

September 2017

CP's Early Childhood Newsletter



Parenting Enrichment and Community Events

- ◇ **Victor Celebrates the Arts**– Saturday September 2nd– 4th in Victor.
- ◇ **Gateway's Preschool Parent Group**– 1st Thursday of every month beginning September 7th.; 7:45 am. Location TBD.
- ◇ **Crossroads of Parenting and Divorce (Divide)**– Tuesday, September 5th; 4:30pm-8:30pm @ Community Partnership in Divide.
- ◇ **Woodland Park City Wide Garage Sale**– Saturday, September 9th from 7am-2pm.
- ◇ **Early Literacy Information Meeting for WPSD preschool families**– Friday, September 22nd; 6pm-7pm @ Woodland Park Library (Lower Level). FREE childcare and snacks provided. Must RSVP to Cory @ Cory@cpteller.org or 686-0705.
- ◇ **Active Parenting– The First Five Years (Divide)**– Mondays, September 11th-25th; 9:00 am-12:00 pm @ Community Partnership (Food and childcare provided). FREE
- ◇ **Active Parenting NOW (Woodland Park)**- Wednesdays September 13th - October 18th; 5:30pm - 8:00pm @ Mountain View Methodist Church, Woodland Park; (Food and childcare provided). FREE
- ◇ **Active Parenting– The First Five Years (Cripple Creek)**- Thursdays, Sept 28th– October 2nd; 4:30-6:30pm @ Cresson Elementary Head Start (Food and childcare provided). FREE
- ◇ **Lake George Charter School Preschool Parent Group**– 4th Thursday of every month; 6pm @ Lake George Charter School.
- ◇ **Columbine Preschool Family Fridays**– Friday, September 29th; 7:45am-8:45am @ Columbine Preschool classroom.
- ◇ **Teller Talks**– To be determined
- ◇ **Free Exercise Classes**– Class calendar located at: <http://www.cpteller.org/healthy-living/free-exercise-classes-teller-county/>
- ◇ **Second Time Around**– *Based upon request. This workshop provides an understanding of a grandparent's role as guardian, refining parenting skills, exploring legal issues, and much more. Contact Michelle Carothers, michelle@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705.

Reminders:

- **Labor Day**– Community Partnership will be **closed September 4th** in observance of Labor Day. We will resume normal business hours on September 5th.
- If you would like to continue supporting Community Partnership you can do so through Amazon Smile. Please use the link below.

[http://
smile.amazon.com/
ch/84-1157057](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1157057)





Community Roles

- ◇ **Box Town**– Make an entire town out of boxes. Cover the boxes with colored paper and decorate. Use tubes for tree trunks and chimneys. Discuss the jobs and roles that people fill. Talk about what your child would like to be when they grow up.
- ◇ **Occupations Collage**– Make a collage by cutting out pictures of workers from magazines and gluing them to poster board. Discuss with your child their favorite occupation and why.
- ◇ **Thank You Cards**– Help your child create and decorate thank you cards for community helpers with markers/crayons/colored pencils. Encourage your child to give the cards to people who work at helping them, such as school helpers, street crossing guards, bus drivers, librarians, grocery clerks, etc. Talk with your child about all of our community helpers and why they are important.



For questions please contact the Early Childhood Coordinator, Cory at cory@cpteller.org or 719-686-0705

GED/High School Equivalency

Adult Education

Community Partnership offers GED classes in Woodland Park, Cripple Creek and Divide. Classes are offered Monday and Wednesdays. Times differ depending on location. CP offers the only testing center in the county so you don't have to drive down to the Springs. Classes are offered for students 16 years and older. We serve all families. Childcare is available to parents who need it for their children during class. Come to orientation to learn how to get your first test FREE.

Current location and time:

GED / High School Equivalency classes, are now being held weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays:

8–11 am ~ Franklin Ferguson Library in Cripple Creek

12–3 pm ~ Community Partnership office in Divide (free childcare available)

6-8 pm ~ Woodland Park High School

Registration events are held monthly. Please contact Katy at 686-0705 to sign up.

Parental Resilience

Resilience is the ability to manage and bounce back from challenges that emerge in every family's life. It is the ability to solve problems, build and sustain trusting relationships including the relationship with your own child. A major characteristic of resilience is knowing how to seek help when necessary. Having these abilities helps you deal with stress and therefore lowers the chance of child abuse or neglect. Parents who seek support and have social connections are more resilient because they know they share many of the same challenges of other parents. Here are some resources available at Community Partnership to help make you a more resilient parent.

- ◇ **Parenting Workshops:** group discussions about parenting. Free childcare and food at every workshop.
- ◇ **Playgroup:** meet other parents with children of similar age. Fun!
- ◇ **Parents As Teachers:** Learn about your child's development, how to play with them, fun activities, and resource connections.
- ◇ **Family Support Services:** Receive one on one support and get connected to resources in the community that help you and your family.
- ◇ **GED classes and testing center:** if you need your GED to get a better job, we offer classes throughout the county and have the only testing center in Teller county.



Featured Staff

Dorothy Cothran

Parenting Educator

Dorothy is new to our Parenting Education Team but has worked in Early Childhood Education for almost ten years. Dorothy's background and experience in child development along with her connections to the community from working at Columbine Elementary make her a great asset to Community Partnership.

What are your hobbies and/or interests?

In my spare time, you will usually find me in the mountains with my husband, friends, and/or dogs. I enjoy rock climbing, mountaineering, mountain biking, road biking, hiking, and skiing. I find peace and balance in nature. I also dabble in crocheting and love to cook healthy, nutritious foods.

How long have you lived in Teller County? What brought you here?

I grew up in the mountains of Virginia and married into the military. I lived in Germany for over four years with my husband before we were stationed at Ft. Carson. We have been in Teller County for five years.

What has been your favorite place to live and why?

I have lived in many places, but living in Europe has been my favorite. Because the countries are much smaller, travel was easy and convenient. I loved exploring new places and meeting people from different cultures. And don't get me started on the food! I really miss hearty German, Italian, and French meals after long days in the mountains. I was fortunate to be able to visit almost 20 European countries, and I loved them all for various reasons. However, my favorite places were Estonia, Morocco, Sweden, and Scotland. Haggis is actually really good!

What did you want to be when you were little? How did that impact who you are today and what you do?

My mom always told me I was determined to be a clown when I was little. I was an extremely shy kid, so I have no idea where that came from. After recovering from the trauma of Stephen King's *It*, I decided I would rather be an artist. Art aligned with my creative skills and was much less terrifying. I went to college for art and wound up with a degree in Computer Programming and Web Design. My career changed direction when I began teaching preschool at a Child Development Center in Germany. Working in Early Childhood Development allowed me to use my creative skills in developing art activities for kids. I love guiding young minds and helping them develop their own unique ways expressing themselves through art.

What has been your favorite Social Connection in Teller county and why?

I think the Aspen Valley mountain bike race is a great event to meet people while racing a fun and challenging trail. I hope the race continues to grow and introduce more people to our beautiful trails.



Divide Playgroup Calendar

August 2017

Contact Information: Cory at 719-686-0705 or cory@cpteller.org

Monday- Divide

Wednesday- Divide

4. **NO PLAYGROUP.**
Enjoy the holiday!
In observation of Labor Day our offices will be closed.

6. Jackie
Red White & Blue Star Man
9:30-11am
Red, white and blue...stars and stripes....
Hang this guy from the ceiling and watch him dance around in the air.

11. Jamie
Trail Mix Cooking Project
9:30-11am
Measuring out ingredients, reading the recipe, stirring it up and enjoy this healthy snack!
Active Parenting- The First Five Years is being offered to parents at this time also. If interested please contact Michelle@cpteller.org or 686-0705

13. Jessica
719 Rocks
9:30-11am
Creating art and encouraging creativity by painting rocks to hide around 719 (the WHOLE area!!) or wherever you travel!
Use this to brighten someone's day or just to spread joy.

18. Jamie
Galaxy Slime
9:30-11am
Galaxies are fascinating with stars, waves and ripples. Unleash your creativity while we make galactic slime.
Active Parenting- The First Five Years is being offered to parents at this time also. If interested please contact Michelle@cpteller.org or 686-0705

20. Jessica
Scavenger Hunt
9:30-11am
What can we find in the playroom? We will be looking for colors, shapes, textures and fun hidden treasures. It will be fun to see what your child discovers.

25. Jamie
Apple Volcanoes
9:30-11am
Exploring science! We are going to hollow out a few apples and turn them into erupting apple volcanoes.
Active Parenting- The First Five Years is being offered to parents at this time also. If interested please contact Michelle@cpteller.org or 686-0705

27. Jackie
Newspaper Basketball
9:30-11am
Work on our gross motor skills during our indoor basketball game. This activity is good for hand-eye coordination as well as counting practice.

Teller County Playgroup is FREE to any Parent or Caregiver with children ages 5 & under.
Location: Mondays and Wednesdays Divide Community Partnership unless otherwise stated.
Cancellation Policy: During Summer months check Facebook or look for an e-mail for cancellations. cory@cpteller.org 686-0705
Facebook: www.facebook.com/playgroupndivide Website: www.cpteller.org

