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## **High Altitude Happy Hour Slated for August 28 in Manitou Springs**

*Spectacular views and the finest hors d'oeuvres that Manitou has to offer are on the entertainment menu.*

The summer rains have left the mountains verdant, lush and inviting---a perfect setting for the upcoming High Altitude Happy Hour on Friday, August 28. A fundraiser for the Manitou Springs Economic Council, the event offers a combination of socializing, noshing and sightseeing, starting at the Cog Railway Depot and ending after a spectacular train ride to the summit of Pikes Peak.

"The event will begin with a reception hour at 4:15 in the Cog Railway Depot, and then will proceed to the train at 4:45," says Kitty Clemens, Director of the Economic Development Council. "For \$50 per person, guests will be treated to hors d'oeuvres and refreshments from the new Red Mountain Bar and Grill at the Cliff House, and wine tastings from D'Vine Wines of Manitou Springs." Guests will also receive a special behind the scenes presentation from Cog Railway general manager, Spencer Wren. The train will arrive back at the Depot at 7:50 p.m. Door prizes will also be given away throughout the train ride up Pikes Peak.

The *Colorado Springs Business Journal* has come on board as a sponsor of the event, and will offer a special subscription rate to attendees of 1 year for \$89. The offer includes a \$10 Starbucks gift card, the CSBJ special report, "New Marketing" (\$29.99 value), the *Book of Leads* and the CSBJ how-to-guides. The link to use to take advantage of the offer: <https://subscribe.csbj.com/index.cfm?PromoCodes=W9ZASB>.

After the Happy Hour, participants are encouraged to extend their stay in Manitou Springs by dining at the Red Mountain Bar and Grill at the historic Cliff House Hotel. This new addition to the Cliff House Hotel includes a fun new feature, the outdoor fire pit. A relaxed atmosphere and casual dining menu is offered. Reservations are not required.

Advanced reservations for the special Cog train ride are required (call 685-9741) and because this event is a fundraiser, all tickets purchased may be taken as a tax deduction. "Everyone has worked so hard to make Manitou Springs the jewel of Colorado that it is now," said Clemens. "It shows in our redevelopment accomplishments, diverse offering of retail stores and art galleries and the number of visitors to our town. Why not reward yourself with a relaxing evening of socializing and taking in the view from the Cog train?"

Created by the City of Manitou Springs and the Metropolitan Parking District, the Economic Development Council was formed to address all business-related issues. Based on the belief that successful economic development blends long-term initiatives and immediate actions, the EDC works to form partnerships that make both types of economic development come to fruition.

Manitou Springs has its roots as a health resort and an artists' colony and boasts a diverse population; support for the culinary, holistic, visual, literary and performing arts; and a colorful history. Manitou was recently lauded as one of the coolest small towns in the country by *Budget Travel* magazine.

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