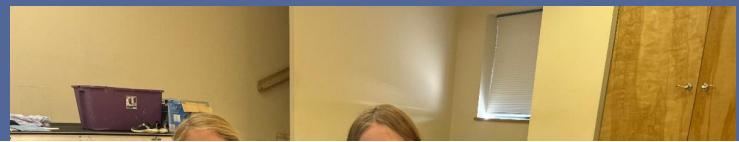


# Fall news from the Club



## Artemis Project takes off!

Twelve Clubs kids, ages 10-13, are participating in a simulation of the NASA Artemis/Orion Moon mission. Led by Club Hero Greg Justis, the young rocket scientists are solving mathematical problems, building scale model capsules, and working on flight computer simulations. Oh, and role playing as real astronauts! Don't bet against our kids making the next trip to the moon before our friends at NASA!





## Club kids lead charge to counter loneliness and social isolation

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy declared a national loneliness and social isolation epidemic throughout the country.

He warned that about half of U.S. adults are experiencing considerable levels of loneliness, which can affect physical, mental, and societal health. Club kids now visit Columbine Manor monthly to share stories, play bingo, make crafts, and celebrate birthdays, their 6th to 106th!

"Connecting and mixing the ages, from young people to teens to adults and older adults, our mission is to bring everyone together, have fun and enjoy each other's company", said BGC Executive Director Brian Beaulieu. "Put people in a room together and they will

connect. No phones, no computers, talking to each other, playing games, laughing, high fives and hugs. It works!"

**Join us on November 1st at 2pm for our first collaborative intergenerational mixer!**

This event will kick-off our efforts to increase intergenerational community connections throughout Chaffee County. Let's see what we can do together! Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaffee County, the

Intergenerational Taskforce of Age Strong Chaffee, Ark Valley Helping Hands, Columbine Manor, and the Chaffee County Early Childhood Council invite you to this "Mixing Up the Ages" event. Join us at 2pm to engage in bingo, fun conversation, enjoy and ice cream buffet, share stories, and then play arcade games with new friends from 3-4pm.



NOVEMBER 1ST, 2024 2PM

FUN STREET FAMILY ARCADE 242 E ST SALIDA CO



## Thank you and good luck Ms. Kiki!

This month we said thank you and good luck, but not goodbye to Kiki Lathrop. For more than 8 years Kiki has taught, guided, inspired, and cheered on hundreds of our Club kids in Buena Vista and Salida. A self-described STEM nerd (we love STEM nerds), Kiki oversaw our 3D printing program, recreational drone classes and our rock-climbing club. Her good cheer, encouraging smile, and patience will be missed, but she plans to return regularly as a STEM volunteer at both Clubs. Kiki's next adventure is a true dream come true for her, she is working as a drone archeologist! The photo on the right is her with her drone on a dig site on the Western Slope.

Thanks to her leadership, dozens of Club kids want to follow in her footsteps and pursue a career in STEM! Addi, from the Salida Club, is pictured below dressed as "Ms.Kiki" for halloween. She wants to be an archeologist, just like Ms. Kiki!







## GREAT Staff starting HERE in BV and Salida!



Madison - Buena Vista Branch Director

"I first joined the BGC organization as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Canon City a few years ago. I have since worked with youth in several different capacities as an Academic Coach for a hybrid high school, and most recently as a Site Lead at a Boys and Girls Club in Texas. I am so excited to work with and serve the families and kids as the new Branch Director in Buena Vista!"



Mia - Chaffee County Program Director

"Hi! I'm Mia, and I'm thrilled to join the BGC team and continue supporting the amazing kiddos in our community. Working with the club during the Youth Farmer's Markets in my prior role with Guidestone has been incredibly rewarding, and I can't wait to create more meaningful experiences together!"



Shywann - AmeriCorps Member

"I recently moved here from Waycross, Ga. This is my first year as an AmeriCorps member under RAD - La Puente. I love working and learning from kids. You can learn a lot from kids!!"



Zach - Youth Development Professional

"I like working for BGCA because it provides an opportunity to help teach kids important lessons they can use in life."

Thank you for attending the Great Futures Gala!

Thank you to all attendees of the 2024 Great Futures Gala! We can not thank you enough for your generosity.

Thank you to all attendees of the 2024 Great Futures Gala! We can not thank you enough for your generosity and support. We had an amazing night with dueling pianos, inspiring updates, and a successful auction. Congratulations to our 2024 Club Hero, Julie Mordecai, thank you for all you do for our Clubs! Save the date for next year's event: September 3rd, 2025. See you then!



## Giving Tuesday, Colorado Gives Day, Year End.. oh my!

### *Origins and explanations of end-of-year fundraising*

Our most important fundraising period of the year is approaching. We know all the different fundraising days can be confusing, so we wanted to clear things up! You may be wondering if it is better to give on Colorado Gives Day, Giving Tuesday, or at Year End? The good news is that all of those options are great!

**Colorado Gives Day:** Colorado Gives Day originated in 2010 and has raised over \$415 million for charities in our state. In 2024, **Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 10th**, but any gift made through our online Colorado Gives platform page (our donation page linked through our website) from November 1 through December 10, will be boosted by an Incentive Fund, made possible by Colorado Gives Foundation and FirstBank. Each nonprofit will receive a share of the fund based on how much they raise! Plus, if you set up a new monthly donation, Colorado Gives Foundation will match your first monthly gift up to \$100!

**Giving Tuesday:** Giving Tuesday is the **first Tuesday after Thanksgiving**. In 2024, Giving Tuesday is December 3rd. This day-of-generosity originated in 2012 in New York City, as a counter response to the consumerism and commercialism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday has grown into a global movement, centered around this day of doing good.

**Year End:** "Year end" is generally considered to be **anytime November through December**. Although donations any day of the year are highly prized, giving during this time period helps us reach our critical fundraising goals! Getting those donations in by the end of the calendar year also means you may be able to claim them come **tax season**.

### **Bottom line? Your end-of-year generosity is appreciated on any day.**

Want to see the impact of your gift in real life? Reply to this email or give us a call to schedule a tour at either Club!

Donate  
Now

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