

Pikes Peak Courier

Lady Panthers
go 3-for-3 in last
trio of games



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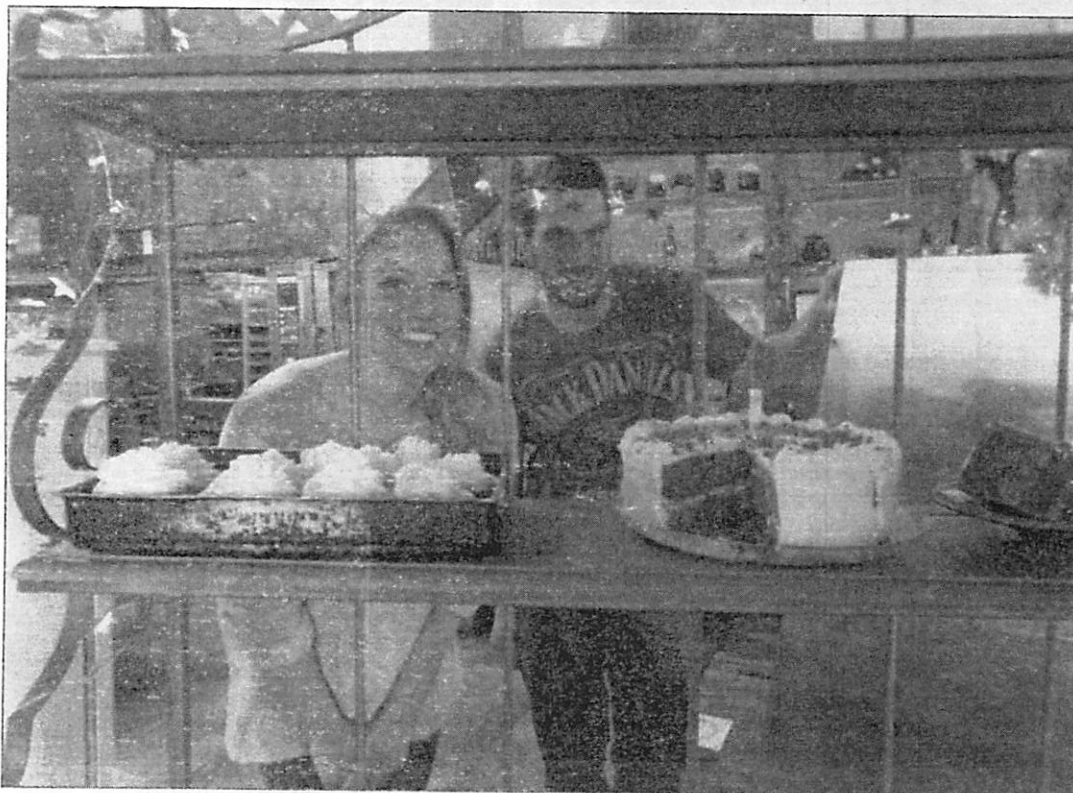
Ute Pass and Teller County, Colorado

BUSINESS BOOM IN FLORISSANT

New and old, local businesses doing quite well in western Teller community

Jocelyn Albrizzi and Ross Derby have jazzed up the culinary/brewery scene in Florissant with the Iron Tree restaurant.

Photo
by Pat
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True to the French meaning of its name — to flourish, flower or blossom — Florissant is more than a pass-through, no-stoplight place. It even looks to be on a commercial roar with an independent streak.

With a coffee shop/café and gourmet restaurant/brewery, there's something going on in the unincorporated slice of Teller County. There's even a brand new pharmacy — all within shouting distance of the four-way stop at U.S. 24 and Teller One.

And no place with any character would be without the old-fashioned saloon that's been there more-or-less forever — the Thunderbird Inn.

Along with the commercial jolt, history takes a peek

now and then, particularly at the Costello Street Coffee House. Built in 1885, the name pays tribute to James Costello, the founder of Florissant.

Opened 13 years ago by Dale and Peggy Thompson, the Costello was recently sold to Elliott and Vickie Robbins.

Like all coffee shops worldwide, the regulars keep the place humming. "We have two guys who come in every morning, drink their coffee," said Jill Rotondo, the manager.

"We have guys who talk politics on Saturdays and older people who come in — it's fun to talk to hear their stories."

Along with the caffeine buzz, some, not all, customers seem to get a touch of the

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RENEWING OUR RESOURCES

Woodland Park's DDA,