



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Good times at Stills in the Hills

A sampling of Colorado libations

Located in Littleton using fresh Colorado ingredients, Rocker's high-octane offerings will put a tiger in your tank. See story page 14.

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Gold Hill hosts Pride Parade

BARBARA HARDT
GOLD HILL

The sun hung high in the sky and the warmth of a summer day crept across the town of Gold Hill on Sunday, June 30. About forty inspired people gathered to walk in the Gold Hill Pride Parade.

The parade boasted more participants than the last few years. Organizer Mary Claire Mulligan said, "We started our parade a few years ago, and this year was our biggest and best yet. We're happy to celebrate and support our LGBTQ+ family and friends."

Gold Hill Store is always the starting place. Winding their way through town for about 20 minutes the energetic group walked, twirled and held hands. The feelings of love, kindness, and acceptance radiated from the participants. The parade ended where it started, back at the Gold Hill Store for a community gathering.



PHOTO BY BARBARA HARDT

Peak to Peak Pride

Gold Hill loves to hold a parade. This one was to celebrate and support LGBTQ+ family and friends on the last day of Pride month.

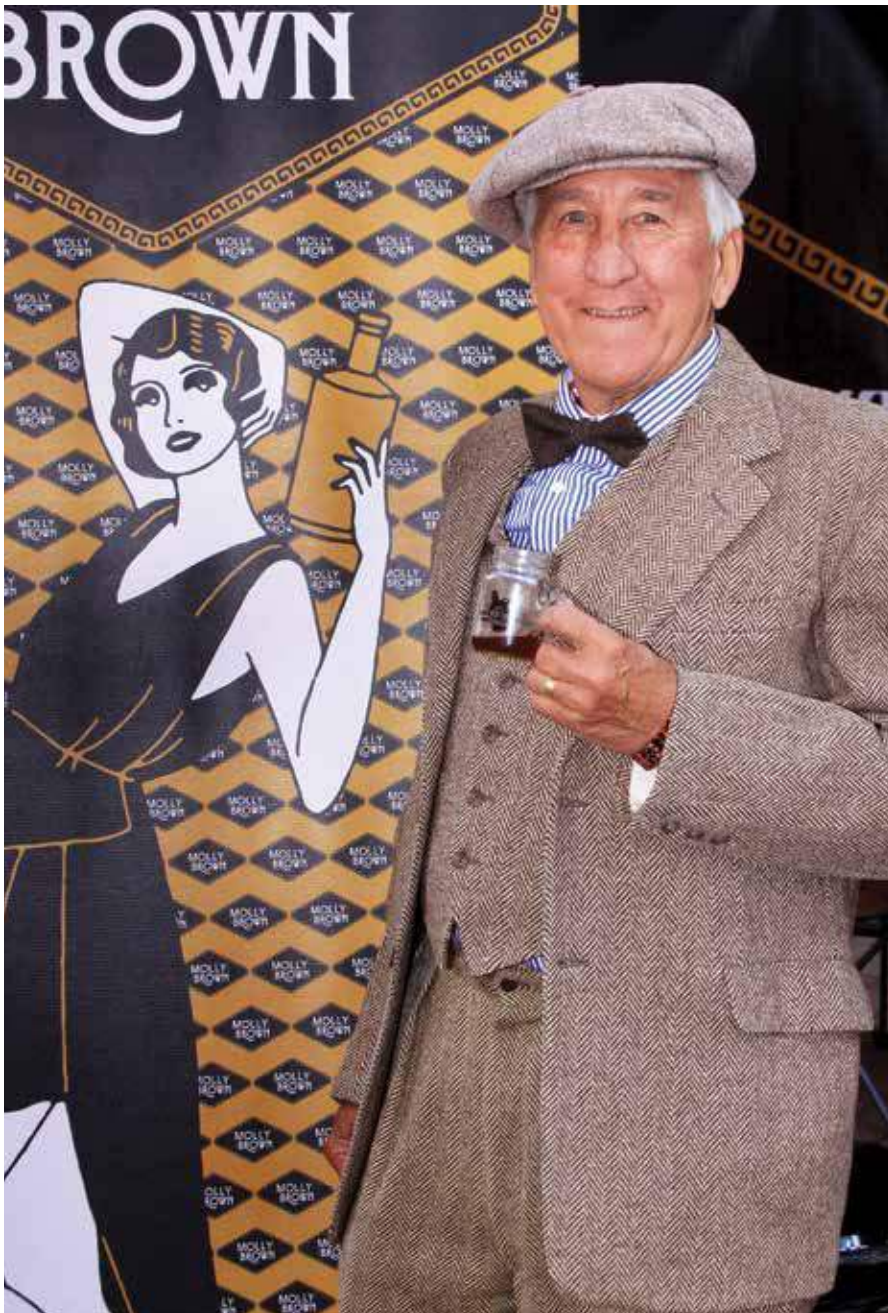
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-QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

"Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." – The Talmud



DAVE GIBSON
CENTRAL CITY

One thing I've noticed about Central City over the years is that the people are friendly and they know how to have fun.

From Madam Lou Bunch Day to The Great Central City Beer Festival in August to Tommyknockers ringing in the Christmas holidays, gaming is but one of your options. Taking in an opera or just strolling along the cobblestoned Main Street and checking out historic buildings is an enjoyable experience that immerses you in the past.

On Saturday, June 29, the 10th Annual Stills in the Hills offered up more good times. Beginning at noon, the band Aoxomoxoa played nothing but Grateful Dead tunes including "Friend of the Devil" and "Sugaree." Antique automobiles added to

the ambiance.

On the other end of Main Street, local legend Jimmy Lewis and his band performed for VIPs who had paid \$20 extra to enter the event an hour earlier than other ticket holders. Not only did they get an exclusive front row seat for Lewis' great music, VIPs were treated to delicious food and an open bar.

At 1:00, everyone was allowed in. Of course, if you want to have a really good time you need people, and there were plenty of them. Sampling libations from numerous craft distillers hailing from Colorado, the potent potables were served in a small commemorative mug received at the door.

Pacing oneself throughout the afternoon was recommended in order to taste as many different liquors and liqueurs as possible without getting too schnocked.



Good times at Stills in the Hills

With friendly people

Left: Jim Huff drove his 1929 Ford pickup to the event wearing his finest herringbone three-piece suit and cap. Top, right: Legend Jimmy Lewis performs in the VIP area. Bottom, right: Mariana Rojo (left) and Sandra Arias of Denver also dressed up.



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Chocolate milk shots at Colorado Vodka Company's booth was the logical place to start before moving on to the hard stuff.

Cranking things up a notch, Spirit Hound Distillers from Lyons has won several awards over the years, including a gold medal at the 2024 Denver International Spirits Competition for their Café Colorado Coffee Liqueur. They incorporate Rocky Mountain snowmelt water, hand-picked juniper berries from the St. Vrain Valley for their gin, and honey sourced from a neighboring apiary. Their creations are flavorful and go down smooth.

At the Rick Thomas Distillery, located in Black Hawk, their corn whiskey and vodka are manufactured in copper stills

purchased from Scotland. The same style of still has been used for hundreds of years and brings Old World authenticity. Based in Castle Rock, Mystic Mountain Distillery's Outlaw Whiskey White Peach and Peanut Butter Cup varieties are tasty blends out of the ordinary.

Molly Brown Spirits in Denver is as bold and unapologetic as its namesake. The High Rye and Spiced Bourbons are favorite staples that facilitate social gatherings. If you are prepared for a stronger kick that could survive the sinking of the Titanic, try the 125-proof cask strength Single Barrel Select Straight Bourbon Whiskey.

Based in Littleton, the Rocker Spirits display was hard to miss.

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PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Stills in the Hills

Continued from page 14

As they poured drinks out of an old pickup truck through the folded-down windshield that made a convenient bar, flames shot out of the truck's skyward-pointing exhaust pipes that represented their spirits' potency. The mash they use to distill their bourbon consists of 70% corn and 30% wheat. The

wheat is grown in Burlington and Loveland. Their rum has a distinctive molasses overtone with a hint of oak, vanilla, and tropical fruit.

The distilleries mentioned above represent a fraction of those at Stills in the Hills. It would take decades to sample all of their products at the rate of one day a year. As this was merely the second time I've attended the popular event, more research is warranted next year.

In Central City

Top, left: Down the hatch. Top, right: A windshield made a great surface for socializing. Bottom, right: Don't let the labels scare you.

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GILPIN COUNTY FAIR ACTIVITIES

WRISTBANDS FOR RIDES FOR JULY 20 & 21

Early Bird Special \$5 for Sat & Sun!
After 7/19 \$5 per day

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BOUNCY HOUSE & OBSTACLE COURSE**

COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS JULY 19, 20 & 21

Friday 19th	Saturday 20th
\$5/entry FIBER & FABRIC ARTS	RODEO Register w/ JD Ford
Register 4-H HORSE/LIVESTOCK SHOW	BACKYARD BAGS Free
w/ 4-H 4-H GYMKHANA	DOG AGILITY Free
\$60/team VOLLEYBALL TOURNEY	LOG SPLITTING Free

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4-H registration

Sunday 21st

Event	Cost
REDNECK RELAY	\$60/team
RANCH RODEO	Register w/ JD Ford
PICKLEBALL	\$30/team

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PRESENTED BY PARKS & RECREATION

GILPIN COUNTY FAIR SCHEDULE

FRIDAY JULY 19, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:00 A	PARADE	CC & BH
12:00 P	4-H OPEN HORSE SHOW	ARENA & BARN
3:00 P	4-H OPEN GYMKHANA	ARENA
3:00 P	4-H LIVESTOCK SHOW	BARN
5:00 P	3RD ANNUAL VBALL TOURNEY	ARENA
5:00 P	S'MORES	GRANDSTANDS

SATURDAY JULY 20, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:00 A	LOG SPLITTING TRIALS START	GRANDSTANDS
11:00 A	WESTERNAIRES INDIAN ITERP DANCE	ARENA
11:00 A	CURTIS BROTHERS BAND LIVE	BIG TOP
12:00 P	MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
12:30 P	4-H ARCHERY DEMONSTRATION	ARENA
1:00 P	MOUNTAIN WARRIORS	ARENA
1:00 P	DOG AGILITY	BARN
1:30 P	SHOCKWAVE TRICK RIDERS	ARENA
2:00 P	ROUGH STOCK RODEO & MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
3:30 P	DUSTIN DEVINE LIVE MUSIC	BIG TOP
4:00 P	LOG SPLITTING FINALS	GRANDSTANDS
4:30 P	4-H FASHION SHOW	BIG TOP
5:00 P	BACKYARD BAGS, MUSIC & DANCING	BIG TOP

SUNDAY JULY 21, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
8:00 A	COWBOY CHURCH	GRANDSTANDS
8:00 A	HCA PANCAKE BREAKFAST	BIG TOP
10:00 A	REDNECK RELAY	ARENA
10:30 A	PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT	COM. CENTER
10:30 A	DEREK HALL LIVE MUSIC	BIG TOP
11:00 A	DOG TALENT SHOW	BARN
12:45 P	RANGERETTES OF THE ROCKIES	ARENA
1:00 P	RANCH RODEO & MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
1:00 P	BIG TOP DANCING	BIG TOP

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