie Johnson, executive director

October is Arts Month!

Every year during the month of October, we encourage everyone to enjoy at least one NEW creative experience in the Pikes Peak region. There are hundreds of opportunities to participate in something amazing this month, start to finish. It's certainly not too late, so don't miss out.

Promoting the arts and creative activities in Manitou is far more than just a one-month campaign, of course.

The Manitou Springs Arts Council added its latest piece, "Kuyok" by John Kessler, this summer near Soda Springs Park. Manitou Springs School District 14 Superintendent Ed Longfield has been honored with the Future of the Arts Award, and the Manitou Art Center was nominated for Best Exhibit 2018 in the region.

Manitou Springs kicked off Arts Month with the 1st Friday Art Walk on Oct. 5, followed the next day by "Manitou Paints! A Plein Art Event." The Manitou Art Center celebrated its 30th anniversary with its annual MACnificent! gala on Oct. 13, and Manitou Springs Middle School students presented Mayor Ken Jaray with our new Manitou Springs flag.

The Pikes Peak Arts Council also is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month.

Skeleton Craze 2018 has taken over our downtown, and Manitou Community Markets finished the season with stone soup and sourdough bread. ArtPOP 2018 is hitting Manitou Springs this month with events including Merikai Dance on Oct. 27 at Memorial Park.

In addition to the annual Emma Crawford Coffin Races on Oct. 27, Smokebrush will present its Festival de los Muertos in Memorial Park — and don't forget about the Heritage Center's Ghost Tours. MSSD14 is featuring a production of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" on Oct. 26 and 27

through its theater program.

These are only a few of the many offerings that are available to us in and around Manitou. With this in mind, it's not difficult to believe that the economic impact of the nonprofit art and culture sector in the Pikes Peak region is more than \$150 million a year.

If you can't make it to something this month, consider participating in Creative events during November and December.

Just a few examples: 1st Friday Art Walk 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, the Commonwheel Holiday Market from Nov. 16 through Dec. 30, FAB LAB with Concrete Couch 3:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the MAC, the Manitou Community (Holiday) Market on Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, and the Repair Café with the Pikes Peak Library District 1-4 p.m. Nov. 17 at the MAC.



Bulletin file photo

"Kuyok" stands guard over the Manitou Avenue intersection with Park Avenue.

Without our artists, galleries and other creatives, Manitou Springs wouldn't be the magical community that it is, for us as well as the town's thousands of visitors. This October, we celebrate all that the creative scene brings to our lives and the livelihood of our business community.

Merry Arts Month to you!

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitouspringscd.org or call 200-1272.



THIRD
QUARTER
2018

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS

NEWSLETTER

NONPROFIT &
COMMUNITY EDITION

Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce

By Leslie Lewis,
executive director

This has been a year of growth for the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau & Office of Economic Development.

We were fortunate to have Aaron Schultz, Americorp VISTA, join our office team in June. Aaron adds capacity to our staff and has been busy assisting many of Manitou Springs' boards and departments with various projects.

Unfortunately, we lost Stephanie Willie at the end of September as she moved on to other opportunities.

One of our goals for 2018 was to create a new website, which we're still working on.

The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses, as well as the visitor information we provide.

It will also better incorporate the new logo and branding we launched in 2017.

We are still collecting information on home-based businesses and services to share with residents.

In addition to again taking the lead on the Great Fruitcake Toss, we expanded Carnivale! events to include CarniBall on Friday evening, and added two Wine Walks (March and September) and two Silent Disco/Food Truck Rally events in June and August. We also pulled together



Courtesy image

Volunteers, board members and staffers at the Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce pose in front of the office.

the free July 4th concert to replace the canceled fireworks.

the 24th Annual Emma Crawford Coffin Festival with expanded events.

We're also working on a promotion for Small Business Saturday in late November.

Supporting Manitou Springs businesses is

great all times of the year, but the annual "Shop Manitou Ski Monarch" promotion adds extra benefit for skiers and will begin in November.

Our Visitor Information Center sees visitors from all over the country and the world. Through September, we have assisted 20,885 visitors.

If you enjoy meeting and talking with people and have some free time

All of these events will become part of our annual event schedule. Manitou Paints!, a plein air event, returned for the second year in October. We just held an appreciation concert in partnership with Woodshed Red and are looking forward to the sold-out Billy Strings concert in November.

Currently, we're gearing up for

“ **The new site will include more resources for residents and businesses.** ”

TO LEARN MORE

Stop by 354 Manitou Ave.,
go to manitousprings.org
or call 685-5089.



available, we're looking for volunteers to assist our guests.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with events and would welcome resident suggestions on other events you would like to see in Manitou Springs.



Courtesy images

Miramont Castle has served as both a private residence and a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients.

Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs Historical Society

By Peggie Yager,
treasurer

Miramont Castle has seen a lot of changes and renovations this year. In 1972, when the castle housed apartments, the Tower Room on the fourth floor burned and only minimal repairs were done.

This year, we tore off the drywall and 1970s paneling and exposed original walls, which we repaired. During this process, we exposed a transom over the doorway and a

window that hasn't been seen in almost 50 years. We replaced florescent lights with period light fixtures.

We've installed an incredible 1890s cast-iron fireplace in the Chapel that was original to a house on Ruxton Avenue.

The gardens have had a complete makeover. We've dug out all the undesirables and planted a lot of new flowers. We added seating, birdbaths and other small things to catch your eye.

Then three hailstorms in three weeks left the gardens looking like a war zone. They have made a pitiful comeback but at least next year, we'll have a good foundation to build on.

The hail also did extensive damage to the castle and we're still trying to get estimates.

The historical society has completed recording the Sawyer & Garstin collection of historic maps and survey books. We still need to scan all the documents and attach them to their files.

We continue to enter all the old paper accession records into our archival program and locate the items so new numbers and pictures can become a part of their records. The historical society welcomes anyone who would like to help with this ongoing project.

The Queen's Parlour TeaRoom staffers continue to delight people with their culinary skills. We are being compared to some of the finest tea rooms in the country. Our lunches are also delightful.

If you'd like to try us out, make sure you call 884-4109 for reservations; the TeaRoom is small and fills up quickly.

We're taking reservations for Christmas parties and have a few nights still available.

Emma Crawford's Wake will be our next big event, so if you haven't made your reservations you need to.

We present five vignettes based loosely on her life and death. Then, to



The Manitou Springs Historical Society has started posting excerpts of donated letters, with backgrounds of historic photos, on its Facebook page.

finish off the evening, we serve an incredible buffet dinner. This is one of our fundraisers.

Christmas is coming and we'll need volunteers to help with decorating. So if you want to get in the spirit early, we can help you with that. It takes us a month to decorate the Castle.

We may, also, need help shopping for Mercy at Miramont, our Christmas program for area children in need.

We'll be trying something new with our Facebook page in the coming weeks. The historical society has a huge number of donated letters, and we're going to start posting excerpts.

Some are hilarious and some are heart-wrenching, but they tell of a forgotten time and lifestyle. It's our hope that you'll enjoy reading them.

If you're looking for Manitou's history, Miramont Castle is a one-stop shop. Not only do we have one of Manitou's largest and most historical buildings, we have a huge archival base.

Come in and check us out — you won't regret it.



This 1890s cast-iron fireplace has been installed in the castle's Chapel.

TO LEARN MORE

Miramont Castle is at 9 Capitol Hill Ave. and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Information: www.miramontcastle.org or 685-1011.

Concrete Couch

By Steve Wood,
director

Concrete Couch is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that builds community through creative projects. We have completed about 180 projects in Manitou Springs, and all of our programming is free and open to all.

Concrete Couch also works in Colorado Springs, and works mostly at Title 1 schools, on post at Fort Carson, through the Colorado Springs Community Centers, and with other nonprofits.

Currently, we are buying a 5.6-acre parcel in downtown Colorado Springs to build an office. In the fullness of time, we will be building a park, designed and built by the community, which will include bike trails, climbing structures, disc golf, sculpture park, community gardens, solar demonstration farm, rainwater harvesting and raingardens and a science center.

In Manitou, we host FAB LAB at the Manitou Art Center, 513/515 Manitou Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

At FAB LAB, Concrete Couch staffers Chi Ito and Abraham Shubarth help participants learn construction and art skills. It's free and open to all, but participants younger than 13 need an adult to accompany them.

In 2019, we will host the 11th Annual Lantern Parade, and will maintain the Raingarden at Soda



Courtesy image

Concrete Couch staff and supporters celebrate the completion of the giant pumpkin sculpture in downtown Colorado Springs in October 2016. From left: William Putnam, Kendall Kultgen, Ruthie Markwardt and Paul Billups.

Springs Park.

We also will design and create

infrastructure for the city and for

Manitou Springs School District 14, as

projects arise that are appropriate for our groups to design and build.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs

By Jim Muncher,
president

I would like to reach out to this great community of Manitou Springs to invite new members to our club.

If you're seeking a way to give to children, not only locally but worldwide, the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club is a great organization to be part of. Our members are constantly involved with projects that raise money, 100 percent of which helps fund local charities and worldwide projects that Kiwanis International takes on.

For more than half of its 96-year existence, the club has awarded scholarships to selected Manitou Springs High School graduates — more than 700 total. We have a great team of members who are involved with this effort to help develop great leaders of tomorrow.

Manitou Springs Kiwanis

members are also involved with sponsoring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops. Some are also involved with the middle school's Builders

Club and the high school's Key Club, both of which we sponsor.

The Manitou Springs Kiwanis has been involved with several community events which have been around for

several years. They include Breakfast with Santa, the annual Easter egg hunt, our local Halloween carnival and the Pikes Peak Marathon spaghetti dinner.

We are also involved with tree

planting in the burn scar areas, an annual event, and with the Fountain Creek clean-up. We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.

“
**We are a fixture
of this community
and will continue
to be.**

”

our St. Patrick's Day dinner and through donations from our members.

Our Manitou Springs High School Key Club, with members who are highly motivated and driven, also is involved in projects that not only

encompass the local community but international concerns.

This year, we're getting involved with the Connect 14 project, a Manitou Springs School District 14 initiative, in hopes of getting our kids involved with activities of all types, including music, science, various outdoor activities and even cooking.

I would like to extend an invitation to the community to come join us for dinner and learn more about our club and what we do. We meet at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Community Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, 103 Pawnee Ave.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs would welcome your support; as a member you would be giving back to our community.

TO LEARN MORE

Go to www.concretecouch.org
or call 641-7760.

TO LEARN MORE

Visit www.manitoukiwanis.org.

Mineral Springs Foundation

Story and photo by Terry Sharpton, president

It's been a busy summer here in the valley of the mineral springs.

This year, we added a second Springabout Tour to our schedule, and gave guided walking tours of our mineral springs and interesting community features to visitors and locals on Saturdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Comments from tour attendees were positive and encouraging this year, and we hope to see you on a tour next summer. Special tours for groups can be arranged throughout the year by contacting the Manitou Springs Chamber at 685-5089.

If you have any interest in becoming a Springabout tour guide for next summer, contact the chamber or the Mineral Springs Foundation at manitoumineralsprings@gmail.com.

Tours are just a small portion of what the Mineral Springs Foundation is all about.

Restoration and maintenance work on the various mineral spring sites is ongoing, and you'll see

changes in the coming months. This year we replaced the faux stone on the Stratton Spring font with actual Manitou greenstone and the results are stunning.

Now, with the help of a generous donation from the Lori Cohen Charitable Trust, we'll begin some other improvements at the site, including electrical and lighting upgrades, and a new bronze backsplash. Follow our progress in the coming months.

We also anticipate reopening Navajo Spring soon, as well. Plans call for inserting a new basin into the existing structure and following that up with the necessary plumbing to get it back into service. Many of these projects take time and we appreciate your patience as we work to make the necessary upgrades.

Behind the scenes and over the past several years, studies have been done on the area's unique geology in an attempt to better understand the aquifer system that supplies the mineral springs.

Much of this information is available to download from our

website along with brochures, mineral charts, tasty recipes and more.

The foundation and the city of Manitou Springs are discussing options for further studies with the U.S. Geological Service in hopes of gathering even more information about our precious mineral springs.

Stay tuned for updates on these and other projects and, as always, feel free to contact the foundation through the chamber, our website, email or Facebook page and we'll do what we can to get you better informed on the mineral springs.

In the meantime, stop by your favorite spring and have a glass of refreshing Manitou Springs mineral



Randy Bowen, a Black Forest artist, created the Wheeler Spring font on Park Avenue.

water — and if you haven't seen it yet, stop by the Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., and see the exhibit "Manitou Bottles and Bottling Plants."

TO LEARN MORE

Go to
manitoumineralsprings.org.

Manitou Springs Creative District

By Natalie Johnson, executive director

October is Arts Month!

Every year during the month of October, we encourage everyone to enjoy at least one NEW creative experience in the Pikes Peak region. There are hundreds of opportunities to participate in something amazing this month, start to finish. It's certainly not too late, so don't miss out.

Promoting the arts and creative activities in Manitou is far more than just a one-month campaign, of course.

The Manitou Springs Arts Council added its latest piece, "Kuyok" by John Kessler, this summer near Soda Springs Park. Manitou Springs School District 14 Superintendent Ed Longfield has been honored with the Future of the Arts Award, and the Manitou Art Center was nominated for Best Exhibit 2018 in the region.

Manitou Springs kicked off Arts Month with the 1st Friday Art Walk on Oct. 5, followed the next day by "Manitou Paints! A Plein Art Event." The Manitou Art Center celebrated its 30th anniversary with its annual MACnificent! gala on Oct. 13, and Manitou Springs Middle School students presented Mayor Ken Jaray with our new Manitou Springs flag.

The Pikes Peak Arts Council also is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month.

Skeleton Craze 2018 has taken over our downtown, and Manitou Community Markets finished the season with stone soup and sourdough bread. ArtPOP 2018 is hitting Manitou Springs this month with events including Merikai Dance on Oct. 27 at Memorial Park.

In addition to the annual Emma Crawford Coffin Races on Oct. 27, Smokebrush will present its Festival de los Muertos in Memorial Park — and don't forget about the Heritage Center's Ghost Tours. MSSD14 is featuring a production of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" on Oct. 26 and 27

through its theater program.

These are only a few of the many offerings that are available to us in and around Manitou. With this in mind, it's not difficult to believe that the economic impact of the nonprofit art and culture sector in the Pikes Peak region is more than \$150 million a year.

If you can't make it to something this month, consider participating in Creative events during November and December.

Just a few examples: 1st Friday Art Walk 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, the Commonwheel Holiday Market from Nov. 16 through Dec. 30, FAB LAB with Concrete Couch 3:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the MAC, the Manitou Community (Holiday) Market on Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, and the Repair Café with the Pikes Peak Library District 1-4 p.m. Nov. 17 at the MAC.



Bulletin file photo

"Kuyok" stands guard over the Manitou Avenue intersection with Park Avenue.

Without our artists, galleries and other creatives, Manitou Springs wouldn't be the magical community that it is, for us as well as the town's thousands of visitors. This October, we celebrate all that the creative scene brings to our lives and the livelihood of our business community.

Merry Arts Month to you!

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitouspringscd.org or call 200-1272.



Courtesy images

Miramont Castle has served as both a private residence and a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients.

Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs Historical Society

By **Peggie Yager,**
treasurer

Miramont Castle has seen a lot of changes and renovations this year. In 1972, when the castle housed apartments, the Tower Room on the fourth floor burned and only minimal repairs were done.

This year, we tore off the drywall and 1970s paneling and exposed original walls, which we repaired. During this process, we exposed a transom over the doorway and a

window that hasn't been seen in almost 50 years. We replaced florescent lights with period light fixtures.

We've installed an incredible 1890s cast-iron fireplace in the Chapel that was original to a house on Ruxton Avenue.

The gardens have had a complete makeover. We've dug out all the undesirables and planted a lot of new flowers. We added seating, birdbaths and other small things to catch your eye.

Then three hailstorms in three weeks left the gardens looking like a war zone. They have made a pitiful comeback but at least next year, we'll have a good foundation to build on.

The hail also did extensive damage to the castle and we're still trying to get estimates.

The historical society has completed recording the Sawyer & Garstin collection of historic maps and survey books. We still need to scan all the documents and attach them to their files.

We continue to enter all the old paper accession records into our archival program and locate the items so new numbers and pictures can become a part of their records. The historical society welcomes anyone who would like to help with this ongoing project.

The Queen's Parlour TeaRoom staffers continue to delight people with their culinary skills. We are being compared to some of the finest tea rooms in the country. Our lunches are also delightful.

If you'd like to try us out, make sure you call 884-4109 for reservations; the TeaRoom is small and fills up quickly.

We're taking reservations for Christmas parties and have a few nights still available.

Emma Crawford's Wake will be our next big event, so if you haven't made your reservations you need to.

We present five vignettes based loosely on her life and death. Then, to



The Manitou Springs Historical Society has started posting excerpts of donated letters, with backgrounds of historic photos, on its Facebook page.

finish off the evening, we serve an incredible buffet dinner. This is one of our fundraisers.

Christmas is coming and we'll need volunteers to help with decorating. So if you want to get in the spirit early, we can help you with that. It takes us a month to decorate the Castle.

We may, also, need help shopping for Mercy at Miramont, our Christmas program for area children in need.

We'll be trying something new with our Facebook page in the coming weeks. The historical society has a huge number of donated letters, and we're going to start posting excerpts.

Some are hilarious and some are heart-wrenching, but they tell of a forgotten time and lifestyle. It's our hope that you'll enjoy reading them.

If you're looking for Manitou's history, Miramont Castle is a one-stop shop. Not only do we have one of Manitou's largest and most historical buildings, we have a huge archival base.

Come in and check us out — you won't regret it.



This 1890s cast-iron fireplace has been installed in the castle's Chapel.

TO LEARN MORE

Miramont Castle is at 9 Capitol Hill Ave. and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Information: www.miramontcastle.org or 685-1011.

Concrete Couch

By Steve Wood,
director

Concrete Couch is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that builds community through creative projects. We have completed about 180 projects in Manitou Springs, and all of our programming is free and open to all.

Concrete Couch also works in Colorado Springs, and works mostly at Title 1 schools, on post at Fort Carson, through the Colorado Springs Community Centers, and with other nonprofits.

Currently, we are buying a 5.6-acre parcel in downtown Colorado Springs to build an office. In the fullness of time, we will be building a park, designed and built by the community, which will include bike trails, climbing structures, disc golf, sculpture park, community gardens, solar demonstration farm, rainwater harvesting and raingardens and a science center.

In Manitou, we host FAB LAB at the Manitou Art Center, 513/515 Manitou Ave., 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

At FAB LAB, Concrete Couch staffers Chi Ito and Abraham Shubarth help participants learn construction and art skills. It's free and open to all, but participants younger than 13 need an adult to accompany them.

In 2019, we will host the 11th Annual Lantern Parade, and will maintain the Raingarden at Soda



Courtesy image

Concrete Couch staff and supporters celebrate the completion of the giant pumpkin sculpture in downtown Colorado Springs in October 2016. From left: William Putnam, Kendall Kultgen, Ruthie Markwardt and Paul Billups.

Springs Park.

We also will design and create

infrastructure for the city and for Manitou Springs School District 14, as

projects arise that are appropriate for our groups to design and build.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs

By Jim Muncher,
president

I would like to reach out to this great community of Manitou Springs to invite new members to our club.

If you're seeking a way to give to children, not only locally but worldwide, the Manitou Springs Kiwanis Club is a great organization to be part of. Our members are constantly involved with projects that raise money, 100 percent of which helps fund local charities and worldwide projects that Kiwanis International takes on.

For more than half of its 96-year existence, the club has awarded scholarships to selected Manitou Springs High School graduates — more than 700 total. We have a great team of members who are involved with this effort to help develop great leaders of tomorrow.

Manitou Springs Kiwanis

members are also involved with sponsoring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops. Some are also involved with the middle school's Builders

Club and the high school's Key Club, both of which we sponsor.

The Manitou Springs Kiwanis has been involved with several community events which have been around for

several years. They include Breakfast with Santa, the annual Easter egg hunt, our local Halloween carnival and the Pikes Peak Marathon spaghetti dinner.

We are also involved with tree

planting in the burn scar areas, an annual event, and with the Fountain Creek clean-up. We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.

“
We are a fixture of this community and will continue to be.
”

We've been involved with Kiwanis International programs such as the Eliminate Project, which helps provide vaccinations to reduce tetanus in mothers and babies. We have met our goal of \$20,000 through fundraising projects such as

our St. Patrick's Day dinner and through donations from our members.

Our Manitou Springs High School Key Club, with members who are highly motivated and driven, also is involved in projects that not only

encompass the local community but international concerns.

This year, we're getting involved with the Connect 14 project, a Manitou Springs School District 14 initiative, in hopes of getting our kids involved with activities of all types, including music, science, various outdoor activities and even cooking.

I would like to extend an invitation to the community to come join us for dinner and learn more about our club and what we do. We meet at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Community Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, 103 Pawnee Ave.

The Kiwanis Club of Manitou Springs would welcome your support; as a member you would be giving back to our community.

TO LEARN MORE

Go to www.concretecouch.org
or call 641-7760.

TO LEARN MORE

Visit www.manitoukiwanis.org.

Mineral Springs Foundation

Story and photo by Terry Sharpton, president

It's been a busy summer here in the valley of the mineral springs.

This year, we added a second Springabout Tour to our schedule, and gave guided walking tours of our mineral springs and interesting community features to visitors and locals on Saturdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Comments from tour attendees were positive and encouraging this year, and we hope to see you on a tour next summer. Special tours for groups can be arranged throughout the year by contacting the Manitou Springs Chamber at 685-5089.

If you have any interest in becoming a Springabout tour guide for next summer, contact the chamber or the Mineral Springs Foundation at manitoumineralsprings@gmail.com.

Tours are just a small portion of what the Mineral Springs Foundation is all about.

Restoration and maintenance work on the various mineral spring sites is ongoing, and you'll see

changes in the coming months. This year we replaced the faux stone on the Stratton Spring font with actual Manitou greenstone and the results are stunning.

Now, with the help of a generous donation from the Lori Cohen Charitable Trust, we'll begin some other improvements at the site, including electrical and lighting upgrades, and a new bronze backsplash. Follow our progress in the coming months.

We also anticipate reopening Navajo Spring soon, as well. Plans call for inserting a new basin into the existing structure and following that up with the necessary plumbing to get it back into service. Many of these projects take time and we appreciate your patience as we work to make the necessary upgrades.

Behind the scenes and over the past several years, studies have been done on the area's unique geology in an attempt to better understand the aquifer system that supplies the mineral springs.

Much of this information is available to download from our

website along with brochures, mineral charts, tasty recipes and more.

The foundation and the city of Manitou Springs are discussing options for further studies with the U.S. Geological Service in hopes of gathering even more information about our precious mineral springs.

Stay tuned for updates on these and other projects and, as always, feel free to contact the foundation through the chamber, our website, email or Facebook page and we'll do what we can to get you better informed on the mineral springs.

In the meantime, stop by your favorite spring and have a glass of refreshing Manitou Springs mineral



Randy Bowen, a Black Forest artist, created the Wheeler Spring font on Park Avenue.

water — and if you haven't seen it yet, stop by the Heritage Center, 517 Manitou Ave., and see the exhibit "Manitou Bottles and Bottling Plants."

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitoumineralsprings.org.

Manitou Springs Creative District

By Natalie Johnson, executive director

October is Arts Month!

Every year during the month of October, we encourage everyone to enjoy at least one NEW creative experience in the Pikes Peak region. There are hundreds of opportunities to participate in something amazing this month, start to finish. It's certainly not too late, so don't miss out.

Promoting the arts and creative activities in Manitou is far more than just a one-month campaign, of course.

The Manitou Springs Arts Council added its latest piece, "Kuyok" by John Kessler, this summer near Soda Springs Park. Manitou Springs School District 14 Superintendent Ed Longfield has been honored with the Future of the Arts Award, and the Manitou Art Center was nominated for Best Exhibit 2018 in the region.

Manitou Springs kicked off Arts Month with the 1st Friday Art Walk on Oct. 5, followed the next day by "Manitou Paints! A Plein Art Event." The Manitou Art Center celebrated its 30th anniversary with its annual MACnificent! gala on Oct. 13, and Manitou Springs Middle School students presented Mayor Ken Jaray with our new Manitou Springs flag.

The Pikes Peak Arts Council also is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month.

Skeleton Craze 2018 has taken over our downtown, and Manitou Community Markets finished the season with stone soup and sourdough bread. ArtPOP 2018 is hitting Manitou Springs this month with events including Merikai Dance on Oct. 27 at Memorial Park.

In addition to the annual Emma Crawford Coffin Races on Oct. 27, Smokebrush will present its Festival de los Muertos in Memorial Park — and don't forget about the Heritage Center's Ghost Tours. MSSD14 is featuring a production of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" on Oct. 26 and 27

through its theater program.

These are only a few of the many offerings that are available to us in and around Manitou. With this in mind, it's not difficult to believe that the economic impact of the nonprofit art and culture sector in the Pikes Peak region is more than \$150 million a year.

If you can't make it to something this month, consider participating in Creative events during November and December.

Just a few examples: 1st Friday Art Walk 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, the Commonwheel Holiday Market from Nov. 16 through Dec. 30, FAB LAB with Concrete Couch 3:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the MAC, the Manitou Community (Holiday) Market on Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, and the Repair Café with the Pikes Peak Library District 1-4 p.m. Nov. 17 at the MAC.



Bulletin file photo

"Kuyok" stands guard over the Manitou Avenue intersection with Park Avenue.

Without our artists, galleries and other creatives, Manitou Springs wouldn't be the magical community that it is, for us as well as the town's thousands of visitors. This October, we celebrate all that the creative scene brings to our lives and the livelihood of our business community.

Merry Arts Month to you!

TO LEARN MORE

Go to manitouspringscd.org or call 200-1272.