

MOUNTAIN

Guide

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SALIDA, COLORADO — WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022 • VOLUME 40, NUMBER 32

Celebrating a centennial

Betty Gwynn of Buena Vista celebrated her 100th birthday Dec. 26

by **Suzy Kelly**
Times correspondent

Betty Gwynn celebrated her 100th birthday on Dec. 26 with her family.

She was born in Fremont, Nebraska, and her parents moved the family to Wyoming when she was 4 years old.

Upon graduating from high school in Thermopolis, Wyoming, she attended Beth-El Nursing College in Colorado Springs from 1940-1943. She joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in 1943.

In April 1944, she was stationed in England at a field hospital established to treat the casualties from D-Day.

Betty remembers sitting on the steps of Hut No. 124 where they lived and watching the airplanes, each one pulling a glider, go over at treetop level on D-Day. The nurses did not know what was happening except for short news releases posted on their bulletin board.

After VE Day, Betty was sent to Paris to give vaccines to troops being sent to the war in the Pacific. While there, she had the opportunity to tour France, and highlights for her included seeing the Folies Bergère, the French Riviera and Notre Dame.

Betty achieved the rank of first lieutenant and out-

ranked her husband, Norton, who stood at attention and saluted her every morning.

Nort and Betty, high school sweethearts, were married on May 6, 1946. They were married 71 years.

Norton was going to make a career out of the Navy until he contracted tuberculosis. After his discharge, he attended pharmacy school at CU. Betty took care of their children and worked as a nurse at hospitals in Denver and Boulder.

After he graduated in 1954, Norton, Betty and their children moved to Salida, where he worked for Salida Drug and Betty worked at the hospital.

Nort was recruited by the editor of the BV paper to take over the drugstore in Buena Vista. In 1958, Betty and Nort moved their family to Buena Vista and established Gwynn's Pharmacy on Main Street. Betty kept the books and helped Norton in the store.

They've lived in Buena Vista ever since.

Betty continued her career as a nurse working for Columbine Nursing Home and the hospital in Leadville. She also worked in the library at BV High School and one year drove a school bus.

Betty belongs to Eastern Star, the Gas Creek Home



Courtesy photo

Buena Vistan Betty Gwynn celebrated her 100th birthday on Dec. 26. She has four children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Demonstration Club and the Monarch Quilt Club. She has been a member of Congregational United Church of Christ since her move to Buena Vista.

She remembers that the church was in the little brick building behind Bev's Stitchery at that time.

She has four children, Steve, Nancy, Ken and

David, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Betty still lives in her home in Buena Vista with her son Ken and Judy, his wife.

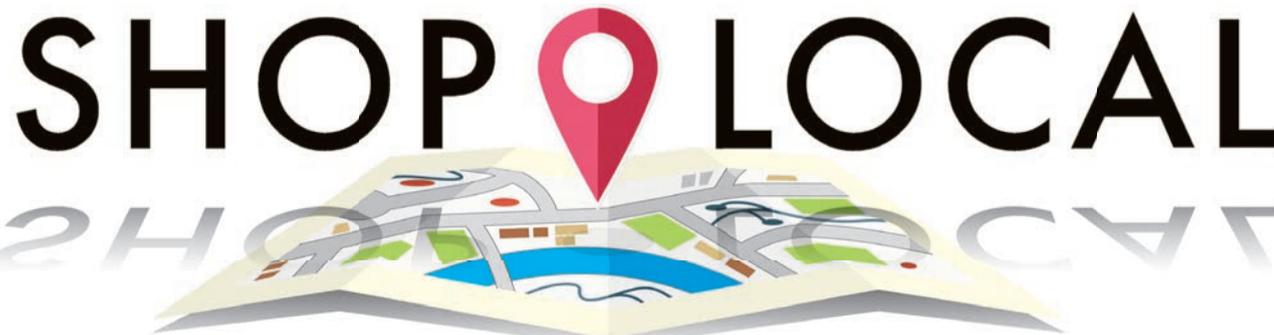
The Ripple Effect

3 ways supporting local businesses returns money to our community:

DIRECT: Local businesses pay into the local economy through inventory, utilities, equipment and employee wages.

INDIRECT: These dollars spent by local businesses at local businesses continue to recirculate in the community.

INDUCED: More consumer spending occurs as employees, business owners and others spend resulting income locally.



Support the local businesses that bring choice, diversity, jobs, economic value and character to our community.

48%

of each purchase at local independent businesses is recirculated locally

<14%

of each purchase at chain stores is recirculated locally

0%

of each purchase from an online retailer is recirculated locally