

# THE MOUNTAIN EAR



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## Surviving the Spooky Monster Stroll



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### Fun for kids of all ages

Above, left; Unlike candy, donuts had to be earned. Above, right; Lily Gallegos enjoying her Halloween sucker. See story page 20.

## NMSHS Mtn Bike team wraps up season



Joelle Wisler  
Glenwood Springs

The Nederland High School Mountain Bike Team's season came to an end with a great day of racing at the State Championships in Glenwood Springs on October 22. It was a fast and hard course and the team left it all out on the trail.

"It's really cool to be able to train and ride with Coach Alison Powers. I don't think any other school in Colorado has a coach of her caliber," said sophomore Grayson Shurr. Powers has coached the Nederland team for three years. She retired from her accomplished career as a professional cyclist in 2014 and started a coaching business, coaching other high performing cyclists. After changing her career focus and taking

ABOVE PHOTO OF GRAYSON SHURR COURTESY OF COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL CYCLING LEAGUE

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### - QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"It's said that All Hallows' Eve is one of the nights when the veil between the worlds is thin - and whether you believe in such things or not, those roaming spirits probably believe in you, or at least acknowledge your existence, considering that it used to be their own. Even the air feels different on Halloween, autumn-crisp and bright." ~Erin Morgenstern

# Surviving the Spooky Monster Stroll



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### Welcome to my nightmare

Above, left; What is it about dolls that make them so scary? Above, right; Tabitha Oline and her two daughters Emmalyn (left) and Natalie (right) posed for the occasion. Bottom; A hammer-wielding zombie in a bad mood on the haunted trail.



### Dave Gibson Gilpin County

“They’re creepy and they’re kooky, mysterious and spooky.”

For the second year in a row, Saturday, October 22, Gilpin County Parks and Recreation staged the Spooky Monster Stroll at 250 Norton Drive. Beginning at 5 p.m., scores of costumed children and their parents descended upon the barn for an evening of fun, games, and trick-or-treating. Building on 2021’s popular inaugural event, in no small part, Friends of the Gilpin Community Center and its many volunteers made it possible once again.

Kids could jump around until their hearts’ delight in the bounce house. Flinging hula hoops at traffic cones, a beanbag toss, fishing for rubber duckies at the Fishin’ Hole, and the always challenging, highly entertaining, and delicious suspended donut bobbing kept children merrily engaged. Face painting was available and hayrides departed outside the premises every half hour.

Alongside the Rec Center, the infamous Spooky Monster Stroll beckoned those brave enough to take it. “Was that a scream or a coyote? I’m not sure – you go

first.”

Lined with gravestones, skeletons, giant spiders, and decapitated heads wrapped in barbed wire, it wasn’t for the fainthearted. You felt like you were in a scene from *Apocalypse Now*; traveling upriver into the heart of darkness with gruesome sights around every bend. “The horror! The horror!”

Scary enough during the day, beginning at 7 p.m., the nighttime added another dimension of fright. Walking slowly, unsure of what lies ahead on the dimly lighted path, out of nowhere, a vampire flashes his fangs merely feet away from your neck! Safely past him, the only sound heard is that of your quickened breath. A demented clown suddenly appears brandishing a bloody butcher knife, scaring you half to death! He disappears into the woods as you continue along. Feeling your heart pounding in your chest and wishing the nightmare would end, a hog-masked zombie lunges at you with his chainsaw! Running away screaming in terror, you exit the Spooky Monster Stroll alive.

Look for Gilpin Community Center’s upcoming events in *The Mountain-Ear* or go to [www.gilpincommunitycenter.org](http://www.gilpincommunitycenter.org).

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**9NEWS**

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A Health Fair  
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# Surviving the Spooky Monster Stroll



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### An ill-intentioned cast

Top, left; A chainsaw used for cutting human limbs. Top, middle; A thirsty Dracula sizes up a potential victim (you). Top, right; "Off with their heads!" Bottom, right; The creepy clown was up to no good again this year. Bottom, left; No thank you. I won't need my nose hairs trimmed this evening.

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