



VAIL VALLEY, Colorado  
August 9, 2009

The latest Vail Symposium Active Minds event at the Golden Eagle Senior Center in Eagle tonight could be considered a Colorado 101+ class according to John Henderson, co-founder of Active Minds in Denver.

The History of Colorado is an excellent educational tool for those who were born here and those who chose to move here from somewhere else - which Henderson said has been most people who have attended the class before.

The purpose of the curriculum is to provide an overview of the history of the state, Henderson said. One of the recurring themes we focus on in this group is the resiliency of Colorado since it became a state in the union going through booms and busts whether it's the early history of gold mining and later silver mining - just ways in which the state and citizens of the state have gone through that cycle of boom and bust over and over again.

The current economic downturn has been experienced before here, Henderson said, and that somehow the people of Colorado always find a way to overcome these bad times.

The History of Colorado class is a continuation of the Vail Symposium's celebration of Colorado during the month of August.

The story of Colorado is rich and complex, rife with land struggles, mining rushes and industrial development ever since and even before it became a state in 1876. Henderson said that event speaker Kim Sheffield will also bring Eagle County specifically into the discussion focusing on the role that it has played in the history of the state.

So many people who live in this state have come from some other place, Henderson said. It's a chance for perhaps native Coloradans to hear a story or two that they haven't heard before - or folks who've come from other places to learn a little bit more about the place they've chosen to live.