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WORD document attached titled: PRAtlanticCityOpenHs7/28/08

Photo attached titled: Atlantic City.jpg

Note: Higher resolution image available upon request.

Photo Caption: See artist Bob Gutierrez and his painted teepee during the Atlantic City open house August 2, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Photo Credit: *Marjane Ambler*

More artists participating in Atlantic City, WY 140th Anniversary during the Open House August 2, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Atlantic City, WY –Take a step back in time when you enter the small community called Atlantic City. This authentic, historic town remains true to its origins when it was a gold mining camp during the turn of the century. Celebrate this unique town's history on Saturday, August 2, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a community-wide Open House and Artists' Walk. This year marks the 140th anniversary of the tiny town that was established in 1868 during a gold mining boom. In addition, the Atlantic City Mercantile, established in 1893, is celebrating its 115th anniversary this year.



A tiny community that boasts about 57 year-around residents on its entrance sign, Atlantic City was named by gold miners because of its location on the east side of the Continental Divide. It is located 30 miles southwest of Lander off Wyoming Highway 28, near where the Oregon Trail and the Mormon Trail crossed South Pass.

Artists will be featured at two locations including the Miner's Grubstake Cafe on Main Street and the Miner's Delight Inn Bed and Breakfast on the west end of town. The Artists' Walk on Main Street will be centered around a teepee painted by Atlantic City artist Bob Gutierrez. At 2 p.m., Philippina Halstead will demonstrate encaustic hot wax painting. The walk will include pottery, rock jewelry, quill and bead work, quilts, wood sculptures, paintings, pen and ink drawings, hand-knit and felted toys and purses, and books. Featured artists include Gutierrez, Tom Bishop, Halstead, Ed and Sue Thomas, Byron Seeley, Carolyn McIntyre, and Jim Phillips. This year's event will also feature a community-wide garage sale beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m.

At Miss Ellen's Gallery in the Miner's Delight Inn, Riverton Art Guild President Sali Allard will demonstrate her watercolor techniques. The gallery showcases five photographers including Sara Wiles, Scott Copeland, Mike McClure, Juan Laden, and Ken Kidder. Also featured in the gallery are photos by Juan Laden, chaps and saddle bags

by Scott Goetz, paintings by Wyoma Jungck and Billie Wright, and bronze sculptures by Jim Allard.

The Friends of the Red Desert and the Atlantic City Historical Society will also have booths this year. The historical society will provide free brochures for self-guided tours of the town. The annual meeting of the historical society will be the following week on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. Their meeting will feature a historic mine tour led by Steve Gyorvary.

Although most maps indicate that it is a ghost town, Atlantic City is experiencing a renaissance in its business district. The Atlantic City Shear Shack, a new beauty shop, will hold its grand opening during the Open House. Operated by Bev DeVries, the beauty shop is in the same building as the Grubstake Gift Shop, the gold mining town's assayer's cabin. Bill and Rayme Moore opened Wild Bill's Guns in fall 2007. They sell guns, handmade knives, hunting and fishing licenses, ATV permits, and gasoline. Moore also fixes tires.

During the past two years, the Trumbles opened the Miner's Grubstake Cafe, and the Townsends purchased the Miner's Delight Inn. This year, the Grubstake will sell hot dogs and hamburgers near the tepee outside of their cafe during the Artists' Walk. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, consecrated in 1913, will offer hot coffee, a place to enjoy fellowship, and an opportunity to learn about Atlantic City's ecumenical history.

The Open House is sponsored by the Atlantic City Historical Society, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Atlantic City Mercantile, The Atlantic City Shear Shack, Miner's Delight Inn Bed & Breakfast, Miner's Grubstake, Serenity Within Holistic Center, and Wild Bill's Guns.

For a complete list of events in Wyoming's Wind River Country, go to <http://www.wind-river.org> or call 800-645-6233 for a free vacation packet.

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