

CAÑON CITY DAILY RECORD

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Jeff Shane/Daily Record

Bealls Sales Associate Trish Smith, left, and Cortez Store Manager Jennifer Heath check out customers at the new store Thursday during its grand opening at the Creekside Shopping Center.

Bealls opens in Creekside Mall

Grand Welcoming

Residents line up to shop at new department store

By CHARLOTTE BURROUS
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Before the store even opened, many people waited in a line that stretched across the parking lot Thursday prior to the grand opening of Bealls in the Creekside Mall at 127 Justice Center Road.

Among those attending was

Bealls employee Amber Dooley, who stopped by on her day off from the store.

"I love it," she said. "I spent time working in here the last week and a half. I helped put all the stuff up and organizing everything. It's come a long way."

Similar to Kohl's, Bealls (pronounced Bells) offers name brand men, women and children's clothing, shoes and accessories, along with items for the home. The best

thing about the store, Dooley said, is the variety of merchandise available.

"Everything is name brand and (there are) a lot of new things we're all looking for without a 45 minute drive to find it," Dooley said.

When Patty Christiansen arrived, it was with the purpose of finding out what was available.

Please see **BEALLS**, on A7

Royal Gorge Tourism Expo

Worth Checking Out

Locals learn of the many attractions Fremont County has to offer

By CHARLOTTE BURROUS
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They can make any kind of coffee drink anybody wants.

That's what Sandy Atencio has been doing for more than a year with Jump Start Java.

"It's an espresso shop," she said.

Atencio offered samples of green tea and pumpkin spice espresso to those attending Thursday's Royal Gorge Tourism Expo in the Abbey gym.

"The pumpkin spice is one of my favorites," said Atencio, who opened the drive through in January 2012 and the downtown café in December the same year. "We've got espresso, decaf, real fruit smoothies (and other coffee based drinks)."

The focus of the expo was to educate local people of the many attractions Fremont County has to offer visitors. As a representative for the Cañon City Public Library, assistant librarian Kendra McFall talked about the services the library of-



Jeff Shane/Daily Record

Jump Start Java Owner Sandy Atencio, left, and employee Angela Near prepare samples for visitors Thursday during the Royal Gorge Tourism Expo at the Abbey Gymnasium.

fers to tourists. For instance, computers with Internet access are available along with wireless connection, free paperback

books and magazines, local newspapers and more.

"So many people stop by the library while on vacation,"

McFall said. "They need to check their bank account or e-mail or scan something." Those

Please see **EXPO**, on A7

Lincoln Park/
Cotter Community
Advisory Group

Updated plan for superfund mill site

Group meets to hear road map for clean-up process

By RACHEL ALEXANDER
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The Lincoln Park/Cotter Community Advisory Group on Thursday heard discussion about the current version the road map for the clean-up process at the site.

The road map integrates the paths of the various authorities that cover different parts of the site, said Jennifer Opila, radioactive materials unit leader with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The documents cover the requirements for 1988 Consent Decree/Remedial Action Plan (CD/RAP), Cotter's operating license and the Comprehensive Environment Response, Compensation and Liability Act

Please see **SUPERFUND**, on A8

Music & Blossom Festival

Police department plans to increase security at festival

By RACHEL ALEXANDER
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It's biggest event of the year and the start of the tourist season for Cañon City and the Royal Gorge Region.

But in light of recent events, some may be feeling nervous about coming out for the Blossom Festival this year.

"We have no reason to believe that the Blossom Festival is at risk," said interim Police Chief Paul Schultz. "We think it's prudent to be on the safe side."

The Cañon City Police De-

partment, with the assistance of other local law enforcement agencies, will have a higher than average level of security at this year's Blossom Festival than what was seen last year, Schultz said.

He said the department already planned to have the increased security because of the recent events in the region, such as the murder of Department of Correction Executive Director Tom Clements. Monday's bombing of the Boston Marathon confirmed the need for the efforts, he said.

CCPD will work closely

with the Fremont County Sheriff's Office, Florence Police Department and DOC officials to provide security for the event.

Patrons will see more uniformed officers than they have in the past, throughout the festival. There also will be many plainclothes officers circulating that people will not see.

While the department is on heightened alert and the officers have been participating in additional training for Blossom, Schultz emphasized there have been no threats made against the 75th annual festival.

Cluster Duck event has grown through the years

By CHARLOTTE BURROUS
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It's a day filled with music, games, crafts and more.

On May 4, the Cañon City Music and Blossom Festival will present its fourth annual Cluster Duck from 8 a.m. to midnight in Centennial Park.

"We're going to have crafters and a Kidz Zone," said Greg DiRito, of Cañon City Music and Blossom Festival Board. "The beer garden will open at noon. The Sons of Italy is going to help us out with that."

At 3 p.m., the music will begin with Donovan Lee, who began playing music when he was 12. When he turned 19, he left the music scene for awhile. Then when he turned 27, he joined the U.S. Marines, where he fell in love with music all over. Along the way, he formed his own band then began playing acoustically for many festivals around the country.

Following Lee's performance, D-Day Invasion will perform at 5 p.m. prior to the headliner band, Moses

Jones at 8 p.m.

During the day, Colorado State Patrol will present Alive at 25 demonstrations.

"We keep expanding the event," DiRito said. "We're going to have 20 to 30 crafters over there this year."

At the same time, a plethora of food will be available during the day, as well.

During the past several years, the event has grown from 500 people the first year to 1,500 last year. This year, the organizers expect between 1,500 and 2,000 people at the event.

