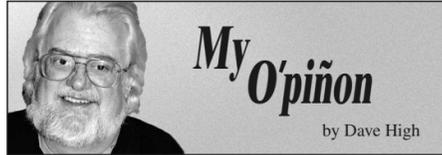


Just bring me a menu



My O'piñon
by Dave High

Not long ago I ventured into a fairly nice brewpub/restaurant up in Colorado Springs and, not having done this for a while, I was taken aback by the menus I was presented with.

I'm not referring to the number of options on a menu, but the number of menus put in front of me. I was inundated. There was the regular menu, the seasonal menu, the chef's recommendations menu, the specials menu, and the drink menu. Plus a dessert menu that came later.

I'm surprised the waiter didn't have a hernia just bringing them to the table. There was more reading material to go through than I had in my English Lit class in college. I spent more time reading than eating.

Americans are obsessed with having an excessive variety of choices. You can get confused in one of these brewpubs just by looking at the different kinds of beers they have on tap. All I really wanted was a high-end cheeseburger for say under \$10 to \$15, and a Coors.

After navigating through the menus I finally found what I was looking for and began to read about my selection. It was a complicated read, and it seemed as though the owner was charging \$1 for every unwieldy word no one outside of culinary school would understand.

It was written in what seemed like a foreign language with words

like: Free-range, truffles, fromage, foie gras (goose or duck liver - pronounced "fwah-grah") and Himalayan rock salt.

Restaurants can't just simply say "cheeseburger" with a short description of additions, like grilled onions, mushrooms and such. They have to get cute and overly descriptive.

So I decided to have a little fun. I decided to go along with them and use the menu's own language when placing my order. But if you do this you have to do it right: No fair reading directly from the menu. Instead you must memorize as best you can (and maybe adlib as needed) the words on the menu about the item you've chosen and then look the waiter square in the eye as you say:

"I'll have the succulent, fresh ground, Argentinean free-range government inspected all beef, twelve-ounce, charbroiled ground sirloin patty, served on your own award-winning, freshly baked and lightly toasted sesame seed bun, topped with a generous slice of gorgonzola cheese made from pure grade A premium milk.

"And to drink, please bring me a non-brew pub Coors in a finely crafted, cylindrical, frosted, drinking vessel of moderate capacity.

The meal was good, but the server was a little testy.

Maybe I went a truffle too "fwah-grah" (far)!

"Quotes"

Graduation ceremonies continue this week in our World. This week's quotes are on education.

"Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education: they grow there, firm as weeds among stones."
— Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
— Nelson Mandela

"Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation."
— Walter Cronkite

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."
— Robert Frost

"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think."
— Margaret Mead

"The mind once enlightened cannot again become dark."
— Thomas Paine, *A Letter Addressed to the Abbe Raynal on the Affairs of North America*

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."
— Aristotle

"The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts."
— C.S. Lewis

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."
— Plutarch

"[Kids] don't remember what you try to teach them. They remember what you are."
— Jim Henson, *It's Not Easy Being Green: And Other Things to Consider*

"Ignoring isn't the same as ignorance, you have to work at it."
— Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*

"A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special."
— Nelson Mandela

Area Weather Forecast

La Veta			
Date	High	Low	Prec.
5/19	63°	43°	60%
5/20	65°	43°	50%
5/21	73°	50°	20%
5/22	80°	52°	20%
5/23	79°	49°	0%
5/24	81°	51°	10%
5/25	85°	51°	10%
5/26	81°	52°	20%

Walsenburg			
Date	High	Low	Prec.
5/19	64°	44°	50%
5/20	69°	47°	30%
5/21	78°	52°	20%
5/22	84°	54°	20%
5/23	84°	53°	0%
5/24	84°	53°	0%
5/25	87°	54°	10%
5/26	85°	54°	20%

Weather Report

Cuchara			
Date	High	Low	Condition
5/9	74°	40°	Cloudy
5/10	82°	42°	Mostly sunny
5/11	75°	38°	Partly cloudy
5/12	77°	39°	Mostly sunny
5/13	76°	41°	Partly cloudy
5/14	75°	34°	Partly cloudy
5/15	68°	29°	Mostly cloudy

courtesy Aurelia Adams, Dakota Dukes

Cuchara Snow Report 2017-2018 Season 62" Snowfall

2016-2017 Season Total Snow 217"
2015-2016 Season Total Snow 212"
2014-2015 Season Total Snow 204"
2013-2014 Season Total Snow 162"
2012-2013 Season Total Snow 163"
2011-2012 Season Total Snow 291"
2010-2011 Season Total Snow 212"
2009-2010 Season Total Snow 315"
2008-2009 Season Total Snow 228"
2007-2008 Season Total Snow 296"
10 Year Avg. Annual Snowfall 230"

Commissioners honor Jameson and Chaparral for volunteer efforts

by Eric Mullens and HC Emergency Manager Larry Sanders
WALSENBURG

The Huerfano County Commissioners Tuesday morning honored Ron Jameson and his company, Chaparral Construction LLC for their volunteer firefighting efforts for the citizens of Huerfano County for a number of years.

The board of commissioners passed Resolution 18-44 unanimously proclaiming May 25, 2018 as Ron Jameson Day throughout Huerfano County.

The resolution reads: "Whereas, the Huerfano County Commissioners wish to recognize Ron Jameson and his company Chaparral Construction LLC for his dedicated volunteer fire-fighting activities on behalf of Huerfano County; and Whereas, Ron Jameson has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the residents of Huerfano County by ongoing volunteer fire-fighting efforts; and Whereas, Ron Jameson assisted Huerfano County and the La Veta Fire Protection District in fighting the Raspberry Fire in October of 2017; and Whereas, Ron Jameson assisted Huerfano County and the La Veta Fire Protection District in fighting the Oak Brush Fire in January of 2018; and Whereas, Ron Jameson, in the Western

Tradition, has raised his sons to have and to demonstrate the same dedication to voluntary service to their fellow citizens; and Whereas, Ron Jameson, and Chaparral Construction LLC have committed to assist Huerfano County, at no charge, with fire-fighting operations again in 2018."

As the framed resolution was presented to Jameson he remarked his first firefighting effort in Huerfano County dated back to 1977.

Huerfano County Emergency Manager Larry Sanders said in a May 15 press release, "The BOCC is recognizing Ron Jameson and his company Chaparral Construction LLC for his dedicated volunteer fire-fighting activities on behalf of Huerfano County. Ron Jameson has demonstrated this lifelong commitment to the residents of Huerfano County by ongoing volunteer fire-fighting efforts."

It's a family affair: Chaparral Construction LLC has been serving the Cuchara Valley in the excavation field for over 50 years. The family company was founded in 1963 by Dick Jameson. In 1978 Dick created Chaparral Construction as a partnership with his son, Ronald. Ronald took over the day to day operations of the business.

In 2006, Chaparral Construction became an LLC when Ronald's sons, Justin and Brian, became part owners.

Ron's sons have also become a big part of the family and company's volunteer efforts with local fire services.

As the business has grown, Chaparral Construction LLC has completed projects from southern Wyoming to northern New Mexico.

Fire fighting specialists and more:

Sander's press release on Tuesday spelled out additional facts and qualifications regarding Jameson, his family and the family business.

One of Chaparral Construction LLC's area of expertise is wildland fire. Ronald has been involved in structure and wildland fire since 1977. Since then Justin, Brian, and Haley Jameson have joined a department and are red card certified as well.

Chaparral is under contract in VIPR, which is a resource ordering tool for the US Forest Service. Items like heavy equipment, engines, etc. are ordered from this site. Chaparral uses dozers for building fire lines and excavators for the rehabilitation work after the fire is out.

Not just Huerfano County: Chaparral Con-



Joking that it 'was a long time coming', the Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners honored Ron Jameson and his family's company, Chaparral Construction LLC, for their decades of volunteer service to Huerfano County and its citizens through their effort in fighting wildland fires and providing much needed heavy equipment in those emergency situation. Pictured are (left-to-right) Commissioners Gerald Cisneros, Ray Garcia, Jameson, and Commissioner Max Vezzani. Photo by Eric Mullens

struction LLC helps Huerfano and Las Animas counties with wildland fire suppression by donating their equipment and manpower for the first operational period.

Expanded services: Finally, Chaparral Construction LLC has expanded their environmental services to include mechanical

mastication, ie., mulching the forest. Currently they are completing projects for the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Land Trust, BLM, and the National Wild Turkey Federa-

tion. Mechanical mastication is one of the tools utilized for fire mitigation, wildlife habitat improvements, and invasive species removal.

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