

Trojan Tribune



News From Ouray High School

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How to Be Safe in the Mountains

by Audrey Gibbs

Since 1950, the state of Colorado has suffered 276 fatalities by avalanche. In second place is Alaska, with only 152 deaths. It is obvious that safety education on this subject is crucial, especially for Colorado youth.

On Tuesday, January 23, 2018, avalanche expert and executive director of Friends of the San Juans John Strand came to Ouray school and presented information and tips on avalanche safety to middle and high schoolers. The presentation consisted of a fifteen minute long video showing the legitimate danger of avalanches and a slideshow on the five steps of the Know Before You Go safety program: get the gear, get the training, get the forecast, get the picture, and get out of harm's way.

Students got a full review of how to know when snow is safe to travel on and what to do if ever caught in an avalanche.

"Most useful tip about avalanche safety? Getting the avalanche forecast and daily reports," said Strand, "All we have to do is go online and put the valuable information to use."

KBYG focuses mainly on informing people of

the dangers of avalanches and ultimately, to save lives in the process. John Strand mentioned they had even found available scholarships in the surrounding area to help students go to avalanche training courses and further their knowledge on

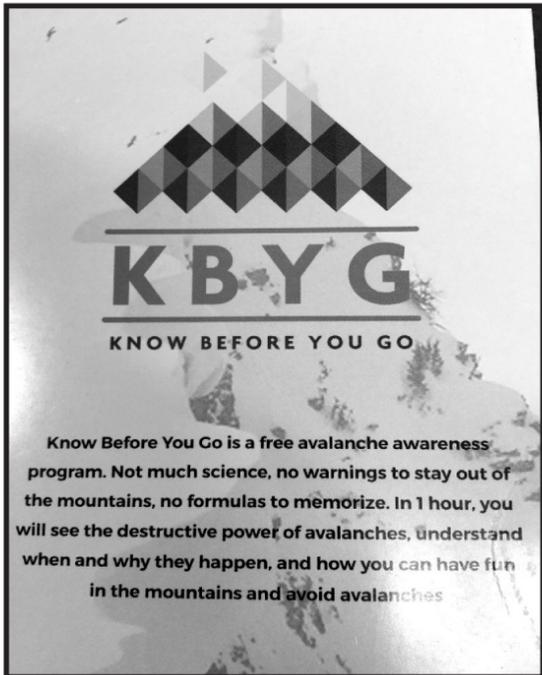
the topic.

"The scholarships that we know of in the San Juans are the George Gardner Scholarship in Ridgway, the Peter Inglis Avalanche Education Fund in Telluride, WOLF in Pagosa Springs, and the Peter Carver Avalanche Scholarship in Durango," said Strand.

In general, the students seemed to enjoy the presentation, not only because they got to miss class, but also because they felt they learned something and they became more aware of the possible danger in their beautiful mountains.

"I thought it was very informative and kinda scary to find out how dangerous avalanches really are," said 8th grader Rock Gibbs.

Others, however, did not see the relevance. "I don't really ski or do any of that stuff, but it was interesting. It was sad to see what avalanches can actually do," said junior Jaden Kunz.



What's for Lunch?

by Maddi Meenan

When the lunch bell rings at 12:16 pm, students face a difficult decision. "What should we eat for lunch?" they ask each other.

According to sophomore Makaya Cervone, high school students prefer Backstreet and Maggie's Kitchen.

The lunch staff at Ouray estimates that, on average, 30 high school students ate lunch in the cafeteria first semester. Makaya asserted that the number was this high because Maggie's was closed from October to December.

Students also say that the school's menu drives their lunch decision. If the meal is a popular choice then more students eat in the cafeteria, but if not then they go off campus.

Ouray High School lunch is from 12:16 pm to 12:56 pm, which is enough time to enjoy a meal without having to rush to make it back to class on time.

Many students may go off campus to get a breather from school. "The school is suffocating, I just like to get away" said junior Abbie Link.

The freshman class of 2021 recently has been able to go off campus since it is second semester, and the class is taking full advantage of this opportunity. "It's a privilege to go off campus, you have to earn it" said assistant principal Mr.

Nelson.

He also said that, previously, freshman students going off campus first semester caused many tardies to 6th period and it was becoming a problem.

Mr. Nelson also indicated that students needed to get used to the high school life and the new options of classes. "Students needed to get used to their classes and be on time, then they had this privilege."

Students are excited to eat off campus. Abbie said, "I like to eat at Ducketts, Backstreet, Mouse's, or even my own house since I live close to the school."

Getting an opportunity like this is rare because, in bigger cities, high school students cannot go

off campus until they get their licenses.

The two restaurants that have multiple students in line each day include Backstreet and Maggie's, which are also popular with tourists. "The food is just so delicious" tourists say to Ouray teens who work in these establishments.

"Students usually order a student meal which includes a cheeseburger, fries and a drink for only \$5.00 at Maggie's," said Makaya Cervone. At Backstreet students will usually order a bagel, salad, sandwich, or a smoothie.



Moving Can Be Hard

by Sadie Dunham

During this school year, approximately six students have moved into Ouray Elementary and High School, and four have left for other places. Many students characterize the experience of moving as very challenging.

Most students that move to Ouray and go to the High school move because of their parents' employment. Some lived here previously. Then again, many people move here and then realize that the air pressure messes with their health and they have to move away, or they move away because of family or relationships in general.

Many people have commented that this school is very small, and some like it and some don't, and that is a reason that some people move out of Ouray and go to Montrose, Denver, or even bigger places or cities.

"It was like nine, I think. Ten maybe," said freshman Torria Colpitts. For her, it was not easy. "Well, I cried for like three or four days straight, so I hated it...for awhile."

When people move, they leave their friends and sometimes family behind. "We talk sometimes, just we're not really close," said Torria. "I don't think we really lost connection." For some people, when they move, they lose connection to friends or family because of the long distance.

Poetry Party

by Scout Donovan

On February 1st, Kierstin Bridger and Beth Paulson will be hosting the Open Bard Student Night at the Wright Opera House. The pair organize this event annually to encourage kids to write poetry and perform it in front of an audience.

The Open Bard series occurs on the first Thursday of each month, usually at the Sherbino in Ridgway. A professional poet is invited to read his or her work, and then the mic is open to community members to share their own poetry.

In February, however, a special Youth Night is held. According to Ms. Bridger, Youth Night was created "to celebrate and include the very gifted youth of our region." Ms. Paulson believes that the evening helps students because it will "encourage writing and performing their words before a supportive and appreciative audience."

Calendar

Thursday, February 1

3:45 pm - Budget Mtg in Conference Rm

4 pm - MS B Bball in Naturita

Friday, February 2

5 pm - HS Bball @ home vs Plateau Valley

Saturday, February 3

All Day - HS Speech in Montrose

9 am - MS B Bball Tournament in Dolores

3:30 pm - HS Bball in Dove Creek

Monday, February 5

3:40 pm - Health Committee Mtg

Tuesday, February 6

5 pm - HS Bball @ home vs Nucla

Wednesday, February 7

6:30 - MSEF Meeting @ RSS

A FUN MONTHLY POETRY SERIES

FIRST THURSDAY EVENINGS

OCTOBER - MAY

6:30 PM START

*\$5 adults. Students & Teachers are Free.

