



Trailblazer Event



**Learn.
Explore.
Discover.**

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**MORE TRAILBLAZER
EVENTS held at Jazz@Jacks
at the Denver Pavilions:**

**Thursday, June 24
Bryon Shipley**

**“Creepy Crawlies and Prairie
Dog Colonies: Evolution of
Research and Understanding
at the Plains Conversation
Center”**

**Thursday, October 28
Dr. Karen Weber
Halloween Spiders and Spider
Research at West Bijou**

Recent discoveries concerning the K-T Boundary, one particularly harsh day in Earth History

The grassy slopes of the west Bijou Creek valley south of Strasburg, Colorado, contain the large parcel of land protected by the Plains Conservation Center. These slopes also expose sedimentary rocks that were deposited in lakes and rivers around 66 million years ago when Colorado was covered by subtropical forest and trampled by *Triceratops* and other dinosaurs. Since 1999, Kirk Johnson has been visiting the West Bijou site to study the events that transpired on one day, 66.07 million years ago, when a Denver-sized asteroid struck Mexico, setting off a chain of events that caused global extinctions. Kirk will explain how you can look at a mild-mannered grassy hill and begin to understand a deep time catastrophe.

Paleontologist Kirk Johnson is vice president and chief curator of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. His research focuses on fossil plants, ancient climates, geologic time, and the K-T boundary event. He regularly works with artists to make his science accessible. He is the author of lots of scientific articles and four popular books including the 2007 Colorado Humanities nonfiction book of the year: *Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway*.

**Thursday, March 25
6:00-7:30 pm
Jazz @ Jacks
(Denver Pavilions)**



