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Fun Facts About the Highland Haven

- *Turn-of-century entertainment:* In the early 1900s, Juanita Dailey, granddaughter of John Dailey, who in 1963 built the Highland Haven's main building, the Dailey Cabin, would sit on the porch and wait for a head-on collision at the blind curve in the road that runs in front of the inn.
- *That was then:* In 1979, the Evergreen Suite, one of the inn's most premium accommodations, was called Number 11, cost \$75 per night, and could sleep six people. Today, it runs \$330, sleeps four, and is considerably more luxurious.
- *Permanent tenants:* The Highland Haven's own chickens produced eggs for breakfast up until the summer of 2008, when the aging chickens began to produce smaller and smaller eggs. It was a thrill for owner Gail Riley to take little ones out to the chicken coop to collect just-laid, warm turquoise eggs.
- *Speaking of eggs:* The Highland Haven cracks and cooks about 5,200 eggs a year for its daily, homemade breakfasts.
- *Groceries galore:* Gail Riley estimates that she has made nearly 6,000 trips to the local Safeway for groceries over the years.
- *Low tech:* The Highland Haven used large pieces of gridded poster board to keep track of reservations until 1995, when they purchased their first computer. In 2007, lightning struck the computer system, causing almost all of the inn's data to be lost and the staff to miss that old poster board!
- *That's entertainment:* Riley and her husband, Tom Statzell, raised their children, Roxy and Jaxon, at the inn. The kids used to inner tube down Bear Creek from the inn to the little town of Kittredge, more than two miles away.
- *Real romance:* Howard and Molly, aged 94 and 88 and married 65 years, were the oldest living and repeat guests at the Highland Haven. They stayed in Creekside Two every summer and their names are carved into the inn's "Sweetheart Tree" on the front lawn.
- *Is that in my job description?* The same black bear raids the Highland Haven's dumpster every summer, going so far as to rip the door off the "protective" shed housing the dumpster. Tom Statzell is resigned to replacing it every year. In the summer of 2008, a black bear cub strolled into the Dailey Cabin, consuming only the honey kept near the teapot and placing his sticky paws all over the counters and windows. Staffer Kelly hid outside until the bear left, then had to clean up his mess!
- *Secret ingredient:* The inn's famous coffee, which they ship to past guests from California to Pennsylvania, is a special blend made in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Guests swear it has everything from a hint of coconut to chocolate to cinnamon. The truth? A pinch of toasted almond.
- *A rose by any other name:* The Highland Haven has been inadvertently referred to as the Highland Heaven, Heavenly Haven and Heavenly Highland countless times. The owners don't mind much. After all, they strive to create a heavenly experience.

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