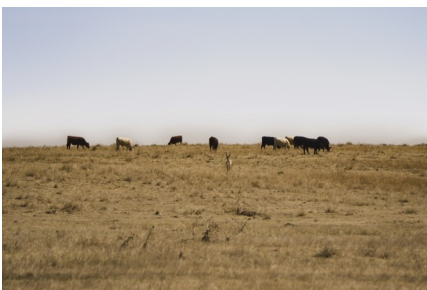


A Morgan County Puzzle

By Kay Pribble



I was on the hunt for a trail that I could take my little ones on for a walk. We always seem to find things like peace, fun, excitement, and wonder when we find a good walking trail. I searched hiking trails of Morgan County and next to nothing came up. I found that odd coming from the western slope where there is an abundance of trails and state land available. So I dug a little deeper and found a trail guide claiming there was 2.8 mile hike just 8 miles North of Jackson Lake State Park called Judson Hills. It claimed it was an easy trail with an elevation of 4,928 ft and therefore it is the highest point in Morgan County. However, I was beginning to think I would never find it! I couldn't find any information on it other than the online trail guide and the address google maps gave me. So I went on an adventure to find it with my little ones and a picnic. We found the "location" according to google maps but could not find the place it claims you turn into for parking. It seemed as though Judson Hills had been taken over by farm land and cattle, so we settled for a back porch picnic and I kept looking for additional information on Judson Hills. The city of Fort Morgan, Morgan County, Colorado Historical Society and the State Park didn't have any information on this land and none of them managed it, so where did it go? With help from Bob at the County Assessor's office I was able to find out it is still there, however it is not accessible to the public. The highest point in Morgan county is now on privately owned property and is being enjoyed by the cattle.



You can see the hills from the road and it appears as if the marker is still on the summit. Even though there is no access to the "trail" or the summit, the land and views from the road are beautiful. It is a perfect place for a drive on a dirt road!

Hey there! I am Kayla, a portrait photographer here in Fort Morgan, CO. I am a momma to two young and busy boys who love to get out and explore. I married my high school sweetheart in 2008 and we have made our journey from the southwest corner of beautiful Colorado all the way here at the end of 2016. Along the way we have lived in some beautiful and amazing places and have made life long friends. I have a passion for all things creative and I am usually deep in thought about my next project! I love to sew, scrapbook, and knit, but you wont find me refinishing furniture anytime soon because I have found that is not the craft for me! If you see me on the street say "hey!" because I love a good conversation!