



**HIGHER
GROUND
AUSTRALIA**

<http://www.hgavic.com>

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Volume 19 – Edition 2

HIGHER GROUND NEWSLETTER – June 2022

WELCOME

Hello and welcome to this mid-year newsletter. As Australia heads towards the winter months, when we can expect an elevation of COVID and seasonal flu, I have been keeping a low profile. But one cannot always help it when illnesses sneak in through the back door. I was recently in isolation as a close contact when I also fell victim to a positive Rapid Antigen Test and my five-day isolation turned into two weeks. But, I'm out and about once again.

The Aspen in October arrangements are progressing and a few new events have been announced since our last newsletter. Please check out the official Aspen in October Facebook page for up-to-date information on what's happening during the 25th anniversary week.
<https://www.facebook.com/AspenInOctober/>

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish Jim Connor a very happy 84th birthday. We hope that he is able to join the others in Aspen this year.

It never ceases to amaze me how much John Denver features in our lives; whether it is through news articles or people's personal experiences. There are so very few artists who have touched the lives of so many people as John Denver does, and we are lucky to be part of such a large community that actually cares about making his legacy matter. It's important that his music remains relevant.

Stay safe, stay well.

HIGHER GROUND AUSTRALIA

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we are not able to hold a weekend gathering in 2022 and we will be making a decision on the future of the annual gatherings soon.

This newsletter will continue to be released as regularly as possible and our website and Facebook pages are still regularly updated and available.

Website: www.hgavic.com

Email: hga.vic@gmail.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/higherground.australia>

UPDATE FROM PEGGY McDONALD (HIGHER GROUND RAPTORS)

Dear Colleagues,

Please note that as of 10th March, 2022, I am unfortunately no longer involved with Raptor Recovery Australia, or the facility formerly known as the Higher Ground Raptor Rehabilitation Centre at Fitzroy Falls.

Rest assured I am happy, healthy and excited about both new and ongoing collaborations and projects on offer. I am proud to remain an active member, and Raptor Coordinator, along with Jenny Packwood, of Wildlife Rescue South Coast.

The book of Australian Raptor Rehabilitation [working title!] is well underway. This work aligns with and expands on the National Parks and Wildlife Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Birds of Prey (2021), and Initial Treatment and Care Guidelines for Rescued Birds of Prey (2022). Thanks to my collaborators and co-authors, already months of work have gone into the development of the text. The aim of this 'tome' is to be as comprehensive, user-friendly and engaging as possible. With that in mind, this book ultimately will be the product of contributions from all aspects of raptor rehabilitation - rehabbers, veterinarians, conservation scientists, photographers and illustrators. I would love to hear from you if you have suggestions as to topics you would like to see covered - anything from aspects of natural behaviour to veterinary procedures, experiences or amazing and perhaps unusual pictures you would like to share!

My contact details remain the same, and as always, I am happy to help at any time if I can!

Kindest regards,

Peggy McDonald CF OAM

CHURCHILL FELLOW 2017

On behalf of us all at Higher Ground, we would like to extend our very best wishes to Peggy in her well-deserved retirement. She has, over the years, introduced innovative and successful rehabilitation practices to Australia and I have no doubt that her successors will take her wonderful work to new heights. We look forward to the publication of the book, 'Australian Raptor Rehabilitation'. Peggy will always be a much-loved member of Higher Ground

Australia and we cannot thank Peggy enough for her input over the years.

JASON OWEN

Australian singer/songwriter, Jason Owen, has recently released a new album, 'Jason Owen Sings John Denver – The Acoustic Sessions'. For more information about Jason and to listen to his podcasts, please check out his website <https://jasonowenofficial.com/> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSlsrc1d3Eo>

Here is a list of his forthcoming live shows across NSW.

- * June 5th - Lizotte's Newcastle
- * June 10th - Steampacket Hotel Nelligen
- * June 19th - Brass Monkey Cronulla
- * June 24th - Cessnock Performing Arts
- * July 8th - Wellington Soldiers Club
- * July 9th - TBA
- * July 15th - Royal Hotel Queanbeyan
- * July 16th - Goulburn Performing Arts
- * July 22nd - Nyngan RSL Club
- * July 23rd - Dubbo Regional Theatre
- * August 5th - Merriwa RSL Club
- * August 6th - Orange Civic Theatre
- * August 19th - Coonabarabran Bowling Club
- * August 20th - Narromine USMC
- * September 9th - Moonshiners Bar Tamworth
- * September 10th - Muswellbrook Cattle Dog Muster

ASPEN IN OCTOBER 2022

There has been a major development in regard to the plans for Aspen in October since our last newsletter. Please read the following and, if you are affected, please make alternate arrangements.

From Laurie Stowers

Today was not a good day. Cara and I both wanted to cry, scream and hit something. First thing this morning we received an email from Erin at Frias properties. Here is an excerpt:

"There has been an unexpected development regarding the conference room at Chateau Roaring Fork. Unfortunately, the HOA has updated their policies. Due to these new rules and regulations, we are unable to accommodate the nightly sing-a-longs. I understand this is an important part of your gathering and I apologize for the inconvenience."

I was able to contact all but 3 people who have reservations at the condos. All that wanted to were able to confirm rooms at The Mt Chalet today. Messages have been left for the 3 remaining people to contact me.

Cara and I are just sick that after all we went through to make sure our needs could be accommodated prior to our agreement with Frias Properties; they backed out of our agreement without a second thought. We started the process of finding a location as soon as the Mt Chalet announced the sale. It was no easy task to find a place that was large enough for our group, cost effective and with event space that didn't charge a small fortune. The only thing that is allowing us to

continue with this year's events is that the Mt Chalet announced just 2 weeks ago that the hotel would be available this year. Anyone who put their name on the reservation list when we departed last year had until today to confirm their reservation and pay the 30% deposit. Any leftover rooms will then be open to anyone to reserve.

That being said, I find I also need to let you all know that the 5th floor banquet room where most event at the Chalet are held, has been closed by the city due to the broken elevator. There was an article in the Aspen Newspaper recently and someone shared it to this page. There are no plans currently to repair the elevator due to the cost and the parts are not readily available. This is the little elevator from the 4th to the 5th floor. Not the big elevator at the back of the building.

Without the banquet room, venue space will need to be found in town. Anyone "Looking for Space" can contact me directly and I can offer some suggestions. Any posted events will be updated once a new location is secured. I do not have any information about the singalongs. I cannot make any promises about anything. This is a fluid situation. Once details are available, I promise I will tell you. It will all be posted here on the AIO page.

Once again, I am sorry for this inconvenience. We really thought we had a solid plan.

Regarding Mountain Chalet bookings:

The deadline for confirming your reservation at the Mountain Chalet before they auto-cancel it was April 14.

However -- we just confirmed with the Chalet this morning that if you do reserve your room now, the deadline for cancellation is August. With that in mind, and knowing that some of you are still holding out for a condo to open up at the other location, our recommendation is that you go ahead and confirm your reservation at the Mountain Chalet just in case. They only require 30% down to hold your room, and you can cancel by August with a full refund if necessary. ***Be sure to correct the dates of your reservation, bearing in mind the AIO 2022 dates of October 5-12.***

SAD NEWS

JoLynn Long's daughter, Shannon Martin, recently died in a riding accident. Please keep JoLynn, her granddaughter, Avery, and son-in-law, Mitch, in your prayers. Shannon is JoLynn's only child. As many of you know, she lost her husband Jack just last July ...so please keep them in your prayers.

Higher Ground Australia extends its deepest condolences to JoLynn and her family on this tragic loss.



**GOVERNOR POLIS PERMANENTLY NAMES TRAIL AT
GOLDEN GATE CANYON STATE PARK "ROCKY MOUNTAIN
HIGH" TRAIL**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022

GOLDEN — Today, Governor Jared Polis renamed the Mountain Lion Trail at Golden Gate Canyon State Park as "Rocky Mountain High Trail." In honor of the 50th anniversary of the release of John Denver's world-famous song "Rocky Mountain High," Governor Polis celebrated Colorado's iconic beauty as shared through Colorado's second state song.

"Here in Colorado, we've always known that our majestic mountains, our bright blue skies, our starlit nights, and our forest and streams were the stuff of legends - but John Denver made them the stuff of song lyrics too. And not just any lyrics, but world-famous lyrics that span genres and generations," said Gov. Polis. "My parents took me to my first concert to see John Denver at Red Rocks in 1980 when I was five, and I danced in the aisles and our family continues dancing to this day to John Denver's incredible music. As we continue to protect our environment and ensure Coloradans can thrive for generations to come, I am thrilled to commemorate the 50th anniversary of our state song Rocky Mountain High in such a meaningful way."

https://www.colorado.gov/governor/news/8216-governor-polis-permanently-names-trail-golden-gate-canyon-state-park-rocky-mountain-high?fbclid=IwAR300n2vGd26T5j6vPf2layMU-Zg6y02W4JNwoJML7nrsk2mGh_t_eyZbOY



**WEST VIRGINIA GOV. JIM JUSTICE RELEASES READING OF
'TAKE ME HOME COUNTRY ROADS' IN HONOR OF
NATIONAL READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY**

MARCH 1, 2022

Charleston, W. Va (WV News) - Ahead of Wednesday's Read Across America Day, Gov. Jim Justice released a

video reading of the children's book 'Take me Home, Country Roads.'

The book, illustrated by Christopher Canyon, adapts John Denver's 1971 song of the same name.

National Read Across America Day is held each year on March 2 – the birthday of the children's book author Dr. Seuss. The day was established by the National Education Association in 1998 to get kids excited about reading.

The month of March is also National Reading Month. School teachers across West Virginia are encouraged to join the celebration by reading to their students.

"We had plenty of different books to choose from, but I picked this one because it connects us to our home," Justice said. 'I ask our children in West Virginia to always remember home, always remember just how great this state really is, and always remember those around you that you love.'

Click the link below to watch and listen to Gov. Jim Justice reading the book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7KLSHBo9zM&t=10s>

https://www.wvnews.com/news/wvnews/west-virginia-qov-jim-justice-releases-reading-of-take-me-home-country-roads-in-honor/article_af3c89a6-9975-11ec-8168-932433e01686.html?fbclid=IwAR3fIQ-xZ0IXi2HNIvN8g7reJww7c7PhkxyXfnXjylFZjqgfP2JtiXvZJV0

I came across this article recently and thought it was too 'precious' not to include in this newsletter. I must be naïve because I still cannot work out whether the article is tongue-in-cheek or whether the author is deadly serious...

**I VISITED ASPEN, THE MOST EXPENSIVE SKI TOWN IN
AMERICA, FOR THE FIRST TIME. HERE ARE 12 THINGS
THAT SURPRISED ME.**

Monica Humphries Dec 16, 2021

Just before prime ski season, I visited Aspen, Colorado, known as the US's most expensive ski town.

Each year, the rich and famous flock to the resort town, where homes cost \$11.4 million on average.

Aspen is known as a luxury playground, but I was surprised to see just what that looked like.

Nestled in Colorado's Rocky Mountains, Aspen is a small ski town known for vacationers with big budgets.

Aspen, Colorado, is a booming destination for the rich and famous.

It's the US's most expensive ski town based on the listing price for prime ski property, according to a 2021



report from Engel & Völkers, a global real-estate company.

Aspen homes sell for \$11.4 million on average, according to Aspen Daily News.

Guests also spend a lot of money to stay there, and each winter celebrities flock to the town to show off designer ski gear on the town's snowy slopes.

I visited the town in early December, before peak ski season, and experienced a taste of the lavish lifestyle that comes with living and vacationing in Aspen. Several things surprised me.

When I visited, I was surprised to find some uncommon elements — like prosecco in coffee shops and water-fountain covers — added to the luxury and charm of Aspen. And I also found some surprisingly affordable things, too.

By the end of my trip, I learned that luxury is all in the details, such as when your hotel room has real plants instead of fake ones, and how every restaurant opts for cloth over paper napkins.

Those tiny elements cast a surprising spotlight on how Aspen had become such an expensive place to live and vacation.

It may just be my Florida roots showing, but I didn't expect people to be walking around the town in ski boots with skis perched on their shoulders.

As I booked my trip, I noticed that hotels advertised themselves as ski-in, ski-out. I've never skied, so I hadn't realized how literal that term was until I visited Aspen.

From my hotel room, I could walk just a few hundred feet and be at the base of Aspen Mountain, where I'd have access to 87 ski trails.

But even if people weren't staying in a ski-in, ski-out accommodation, they still trekked across the town in their ski gear. Everywhere you looked in Aspen, people were heading to the lifts in their ski boots or just off the slopes and biking home with their snowboard in tow.

Most of my waiters and waitresses could casually list off celebrities they said they'd met.

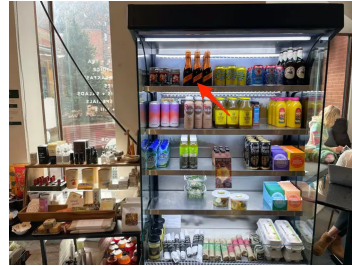
Celebrities flock to Aspen each winter, but I was surprised at how willing and eager servers were to share their celebrity sightings.

At the White House Tavern, one waitress told me she sent the musician Leon Bridges to the bar and mentioned Dua Lipa had recently stopped by for a meal.

At Ajax Tavern, our waiter said he'd seen A-listers including Neil Patrick Harris, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Katy Perry.

"In the winter, you're going to see celebrities every day," my waitress at the sushi restaurant Matsuhisa casually mentioned.

I was shocked to find a coffee shop's fridge stocked with prosecco.



I was surprised to see miniature bottles of the bubbly next to cold-brew cans and coconut water in a coffee shop.

The shop also stocked orange juice, so, in theory, customers could make their own mimosas before the café closed at 2 p.m.

Overall, it seemed as if Aspen took special care with its outdoor amenities. Water fountains and bicycle stations were covered for the winter season, which I'd never seen before.

I'd never seen a town protect its water fountains and bicycle stations the way Aspen does in the winter.

I'm more familiar with winter in New York City, where you can rent Citi Bikes year-round and Central Park's water fountains end up covered in snow.

In Aspen, the bicycle rideshares close, the bikes are stored away, and plastic covers are placed on the docking stations.

The same goes for the water fountains. Each water station in Aspen had a snug cover protecting it from the colder temps.

The town also took care in protecting its brick sidewalks.

In the town's main square, more than 300,000 bricks were laid in 1976, according to The Aspen Times.

Decades later, signs can be spotted all over the town highlighting the efforts to preserve those bricks. Signs tell people not to bike over the bricks, and for the most part everyone I saw followed the rules.



Even the tiny, free libraries dotting the town felt like an upgrade, with hard-to-find New York Times best-sellers there for the taking.



I'm used to seeing Free Little Libraries, which are like mailboxes filled with free books, across my neighborhood in Denver. But I'm not used to them being filled with books that have sat on my Goodreads wish list for months.

After peeking inside the free library, I grabbed a copy of "The Vanishing Half," a book that's topped the New York Times best-seller list.

Any book that popular would be gone in a free library in Denver in minutes, so I was thrilled to get my hands on it.

Art galleries filled near every street in the town.

A few Aspen locals gushed about how their town was known for so much more than skiing.

They bragged about the Aspen Art Museum's new exhibit on Andy Warhol and listed off the small galleries filling practically every town block.

While Aspen is known for its nature, I was surprised to discover an equally strong emphasis on the arts.

I hadn't expected there to be so much focus on food in Aspen, but my list of restaurant recommendations was long enough to last a season.

Everyone knew every restaurant in Aspen, no matter whom I talked to — whether it was a luxury-real-estate agent or a bellhop.

And almost every local I spoke with had a favorite.

I was urged to go to Clark's for seafood and told Steak House No. 316 served the best steak. A trip to Aspen wouldn't be complete without tasting sushi from Matsuhisa or having the Wagyu burger at Ajax Tavern, I was told.

Food was clearly a significant part of the Aspen experience.

While I wasn't surprised to see dogs in designer outfits walking the brick streets of Aspen, I was shocked to find dog food on a hotel menu.

As my stomach growled on my first night in Aspen, I eyed the room-service menu at the Little Nell hotel.

A \$21 French toast and a \$25 Cobb salad were as expected, but there was also food for your four-legged friend. The menu advertised "Canine Delights Daily, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m."

The meals, which were served in dog-friendly bowls, included carrots, brown rice, scrambled eggs, and the owner's choice of protein. They cost \$19.

Though I expected pricey meals, I also discovered some affordable eats.

Within minutes after I set foot in Aspen, a sign advertising \$8 burgers lured me into Aspen Pie Shop, a restaurant selling pizza, burgers, and sandwiches.

Knowing that Aspen isn't just home to \$25 entrees and \$20 cocktails was a relief. For the next few days, I

continued to find affordable eats like a \$9 sub or an \$8 shot-and-beer drink deal.

And groceries also seemed to be reasonably priced.

My friend tagged along for the trip, and on our first night we walked over to City Market, a part of the Kroger grocery-store chain, to grab a few snacks and breakfast items for the week.

We expected Aspen's groceries to be pricier than we were used to in Denver. But the prices were surprisingly comparable.

After a day in Aspen, I realized why the town felt so quaint. No building was higher than six stories, making way for some stunning views.

I spent my first day in Aspen debating whether the snowy slopes or brick sidewalks gave the town its charming appeal.

Then I realized it was the lack of skyscrapers — or really any tall building for that matter. The vast majority of buildings were just two or three stories high, and I had unobstructed views of the sky and mountains.

<https://www.insider.com/aspen-colorado-most-expensive-ski-town-what-surprised-me-2021-12?fbclid=IwAR2ematzB14wFWGoNblfyZvWPeltC-IN2V2Q1EEphQSMFQJBaAQKCJ2bhM#and-groceries-also-seemed-to-be-reasonably-priced-13>

BRAD FITCH & MARK RASHID MUSIC GROUP

Our John Denver Tribute Concert will return to Estes Park, Colorado this year! To benefit Lions Club charities, it will take place Saturday, September 3, 2022. Tickets go on sale in June. Please check [Brad's website](#) for more information



(Photo by Jack Taylor.)

JOHN ADAMS ANNOUNCES A NEW CONCERT

JOHN DENVER 'The Tribute concerts will be held on Saturday October 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM at

The [Newman Center for the Performing Arts](#), University of Denver 2344 East Iliff Avenue Denver CO 80208.

Tickets will be available soon.





CHRIS COLLINS & BOULDER CANYON IN ASPEN

We have a special announcement! We will be returning to Aspen, Colorado during the John Denver Celebration week and to the stage at the Wheeler Opera House on October 8, 2022!

TICKETS GO ON SALE JUNE 1, 2022 AT 12:00 NOON, MOUNTAIN TIME! Tickets will be available on line at www.aspenshowtix.com or by calling the Wheeler Opera House's box office at 970-920-5770 or 866-449-0464 (toll free).

As some of you know, 2022 will mark 25 years since John Denver left us way too soon. This will be a special anniversary concert, with some special guests, to celebrate John Denver's music, life and legacy. We look forward to seeing everyone!



RADIO PROGRAMMES – WILLIE HOEVERS

Willie Hoevers of the Rocky Mountain Foundation for the Performing Arts has worked tirelessly to promote John's music through the foundation and through his regular radio programmes.

In 2013, Willie launched his fortnightly online show, 'The Music of John Denver' for American Veterans radio, which is available globally on www.avradio.org

The next show is on Saturday **February 27** at 2pm Mountain Time.

4 - 6 pm Eastern time

3 - 5 pm Central time

2 - 4 pm Mountain time

1 - 3 pm Pacific time

12 - 2 pm Alaskan time

2100 - 2300 UK time

2200 - 0000 European time

Next Morning – Sunday May 9

4 - 6 am Japan time

6 - 8 am Sydney, Australia time

8 - 10 am New Zealand time

Additionally, Willie hosts the show in the UK on Ridge Radio. The next show will be held on **February 20** at

6pm UK time www.ridgeradio.co.uk

Here is a time zone conversion chart:

6:00pm - 8:00pm UK Time

7:00pm - 9:00pm European Time

4:00am - 6:00am Sydney Australia Time

5:00am - 7:00am Auckland New Zealand Time

2:00am - 4:00am Tokyo Time

1:00pm - 3:00pm Eastern Time

12 Noon - 2:00pm Central Time

11am - 1:00pm Mountain Time

10:00am - 12pm Pacific Time

9:00am - 11:00am Alaskan Time

Watch this space for other syndicated shows. For more information, please contact Willie

willie@rockymountainfpa.org

<https://rockymountainfpa.org/home>



ASPEN IN OCTOBER – 2022 EVENTS

(From the Aspen in October Facebook Page)

Please check the Facebook page for events and tickets.

www.Facebook.com/aspeninOctober/events

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2022

Meet & Greet John Denver Sanctuary

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6, 2022

8 AM Crystal Mill Jeep Tour. For more information, check out their website <http://www.smithfamilycolorado.com/CRJT/>

This is a jeep tour to the town of Crystal and also to the Crystal Mill. The ride will be rough but not difficult to walk around once you get to the location. You will need to dress warmly, bring layers. Bring water, sunscreen, and lunch or a snack. There are no toilets along the way. So if you are uncomfortable copping a squat in the woods, you may not want to do this tour. There are outhouses at the town of Crystal and at the mill if you can stand to use those. The tour group will provide TP.

Cost is \$800 per jeep. Each jeep can hold five people. So that comes out to \$160 per person to be paid at the time of check-in. No money is needed right now. The tour can handle up to 20 people. We will be doing the five-hour tour. This will be a first to contact me, first served. Anybody beyond 20 people will be put on a waitlist. So please confirm with me through messenger with the names of people if you will definitely be going so I can start a list and can keep track of who is coming. So as not to cost more than \$160 per person, I need at least five people or 10 people or 15 people or 20 people. Anything less than a number divisible by five means it will cost more money for people to go. If that does not make sense, please contact me and I'll try to explain it better.

We will need to leave Aspen at 8am and meet at Crystal River Jeep Tours headquarters. We can car pool as much as possible.

Ron Matthews Concert 1038:9 E Durant Ave. Aspen

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7, 2022

25 Years of Celebrating John Denver 1039 E Durant Ave. Aspen

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8, 2022

Martin Tyner – Eagle Man – 1-3pm Dunaway Community Meeting Room 120 North Mill Street, Aspen

For more information about this event, please contact Val Cooper at eagle1997@d-pcomm.net

Chris Collins & Boulder Canyon at The Wheeler Opera House 7:30 PM. Tickets are on sale now from www.aspenshowtix.com or by calling the Wheeler

Opera House's box office at (+1) 970-920-5770 or (+1) 866-449-0464 (toll free).

MONDAY OCTOBER 10, 2022

Goodbye Again John Denver Sanctuary

The list will be updated with confirmed times and ticketing information as information comes to hand.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Martin Tyner – Eagle Man / “Healer of Angels”

Founder and CEO of the Southwest Wildlife Foundation/Enoch Rescue in Utah

...will present an Educational Program on...

Birds of Prey of the West & the Preservation of Wildlife and the Environment

October 8, 2022, 1pm - 3pm (Doors Open at 12:45 pm – General Admission)

Location: Dunaway Community Meeting Room, Pitkin County Library
120 North Mill Street, Aspen, CO 81611

Martin Tyner is a federally licensed Master Falconer, eagle falconer, wildlife rescuer/rehabilitator, wildlife propagator, and wildlife and environmental educator. *This informative event is being presented in cooperation and partnership with the Pitkin County Library, Aspen, CO.*



Martin, who has been providing wildlife and environmental educational presentations throughout the western United States, to schools, scouts and community groups for over 50 years, will present a 2-hour program on **October 8, 2022** at the Pitkin County Library in Aspen, CO, on **Birds of Prey of the West & the Preservation of Wildlife and the Environment**. He will be accompanied by his wife, Susan, his wild Golden Eagle, “Scout,” and two other “Ambassador” birds of prey; a Harris Hawk and Peregrine Falcon.

Join **Martin Tyner** to experience a little “flavor” of John Denver’s former *Windstar-Choices for the Future* Symposiums in this notable, educational event. Learn “*What One Man Can Do*” to make a positive difference in the world...and discover what YOU can do as well, to support the invaluable work of the Southwest Wildlife Foundation/Enoch Rescue!

For information on this event, contact Val Cooper at: eagle1997@d-pcomm.net, or call the Pitkin County Library at (970) 429-1900.

To learn more about Martin Tyner and the Southwest Wildlife Foundation/Enoch Rescue, visit his website at: <https://www.gowildlife.org/>

CUTE VIDEO

<https://www.facebook.com/AspenInOctober/videos/704229247599877>

TRIBUTE ARTISTS

Check out your favourite tribute artists.

CATHY GIANFALA CARRIERE

<http://www.cathygianfalacarriere.com/>

MARK CORMICAN

<http://markcormican.com/schedule/>

JIM CURRY

<https://www.jimcurrymusic.com/future-concerts/>

BACK HOME AGAIN

A tribute to John Denver.

Tom Becker is a former member of the Legendary Folk Group, The New Christy Minstrels, and has gone on to appear with Grammy Winners and Music Legends including Ray Charles, Jerry Lee Lewis, Willie Nelson, Gregg Allman and Jerry Jeff Walker.

<http://www.johndenvertribute.net/schedule.htm>

CHRIS COLLINS AND BOULDER CANYON

Chris Collins & Boulder Canyon has scheduled shows in August and September. Please check the website for details. <https://bouldercanyonband.com/concert-schedule>

CHRIS WESTFALL



Friday July 30 free concert at Bethany Beach Events & Entertainment. Details

www.townofbethanybeach.com

<http://www.chriswestfall.com/inConcert.php>

JOHN ADAMS

[HTTPS://WWW.JOHNADAMSBAND.COM/CALENDAR](https://www.johnadamsband.com/calendar)

CHRIS BANNISTER

<http://chrisbannisterthemusicofjohndenver.com>

BRAD FITCH

<http://www.cowboybrad.com>

WILL KRUGER

<http://www.willkruger.com>

Check out Will's forthcoming performances at

<https://www.willkruger.com/schedule/>

RICK SCHULER

<http://www.sunshinerick.com>

TED VIGIL

<http://www.tedvigil.com>

JOHN DENVER PROJECT BAND

<http://johndenverprojectband.it>

RON MATTHEWS

<http://www.ronmathews.net>

For more information about tribute artists around the globe, check out our website; www.hgavic.com

LET US BEGIN (WHAT ARE WE MAKING WEAPONS FOR?)

This month, I am using the lyrics of (in my opinion) one of John's most moving songs in memory of those who have lost loved ones as a result of gun violence, especially those in Uvalde.

'Have we forgotten

All the lives that were given?

All the vows that were taken

Saying never again'

Some material included in this newsletter has been derived from the public domain, such as the internet and printed media. Articles and reviews are the opinion of the individual writer and as long as the content is of a reasonable nature and it is appropriate, it will be included. Organisations mentioned or featured in this newsletter are included to educate and inform people of their role and purpose. HGA does not profit from including the names of any organisation in this newsletter.

This newsletter is only emailed to those people who have individually contacted HGA and expressed a wish to receive it. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you no longer wish to receive the HGA newslettet.



Let us Begin (What are we Making Weapons For?) (John Denver)

*I am the son of a grassland farmer
Western Oklahoma nineteen forty-three
I always felt grateful to live in the land of the free
I gave up my father to South Korea
The mind of my brother to Vietnam
Now there's a banker who says I must give up my land
There are four generations of blood in this topsoil
Four generations of love on this farm
Before I give up, I would gladly give up my right arm*

*What are we making weapons for?
Why keep on feeding the war machine
We take it right out of the mouths of our babies
Take it away from the hands of the poor
Tell me, what are we making weapons for?*

*I had a son and my son was a soldier
He was so like my father, he was so much like me
To be a good comrade was the best that he dreamed he could be
He gave up his future to revolution
His life to a battle that just can't be won
For this is not living, to live at the point of a gun
I remember the nine hundred days of Leningrad
The sound of the dying, the cut of the cold
I remember the moments I prayed I would never grow old*

*What are we making weapons for?
Why keep on feeding the war machine
We take it right out of the mouths of our babies
Take it away from the hands of the poor
Tell me, what are we making weapons for?*

*For the first time in my life, I feel like a prisoner
A slave to the ways of the powers that be
And I fear for my children, as I fear for the future I see
Tell me how can it be we're still fighting each other
What does it take for a people to learn?
If our song is not sung as a chorus, we surely will burn*

*What are we making weapons for?
Why keep on feeding the war machine
We take it right out of the mouths of our babies
Take it away from the hands of the poor
Tell me, what are we making weapons for?*

*Have we forgotten all the lives that were given?
All the vows that were taken, saying never again
Now for the first time, this could be the last time
If peace is our vision, let us begin*

