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REALTY**

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Vol. 5 Issue 3 April 2010

The Marshall-Martinek Team



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Martinek**

**Colorado
Realtor**

Equal Housing
Opportunity



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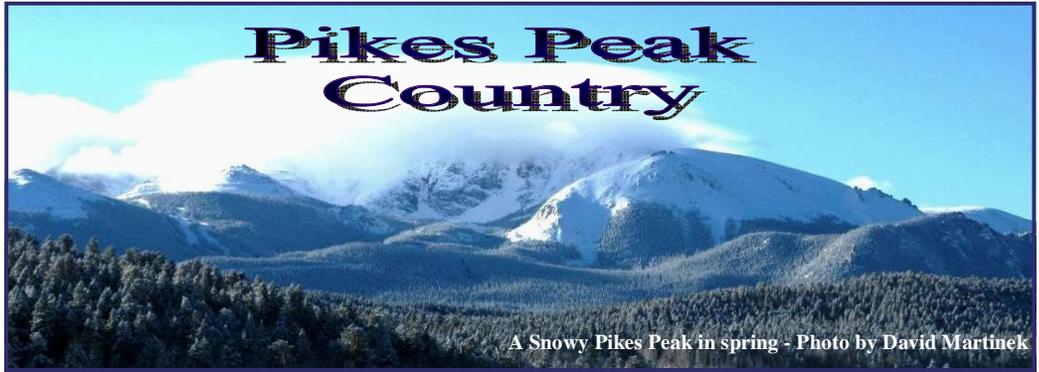
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A Snowy Pikes Peak in spring - Photo by David Martinek

“The Shower of Gold” in Cripple Creek

One hundred eleven years ago, on March 23, 1899, the city of Cripple Creek celebrated perhaps its second greatest day. It was a Friday and the community had been waiting two impatient weeks for “the Shower of Gold,” as the celebration was called, and all the excitement that would fill Bennett Avenue.

Everything happened on Bennett Avenue, the main street in Cripple Creek. It was the stage for life in the gold camp, for laughter and sobbing, fistfights, runaway wagon teams, comedy and tragedy, violence and sometimes death. The avenue was the center of a remarkable mining town handsomely bordered by the new brick structures that were built after the 1896 fires.

And on that Friday a grand jubilation was planned. In fact, it was designed to be so spectacular that it would dwarf anything ever witnessed in Cripple Creek before, except for maybe the day the first Florence and Cripple Creek train arrived. Mayor Pierce had declared the day a holiday. The schools were let out and all the businesses in town were closed, except the saloons. A huge parade was planned led by Governor, C. S. Thomas, legislators and other distinguished guests, followed by a sumptuous banquet at the National Hotel. Visitors would attend masked balls in the evening at the Butte and Grand Opera houses while Bennett Avenue, lined with yellow bunting, would be thrown open to street dancing with music supplied by Cripple Creek’s favorite coronet player, Joe Moore, and his marching band.



Cripple Creek calliope for “the Shower of Gold”

Reportedly, there were two drum corps and six bands participating in the parade, including Joe’s, as well as the new fire engine, dignitaries in wagons, men on horseback and a steam

calliope. Elaborate floats also joined the parade from which samples were thrown to the throngs of people gathered on the sidelines - samples such as Pears soap, Malt Nutrine and small packages of Pozzoni’s face powder. Perhaps the most popular, though, was Jack Dewars in his Scottish kilt alternately playing his bagpipes and tossing little bottles of his Dewars whiskey to waiting hands. The parade started on Third Street and marched down Myers Avenue through the tenderloin district, then over to Bennett and up the avenue to the Midland depot.

“The Shower of Gold” was Cripple Creek’s celebration to mark the formation and beginning of Teller County. Two week earlier, on March 8, 1899, the Colorado Legislature had passed a bitterly contested bill creating a new county out of portions of El Paso and Fremont counties. It was named Teller, after Colorado’s distinguished senator, and it encompassed the World’s Greatest Gold District. Cripple Creek was destined to be the county seat.

The Ammons Bill, as it was called, was hotly opposed by the counties that stood to lose not only a portion of their land, but also the prestige of a gold camp whose mines had built most the fine mansions in Colorado Springs and Canon City. Their opposition was formidable. However, due to the persuasive force of Colonel B. F. Montgomery, the District’s leading attorney, the bill was passed by a narrow margin. Governor Thomas signed the bill into law using a pin made of gold from the Independence mine.

The parade and subsequent celebrations were, indeed, one of the most memorable events to ever happen in the city’s history, marred only by a fatal shooting towards the close of day.

As Joe Moore and his brass band marched back down Bennett Avenue in preparation for conducting the music for the street dance, gun shots rang out. A drunken man shot and killed Joe in the street amid a fistfight that broke out among the party’s revelers. The drunk had vowed vengeance on Joe for having once forcibly tossed him out of a saloon. The police captured the man at the scene; the gun still smoking in his hand. Such was the life in rough and ready Cripple Creek in 1899 - quick to celebrate, quick to fight, always on the edge of a powder keg. In fact, hostile mine union troubles would fester and grow violent within five years.

There is only one Cripple Creek; there will never be another. (Source: Adapted from *Cripple Creek Days* by Mabel Barbee Lee)

Dave's Buyers' Guide

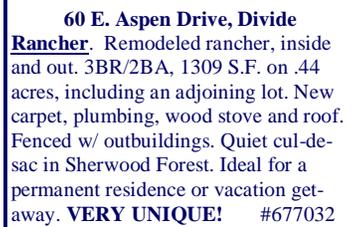
Cabins, second-homes and land specials from Coldwell Banker 1st Choice Realty →

Prices and status effective as of March 27, 2010



\$139,900

60 E. Aspen Drive, Divide Rancher. Remodeled rancher, inside and out. 3BR/2BA, 1309 S.F. on .44 acres, including an adjoining lot. New carpet, plumbing, wood stove and roof. Fenced w/ outbuildings. Quiet cul-de-sac in Sherwood Forest. Ideal for a permanent residence or vacation getaway. **VERY UNIQUE!** #677032



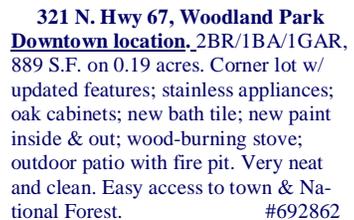
\$164,900

321 N. Hwy 67, Woodland Park Downtown location. 2BR/1BA/1GAR, 889 S.F. on 0.19 acres. Corner lot w/ updated features; stainless appliances; oak cabinets; new bath tile; new paint inside & out; wood-burning stove; outdoor patio with fire pit. Very neat and clean. Easy access to town & National Forest. #692862



\$139,900

192 Silbani, Divide Like New! A well-maintained manufactured home with 3 BR/2 BA on 0.7 acres. 1736 SF. Features a new deck and improved excavation in front. Erected in 2004; corner lot in nicely treed Arabian Acres. FINANCING IS AVAILABLE! Great as a vacation home or a permanent residence. Call on this one before it's too late! #559973



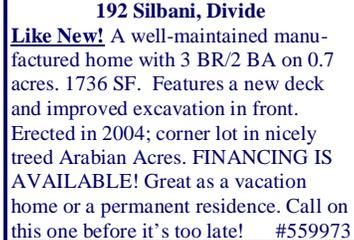
\$16,000

2856 Blue Mesa Dr., Divide Lake Front. This heavily treed lot in Highland Lakes (1.67 acres) slopes down to Beaver Lake No. 2. Strategic tree cuts will make room for a driveway and a building site. See this beautiful lot. #457747



\$24,900

2847 N. Mountain Est, Florissant Double Lot. A 1.18 acre double lot; several building sites. Lot of mature pines and aspens. Pikes Peak and Sangres views. Close to Dome Rock. Two miles in CME. Don't miss it. #635122



\$19,000

0 Commanche Trail, Florissant Mountain Top. The views from the top (where the lot is) are outstanding. Rock formations dominate this 2.3 acre lot in Valley Hi Mountain Estates. No legal access: sold as a "recreational" lot only #470091

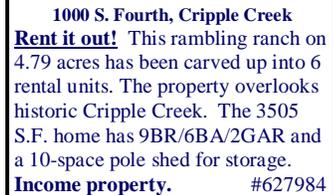
To inquire, email or call 719.687.1516

(Marshall-Martinek Team listings are BOXED)



\$470,000

1000 S. Fourth, Cripple Creek Rent it out! This rambling ranch on 4.79 acres has been carved up into 6 rental units. The property overlooks historic Cripple Creek. The 3505 S.F. home has 9BR/6BA/2GAR and a 10-space pole shed for storage. **Income property.** #627984



\$429,900

450 Black Bear TR, Woodland PK Gorgeous home! Gourmet kitchen, upgraded throughout, granite counters, wood/tile inlaid floors, MBR bath has rain shower and Italian Travertine tile & jetted tub. 0.37 acres; 4BR/3BA/3GA, 4158 S.F. #658414



\$284,900

3544 CR 5, Divide Mountain living! 3BR/3BA/4GAR, 2756 S.F. on 2.11 acres. Spacious rooms w/ wood accents throughout. Large, updated kitchen, new cabinets. High efficiency wood-burning stove. Workshop in 4-car garage. Horse property. #662251



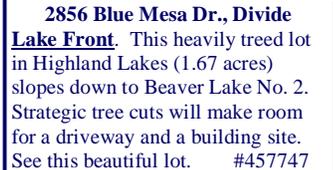
\$249,900

10350 Ute Pass Ave, GMF Stand up! 5BR/2BA; 2264 S.F. on 0.17 acres. Lots of good work done on this tri-level on the sunny side of GMF. Main level living. A city block away from downtown. Huge family room on 2nd floor w/ wood-burning stove. #516289



\$19,000

86 High Chateau, Florissant Beautiful Land. Two acres overlooking some trees and a great view of Pikes Peak. Easy access from High Chateau Road; utilities at the property line. Level building sites. Here's the place. #433314



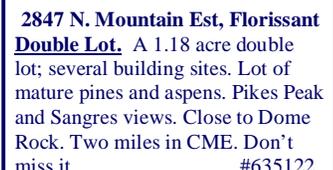
\$24,900

127 Carlton, Florissant Dream Site. A 2.04 acre lot for a dream home. End of cul-de-sac sloping towards CME valley. Very picturesque. All utilities, perk test, fire mitigated. Building plans available. Come and see. #676197



\$34,900

57 Elkhorn Cir, Florissant Amazing views! Great views of Pikes Peak, Mt. Pisgah & Dome Rock. Spacious kitchen w/ breakfast bar and pantry; MBR with private deck, 5-piece bath & huge walk-in closet. Family room and over 700 S.F. of deck. #422382



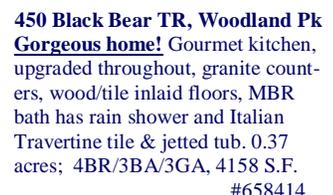
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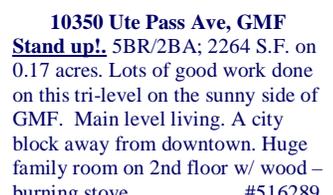
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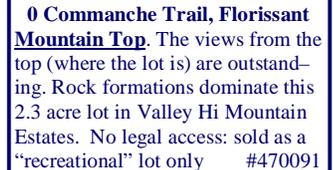
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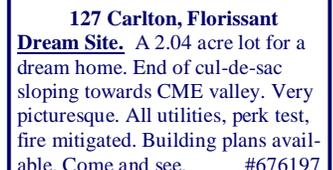
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127 Carlton, Florissant Dream Site. A 2.04 acre lot for a dream home. End of cul-de-sac sloping towards CME valley. Very picturesque. All utilities, perk test, fire mitigated. Building plans available. Come and see. #676197



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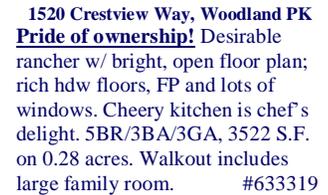
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\$395,000

1520 Crestview Way, Woodland PK Pride of ownership! Desirable rancher w/ bright, open floor plan; rich hdw floors, FP and lots of windows. Cheery kitchen is chef's delight. 5BR/3BA/3GA, 3522 S.F. on 0.28 acres. Walkout includes large family room. #633319



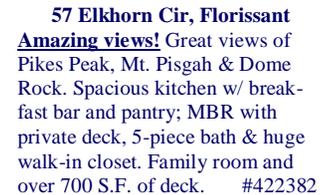
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\$199,000

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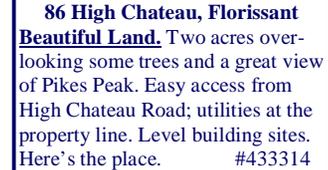
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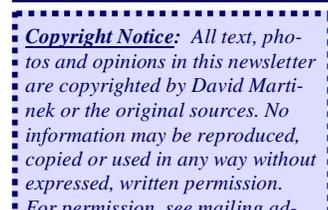
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