

THE MOUNTAIN EAR

Locally owned and operated since 1977

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Nederland, Colorado

ALLENSPARK | BLACK HAWK | CENTRAL CITY | COAL CREEK CANYON | FERNCLIFF | GOLD HILL | JAMESTOWN | NEDERLAND | PINECLIFFE | ROLLINSVILLE | WARD

Gilpin seniors celebrate success with pride



PHOTO BY OMAIRA ACEVEDO

Brothers and friends

Dusty LeBeau requested that his brothers, the classmates and friends closest to him, cap him during the Gilpin School Senior Banquet. See story page 22.



Mayor Fey

Mayor Fey addresses adult entertainment in Central City

MINDY LEARY
CENTRAL CITY

Mayor Jeremy Fey sat down for an interview on May 27, 2024, to address the contentious issue of sexually-oriented businesses (SOBs) potentially operating in Central City. This topic emerged on the agenda at the last Central City Council meeting on May 21, but was postponed pending further legal advice.

Residents have expressed concerns that such businesses could hinder future development, increase crime rates, damage Central City's reputation, reduce property values, and strain law enforcement resources. Fey has been engaging with community members and discussed the matter with *The Mountain-Ear*.

The Mayor explained that the current zoning regulations, which prohibit SOBs within 500 feet of gathering places, churches, or residences, were created in anticipation of gaming in the early 90s.

However, these regulations are not compliant with Supreme Court First Amendment rulings, which state that such businesses cannot be outright banned or regulated in a manner that effectively prevents their operation.

According to Fey, while SOBs are theoretically allowed in the Historic Gaming District,

Continued on page 42

Chinook's 2024 graduates celebrate

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Chinook West High School Class of 2024 – Ava Bruno, Ehren Busby, and Wylde Monroe-Kelly – sat on a large couch in the middle of TEENS, Inc. center's main room on the morning of Thursday, May 23. Past alumni and future graduates took their seats alongside teary-eyed teachers and parents beaming with emotion and anticipation, as the crowd gathered around to celebrate the three students' graduation.

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PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Chinook West graduates celebrate

Wylde Monroe-Kelly speaks to the crowd about how TEENS, Inc. renewed his interest in education.

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“QUOTE OF THE WEEK”

“Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.”

– Oscar Wilde

THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

98 W 1st Street
Nederland, CO 80466
430 Lawrence Street, Unit C
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Letters may be edited for length (less than
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address, to be considered for publication in
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The Mountain-Ear is the ONLY Independently
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Boulder County and all of Gilpin County. We
also cover western Jefferson County and
north Clear Creek County.

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Staff

The Mountain-Ear is made up of 50 contribu-
tors per month. Each staff member is one
spoke in a very large wheel. Without one
spoke, the wheel does not turn effectively.
We welcome community journalists and
personify homegrown journalism.



Thursday, May 30

Fly Fishing Film Tour 2024: Join us for a special showing of the Fly Fishing Film Tour beginning at 7 p.m. at The Backdoor Theatre, 750 Highway 72, Nederland. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$20 children under 12 and adults over 60. All ticket purchases going into a drawing for the grand prize, a half-day guided tour for two on private waters at Arapahoe Ranch! For more information visit www.flyfilmtour.com.

Friday, May 31

Mountain Forum for Peace Annual Yard Sale: Come on out to the Mountain Forum for Peace Annual Yard Sale at the Nederland Community Center, 750 Highway 72 North, Nederland on Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1 from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. All items are half off beginning Sunday, June 2 from 9 to 11:30 a.m., and free from 12 until 1 p.m. For more information, visit us online at <https://www.mountainforumforpeace.com>.

Friday Storytime: Read books, sing songs, learn some ASL, and get the wiggles out in the first half hour, followed by free play. The Nederland Community Library, 200 Highway 72 in Nederland, hosts story time every Friday morning from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. for ages 0 - 4 years. Visit <https://nederland.libcal.com> for more information.

Saturday, June 1

Coal Creek Canyon Cleanup: Meet at the CCCIA Hall, 31528 Highway 72, Coal Creek Canyon for bags at 8 a.m. Pick your favorite area and help beautify the canyon. Due to insurance, no one under 16 is allowed to participate in canyon cleanup. For more information please email Tom Mulvany at tmulvany@live.com.

Nederland Town Clean Up Day: This is a town-driven event where residents from the Nederland area will be able to recycle items for free. Trash dumpsters are provided to help residents clean up their properties on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Town has partnered with a number of local organizations in order to make recycling easier, and push towards our zero waste goals. The event will take place on the first Saturday of June from 8 a.m. until noon at the Nederland Transfer Station, 286 Ridge Road, Nederland. Learn more at <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/town-clean-up-day>.

Spring Cleanup at the Gilpin County Community Center: We're looking for volunteers to join Axe & Snax to help tidy up the ball fields and the great trail that surrounds the Center. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. We'll meet at the Barn lobby, 250 Norton Drive, Black Hawk, for instructions, coffee, and snacks. If you can help out, please fill out an electronic signup at: tinyurl.com/FGC3VolunteerCleanup.

Allenspark Fire Protection District Open House: The Allenspark Fire Protection District will be holding an Open House on Saturday, June 1, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Osmun Station (Station One) 14861 Highway 7, Allenspark. Hotdogs, hamburgers and vegetable burgers, chips, and drinks will be served.

Join the Coal Creek Canyon Skywatchers on Saturday, June 1, from 7 until 9 p.m. All are welcome to this Skywatchers, astronomy and telescope group event. For more information, please contact Barbara and Leonard David at 303-494-7677.

Cracker BARREL

Get involved in your community

Monday, June 3

Nederland Writers: Bring something you are working on to share and get feedback or join the group to listen in and hone your skills. Area writers gather at Nederland Community Library every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. For details visit <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

The Mountain Meditation Circle is a free and open group that has been meeting every Monday evening at 6 p.m. for the last four years at the Gilpin County Public Library. New participants are always welcome. New members will need to provide their contact information prior to attending their first meeting. Please email Alisa Witt at wittalisa@gmail.com or 847-890-5262 to provide your contact information.

Meditation and Mindfulness: Practice meditation, explore readings, and join discussions in this free program at the Nederland Community Library, every Monday at 5:30 p.m. No meditation experience necessary! Please email Eric at davis.eric.alan@gmail.com with any questions.

Wednesday, June 5

Preschool Storytime: The Gilpin County Public Library hosts story time every Wednesday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. for ages 0 - 5 years. Join Children's Librarian Deb Benitez for stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and more. A themed craft will follow every story. Previous week's crafts are available until supplies run out, www.gilpinlibrary.org.

Thursday, June 6

Group Session on Parenting Teens: Get support with Kimberly Bryant MA, LPC, on the first Thursday of each month. This parenting group meets monthly on the first Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Teen Center, 51 East Street, Nederland. RSVP to info@teensinc.org.

Wine Tasting: Come on up to The Old Gallery, 14863 Highway 7 in Allenspark for a wine tasting. Bring a bottle of wine in a brown paper bag so everyone can sample. A light cheese appetizer will be provided. Questions? Call 303-747-2906 or email info@theoldgallery.org.

Saturday, June 8

77th Annual Juried Art Show: Join us for the longest running juried show this side of the Mississippi, brought to you by Gilpin County Arts Association. The opening reception and awards will be held from 5 until 8 p.m. \$3,500 in cash prizes! We are celebrating with a potluck-style dinner, feel free to bring a dish/drink. Free and open to the public (no ticket required). The show runs through Friday, August 9. Find more information online at <https://www.facebook.com/GilpinCountyArtsAssociation>.

Did we miss you? Would you like your event listed in the Cracker Barrel? Please submit your event online at <https://www.themtnear.com/events-submission/> to be included in the next edition. Check us out online at www.themtnear.com/events for more upcoming events.

Self Help Meetings

Tuesday Night Nederland Cross Talk Meeting A Big Book meeting at 7 p.m. online via Zoom. For more information visit <https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/tuesday-night-nederland-cross-talk-meeting>.

The Morning Group Group meeting every Thursday morning at 8 a.m. online via Zoom. For more information visit <https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/the-morning-group>.

Nederland Group A hybrid meeting every Friday night at 7 p.m. at St. Rita's Catholic Church at 326 Highway 119, Nederland, and online via Zoom. For more information visit <https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/nederland-group>.

Coal Creek Canyon A meeting held every Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 p.m. Sponsored by Ed at 303-589-5056. For more information please visit <https://www.coalcreekcanyon.org/calendar>.

Gilpin County H.A.L.T. An in-person meeting every Sunday at 6 p.m. held at 226 E. First High Street, Central City.

https://findrecovery.com/aa_meeting/gilpin-county-h.a.l.t.-central-city/.

Gilpin County H.A.L.T. A Big Book meeting every Wednesday at 7 p.m. held at 226 E. First High Street, Central City. https://findrecovery.com/aa_meeting/gilpin-county-h.a.l.t.-central-city/.

Narcotics Anonymous 12 Step Meeting This is an open hybrid meeting - anyone can attend - on Sundays from 6 to 7 p.m. at Nederland Presbyterian Community Church, 210 North Jefferson Street, Nederland, or online via Zoom (Meeting ID# 893 7194 1883). We hope to see you there sometime.

For additional meetings in Boulder County visit <https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/> and for meetings in Gilpin, Black Hawk, Central City, and nearby areas visit https://findrecovery.com/aa_meetings/co/black-hawk/. For help finding meetings or recovery support for you or a loved one please call: 866-641-9190.

PEAK PERSPECTIVES: LOCAL MUSIC

nederland SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

SAT JUNE 1	ROLLING HARVEST & BONNIE AND TAYLOR SIMS BAND
SAT JUNE 15	WIREWOOD STATION W/ BEAR HAT
SAT JULY 6	BANSHEE TREE W/ BEN SPROUL
SAT AUG 3	DIGGIN' DIRT W/ THE GUERRILLA FANFARE BRASS BAND
SAT AUG 17	ATOMGA W/ SELASSEE & Fafa Family
SAT AUG 31	THE RIVER ARKANSAS & SILAS HERMAN AND JACK CLOONAN

Sponsored by: More information

BARBARA HARDT NEDERLAND

Normally I try to tackle something that is weighing on my mind, or needs attention in our greater community. This week, I'm gonna change it up and share something I am very passionate about - local music.

Most of you know that my husband and I own Brightwood Music in Nederland. Music is around us, all the time (thankfully). And if you follow any of my social media, you may see random pop up videos of live or recorded music. But I feel like I always post these things in the moment and I, personally, don't share enough about what I am up to ahead of time. How can you plan if

you don't read the paper and find out where to be and what to see?

This weekend, I am super excited to see music in the first of a series of concerts in Nederland. Not to mention a whole lot of other music in the Peak to Peak region. If you are a music lover, make sure to check out the weekly Music of the Mountains page every week, featuring upcoming events.

On Saturday, June 1, 2024, Time Served Productions will present their first concert series of the summer. The concert runs from 4 to 7 p.m. at Chipeta Park. The series is sponsored by the Nederland Downtown Development Authority.

Saturday will feature Rolling Harvest & Bonnie and Taylor Sims Band. From the Concert Series

website, here is information about the artists.

Rolling Harvest

Honoring the legendary songs of Bob Dylan and Neil Young, veterans of Colorado bands such as Gasoline Lollipops, the Velvetears, the Yawpers, Banshee Tree and more have come together like a Rolling Harvest.

Bonnie & Taylor Sims Band

RIAA Certified Gold recording artists Bonnie & Taylor Sims are one of Colorado's most powerful and dynamic musical duos. From the soul shaking harmonies and masterful songwriting to the endearing onstage moments, Bonnie & Taylor have captivated audiences all across the world. With their most recent global success "I See Red" tallying over 300 million streams and a deal with Columbia Records to playing countless live shows and festivals around Colorado and the Western US; tours to Germany, Canada and Sweden; multiple studio albums; exciting collaborations with other area musicians and full-time touring schedules with Big Richard and Madeline Hawthorne Band respectively, Bonnie & Taylor have established themselves as a potent creative force of the vibrant Colorado music scene.

Wherever you go this weekend, sit down, relax, enjoy some live music, take a deep breath. Take another. One more. Enjoy.

The Mountain-Ear is *YOUR* community source for news, covering everything you need to know in the Peak to Peak region. Contact us by email at info@themountaineer.com or phone at 303-810-5409.

Meet our team!

Publisher
Mountain Vale Media, llc

Managing Editor
Barbara Hardt
info@themountaineer.com

Editors
Sara Sandstrom
editor@themountaineer.com
Lynn Hirshman
copy@themountaineer.com

Senior Journalists
Christopher Kelley
CKelley@themountaineer.com
Mindy Leary
MLEary@themountaineer.com
Omayra Acevedo
OAcevedo@themountaineer.com

Graphic Design
Joyce Robinson
JRobinson@themountaineer.com

Podcast Production & Creative Design
Cynthia Davis
design@themountaineer.com

Marketing & Advertising
Bethany Haas
marketing@themountaineer.com

Web Development & Archivist
Tanya Unger
website@themountaineer.com

Front Desk
Brittney Wagner
frontdesk@themountaineer.com

Accounting
Terri Vernon
accounting@themountaineer.com

Circulation
Tim Dillon

Journalists
Brian Alers
James DeWalt
Dave Gibson
Curt Halsted
Wes Isenhardt
Alexander Joseph
Jamie Lammers
Patrice LeBlanc
John MacKay
Emma Quarterman
Anne Scarffe
John Scarffe

Interns
Eli Crawford
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Volunteers
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Richard Brandon
Mark Cohen
Lorena DeSanta
Rick Rudstrom
Amy Skinner
Frank Sanders

THE BACKDOOR THEATRE

IF

May 31 and June 1
Friday and Saturday
Evenings at 7 p.m.
Saturday Matinee at 2 p.m.

A young girl who goes through a difficult experience begins to see everyone's imaginary friends who have been left behind as their real-life friends have grown up.
Director: John Krasinski. Writer: John Krasinski. Stars: Cailey Fleming, Ryan Reynolds, John Krasinski. Rated: PG. Time: 1 hour and 44 minutes. Genre: Animation, Comedy, Drama.

POLICY REMINDERS: Seating is limited to first come first serve. All children under the age of 12 MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult for the duration of the movie.

750 Highway 72 North,
Nederland Community Center



Nederland Area Seniors

- June 3** - Chair Massage with Bonnie 9 - 11 a.m.
 - June 5** - Hamburger with fixings, Italian pasta salad, baked beans, fresh strawberries
 - June 12** - Cheese enchiladas, Mexican rice, black bean relish, sour cream, Mexican chopped salad, fresh plums
 - June 19** - Green chili chicken breast, Spanish rice, tossed salad with ranch, pears
 - June 19** - Purple Art event - Art class for seniors! Suggested donation is \$5.
 - June 26** - Pork carnitas on flatbread, pinto beans, pico de gallo, tossed salad with ranch, oranges
- Lunch is served at noon. (yoga 11 to 11:30 a.m.) Suggested donation for senior lunch is \$5. RSVP at 303-258-0799. Our Senior Lounge is open! Please, check our website calendar for the latest updates www.mountainpeaklife.org.

Gilpin County Seniors

- May 30** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park King Soopers
 - May 31** - Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Social time
- Please RSVP for lunch at least two business days ahead. We ask for a \$2.50 donation for lunch. All transportation is \$2.50 each one-way trip. We are doing door-to-door medical transportation at this time. Please call for details, 303-515-4292. We accept donations for the Senior Fit exercise classes.

Music of the Mountains

Where to be and what to see

JAMIE LAMMERS
IDAHO SPRINGS

Over 20 years ago, Dustin Arbuckle and Tom Page met through mutual friends in the Kansas music scene. Around 2005, they started performing bluegrass music as a duo. Page was well-versed in that music, but Arbuckle had grown up in a blues-oriented environment, so the bluegrass style was new to him. The two played together on and off for several years, primarily in Kansas, but around 2012, they wanted to take their musical style further.

They called Dr. Mark Foley to play upright bass and Ted Farha to play mandolin, with Page bringing his guitar and Arbuckle his harmonica to the table. Thus, the original lineup of Haymakers was cemented. Multi-instrumentalist Dennis Hardin joined in 2016, but he, Foley, and Farha have since left the group. The group now consists of Arbuckle, Page, upright bassist Caleb Drummond (who initially played when Foley had prior commitments), and mandolin player Anthony Trupia. All members provide vocals, with Arbuckle providing lead vocals.

Arbuckle's father was a musician in his younger years but stopped playing in his adulthood. As a kid, Arbuckle was always drawn to music, and in his mid-teens, he became interested in traditional blues music, which inspired him to play. He joined bands and learned the harmonica around that time, and throughout his career, he's been inspired by blues to delve into country, folk, and bluegrass.

Meanwhile, Page grew up in an artsy family, and music was always played around his house when he was a kid. When he was only two, his parents became involved in a local Kansas non-profit organization. Throughout his childhood into his teen years, he was exposed to various forms of acoustic music, inspiring him to pursue music as a livelihood.

Page also serves as the group's primary songwriter, though Arbuckle has also been a co-writer occasionally. The group performs originals as well as covers, both well-known and obscure. They love exploring music in periods before



Haymakers

recorded music became standard, particularly from the Civil War to World War II, and they love learning where certain songs originated, whether they're standards or not. Page has recently loved exploring writing songs in other characters' voices, but has always loved the process of songwriting.

All of the group's current and past members either have played or currently play in other groups (Arbuckle in Moreland and Arbuckle, Page in Grandpa's .38, Foley in the Wichita Symphony, Farha in the Riverside Mandolin Quartet, Hardin in Stringhounds, Drummond in Spirit of the Stairs, and Trupia in Cow Skin Creek, just to name only a few). Both Arbuckle and Page say they love the experience of being able to

play with others and connect with everyone. Ultimately, the group hopes that the audience will be able to sense the sincerity behind their performances and that they will end up having a good time.

You can see Haymakers performing live at the United Center, 1440 Colorado Boulevard in Idaho Springs, on Saturday, June 8, 2024, starting at 6 p.m.

*You can also visit their website at haymakersstringband.com to learn more about the group and purchase merchandise like clothing and their albums – 2017's *Haymakers*, 2021's *Live at Art Church*, and 2023's *Waconda Flyer and 100 Years of Hank*. You can also stream their music anywhere.*

Music Events

Busey Brews

Sunday, June 2 at 2 p.m. - Elzeard Stallings (Zea)

Friday, June 7 at 4 p.m. - New Family Dog

Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m. - Joshua James Johnson

Sunday, June 16 at 2 p.m. - Intergalactic Peace Jelly Duo

Sunday, June 23 at 2 p.m. - Tip of the Spear

Sunday, June 30 at 2 p.m. - Troy Yanel

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BuseyBrews/>
Website: <https://buseybrews.com/>
Location: 70 E. 1st Street, Nederland.
Phone: 1-855-633-2739

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Find us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/BrightwoodMusic/>

Music Events

Continued from page 4

Canyon Tavern

Saturday, June 1 at 6 p.m. - Adrian Pountey
 Saturday, June 15 at 6 p.m. - Will Whalen
 Saturday, June 22 at 6 p.m. - Robert Brannick
 Saturday, June 29 at 5 p.m. - Scrapyard Izzy

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Coalcreekcanyontavern>
 Website: <https://canyontavern.com/>
 Location: 32138 Highway 72, Coal Creek Canyon.
 Phone: 303-642-3180

Casa Colorado

Thursday, June 20 at 6 p.m. - Sarah Banker Band/Sage and Aera

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Casa.Colorado.BandB/>
 Location: 196 Bear Crossing Road, Black Hawk.
 Phone: 303-642-1983

Diner Bar Ned

Wednesdays at 8 p.m. - Karaoke
 Sundays at 6 p.m. - Open Mic

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dinerbarned/>
 Location: 121 N. Jefferson Street, Nederland.

Gold Hill Inn

Friday, May 31 at 8 p.m. - High Lonesome
 Saturday, June 1 at 6 p.m. - Strangebyrds
 Sunday, June 2 at 5:30 p.m. - Martin Gilmore Duo
 Wednesday, June 5 at 5:30 p.m. - Brothers and the Hayes
 Friday, June 7 at 8 p.m. - David Lawrence and the Spoonful
 Sunday, June 9 at 5:30 p.m. - Foggy Memory Boys
 Thursday, June 13 at 6 p.m. - Andy Thorn and Friends
 Friday, June 14 at 8 p.m. - Hundred Pound Housecat
 Saturday, June 15 at 6 p.m. - Rebecca Frazier Band
 Sunday, June 16 at 5:30 p.m. - Foggy Mountain Spaceship
 Wednesday, June 19 at 5:30 p.m. - Wanderin' Pine
 Friday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. - Sturtz
 Sunday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m. - Derek Dames Ohl
 Wednesday, June 26 at 5:30 p.m. - Anya Hinkle feat. Billy Cardine
 Friday, June 28 at 8 p.m. - Botterocket Hurricane
 Sunday, June 30 at 6 p.m. - Daniel Rodriguez and His Band

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GoldHillInn/>
 Website: goldhillinn.com
 Location: 401 Main Street, Gold Hill.
 Phone: 303-443-6461

Gold Hill Store

Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m. - Jason Walsmith
 Saturday, June 8 at noon - Bobcat One-Man Band
 Saturday, June 8 at 3 p.m. - Taylor Minto Sparks
 Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. - Abby Brown
 Saturday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. - skiv
 Saturday, June 22 at 7 p.m. - Avasso
 Friday, June 28 at 7 p.m. - Dwayne Haggins

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gold-Hill-General-Store/>
 Website: <https://www.goldhillstore.com/>
 Location: 531 Main Street, Gold Hill.

Howlin Wind Brewing

Saturday, June 1 at 4 p.m. - Tumble Down Shack
 Saturday, June 8 at 5 p.m. - Solvera

Saturday, June 15 at 6 p.m. - Melt and the Family Band
 Saturday, June 22 at 5 p.m. - Benjamin Sproul Trio
 Saturday, June 29 at 5 p.m. - 3rd Anniversary Party with Magoo

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/howlinwindbrewing>
 Website: <https://www.howlinwindbrewing.com/>
 Location: 51 A Main Street, Rollinsville.
 Phone: 309-825-5245

Jamestown Mercantile

Thursday, May 30 at 7 p.m. - Jay Stott
 Friday, May 31 at 7 p.m. - The Alcapones
 Sunday, June 2 at 12:15 p.m. - Earth to Aaron
 Wednesday, June 5 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic
 Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m. - Covenhoven
 Friday, June 7 at 7 p.m. - Seeing Stars Band
 Sunday, June 9 at 12:15 p.m. - Laurie Dameron
 Wednesday, June 12 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic
 Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. - Andres Santana
 Friday, June 14 at 7 p.m. - George Nelson Band
 Sunday, June 16 at 12:15 p.m. - Jen Howard
 Wednesday, June 19 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic
 Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m. - Mountain Duo
 Friday, June 21 at 7 p.m. - Dechen Hawk Band
 Saturday, June 22 at 4 p.m. - River on the Mountain Festival
 Wednesday, June 26 at 5 p.m. - Keenan O'Meara
 Thursday, June 27 at 7 p.m. - Dwayne Haggins
 Friday, June 28 at 7 p.m. - Wrenn Van Band
 Sunday, June 30 at 12:15 p.m. - Dav-ey and the Midnights

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jamestown.mercantile/>
 Website: <https://www.jamestown-mercantile.com/>
 Location: 108 Main Street, Jamestown.
 Phone: 303-442-5847

JKQ BBQ

Friday, May 31 at 6 p.m. - Nick Ward from Kind Mountain Band
 Saturday, June 1 at 5 p.m. - Nick Ward from Kind Mountain Band
 Friday, June 7 at 6 p.m. - Boys on the Town
 Saturday, June 8 at 5 p.m. - Boys on the Town
 Friday, June 14 at 6 p.m. - Robby Wicks
 Saturday, June 15 at 5 p.m. - Robby Wicks
 Friday, June 21 at 6 p.m. - Duey
 Saturday, June 22 at 5 p.m. - Duey

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JkqBbq/>
 Location: 200 Gregory Street, Black Hawk.
 Phone: 720-316-1361

Knotted Root Brewing

Friday, May 31 at 6 p.m. - d'Lovelies
 Saturday, June 1 at 5:30 p.m. - New Family Dog
 Friday, June 7 at 6 p.m. - TAKAT
 Saturday, June 8 at 5 p.m. - Melt and the Family Band
 Friday, June 14 at 6 p.m. - Reggae DJ
 Saturday, June 15 at 5 p.m. - Pineytops
 Friday, June 21 at 6 p.m. - Guaro
 Friday, June 28 at 6 p.m. - DJ
 Saturday, June 29 at 5 p.m. - Danny Shafer

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. - Open Mic
 Sundays at 5 p.m. - Jazz Sundays

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/knottedrootbrewing/>
 Website: <https://www.knottedrootbrewing.com/home>

Location: 250 N. Caribou Street, Nederland.
 Phone: 720-248-7129

Nederland Farmers Market

Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 a.m. - Alphatones
 Sunday, June 23 at 10:30 a.m. - Kylie and Friends

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NederlandFarmersMarket/>
 Website: <https://www.nederlandfarmersmarket.org/>
 Email: nederlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com
 Location: 85 E. 1st Street, Nederland.

Old Gallery at Allenspark

Wednesday, June 12 at 2 p.m. - Summer Porch Series
 Saturday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. - Tim Merkel
 Friday, June 21 at 6 p.m. - Open Mic with Tim Merkel
 Wednesday, June 26 at 2 p.m. - Summer Porch Series
 Saturday, June 29 at 5 p.m. - Hogablues Blues with Blues-Based Trio
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheAOldGallery>
 Website: <https://www.theoldgallery.org/>
 Location: 14863 Highway 7, Allenspark.
 Phone: 303-747-2906

The Caribou Room

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thecaribouroom/>
 Website: <https://www.thecaribouroom.com/>
 Location: 55 Indian Peaks Drive, Nederland.
 Phone: 303-258-3637

The Train Cars

Thursday, May 30 at 5 p.m. - Train Jam
 Saturday, June 8 at 6 p.m. - Iron Roots
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheTrainCars>

Website: <https://www.traincarscoffeekava.com/>
 Location: 101 Peak to Peak Highway, Nederland.
 Phone: 303-258-0440

United Center

Saturday, June 8 at 6 p.m. - Haymakers
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UnitedCenterInc/>
 Website: <http://www.unitedcenter-inc.com/>
 Location: 1440 Colorado Boulevard, Idaho Springs.
 Phone: 303-900-8689

Very Nice Brewing Co.

Friday, May 31 at 6 p.m. - Rick Lobato
 Sunday, June 2 at 5 p.m. - HuCKLE BEARERS
 Friday, June 7 at 6 p.m. - Andreas Boehmer
 Saturday, June 8 at 5 p.m. - Tony Crank
 Sunday, June 9 at 5 p.m. - Carter Combs
 Friday, June 14 at 6 p.m. - David Tilmon
 Saturday, June 15 at 5 p.m. - Reservoir Fog
 Friday, June 21 at 6 p.m. - Blue Moose Jazz
 Friday, June 28 at 6 p.m. - Mountain ReVerb
 Saturday, June 29 at 5 p.m. - Steep-land String Band

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/verynicebeer>
 Website: <https://www.verynicebrewing.com/>
 Location: 20 E. Lakeview Drive, #112, Nederland.
 Phone: 303-258-3770

Did we miss you? Want to submit your music listing in the Peak to Peak area? Do you have updates to your business? Please call 303-810-5409 or email info@themountaineer.com to be included in the next edition.

peakmusic.org
 PRESENTS...
4TH OF JULY BARN DANCE
 GILPIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
 A BENEFIT FOR THE GILPIN SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT
RAPID GRASS
 DANGO ROSE & BRIDGET LAW WITH SILAS HERMAN OF ELEPHANT REVIVAL.
 & FEATURING SINGER-SONGWRITER MARTY O'REILLY
THE SWEET LILLIES
NOGO GILBILLIES WINDY PINES
FINN O'SULLIVAN
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Nederland on a slippery slope

Dear Editor,

Nederland is facing another potential boom in its history. And this boom will potentially cause more gentrification. The development pressures on this little town are unrelenting. Every time you read about something happening in Nederland it seems that developers want to build large, out of scale buildings that don't serve the residents, they are aimed to serve a larger, wider audience. While this might seem good to get some shiny new buildings and services, I urge you to think long term and SCALE. We are at a crossroads.

I ask you-Why did YOU move here? If it was because of the cute little mountain town with history and character, we could lose all that in just a few development decisions that would affect us all.

On the other side of the coin, Nederland is also facing outdated infrastructure and dilapidated buildings. How can our little mountain town maintain its character and still provide what residents need to live and survive in these mountains? We should be more MINDFUL about how we develop. We limit the size of buildings that are allowed to be built to maintain that small mountain town feel.

Gentrification is an unintended process whereby people who live

in an area can no longer afford to do so due to economic factors beyond anyone's control. It is when 'money' comes into an area, but is not flowing to the area residents. It's when development pressures start to take over, and the 'little local guy (or girl)' gets pushed out. Nederland has been seeing that for years already, but it's starting to take on larger proportions recently. People may say that the pressures of housing and development come from the backwash of Boulder. I don't believe that.

Many of us moved here to be in a small town with charm and character. A little rougher and more removed from Denver and Boulder and its sprawling metropolis. Do you want to become another Boulder? Then go ahead and approve your speed radars, and your 10,000 sq foot buildings—let's become another Aspen or ski town in Colorado!

I vote to build on a smaller scale—that is the ONLY way to slow growth and keep the character of this town. We CAN have nice things...on a smaller, more appropriate scale.

This is a VERY slippery slope we are on. I urge you to take notice of what is happening around you, because the steamroller is coming your way and it will change your way of life.

How can you help keep Nederland small and full of character? You can do your research. You can fact

find about new development and what the Board of Trustees are approving. You can speak your mind—as Nederland residents. The time is now...decisions are being made WITHOUT YOUR INPUT on purpose. Do you care? Then cut

through the BS on social media and do your due diligence!! Stay focused and committed to smaller, more appropriate sized developments.

April Laliberte
Registered Ned Voter

Response to concern of BVSD taxes in parts of Gilpin County

Dear Editor,

Given the ongoing issue of school property tax differentials between the Gilpin School district and the BVSD in Gilpin County, successive District 3 Gilpin County Commissioners conferred with State and local elected officials and the Gilpin School Superintendent to see if it could be clarified.

Ultimately the County Attorney, Brad Benning, researched the question and wrote a white paper explaining the options available to address the issue. None of the options involve the County Commissioners, all involve the two school boards. I recommend you read the entire white paper by Attorney Benning.

Go to the Gilpin County website at Community Services -> Schools and Library. Choose "Read More" under Schools.

If the effort to detach the Gilpin County portion of the BVSD and add it to the Gilpin County School district made it to the ballot (a complicated process), a majority of the voters in the entire BVSD would need to vote to give up the Gilpin County tax base, which is unlikely.

Again, if you want to understand all the options related to this issue, please read the white paper.

Sincerely,
Eric Douglas
Chair, Gilpin County Democrats

Staff Appreciation Week at NMSHS

Dear Editor,

The Panther Parents PTA and NMSHS students & families celebrated our staff all week to let them know how thankful we are to have them!

Monday – There were festive decorations of gratitude and yummy treats to enjoy for the NMSHS and bus barn staff.

Tuesday – The weather caused a delay in celebrating, but we only had to wait until Monday 5/13 for a beautiful day for the staff to have a delicious lunch from the Kaleidoscope Kitchen food truck.

Wednesday – The bus barn was given a delicious breakfast from Decent Bagel. Wonderful and relaxing massages were available for the staff all day and they received a special gift of a scented glass jar candle with a personal message from the students!

Thursday – The NMSHS and bus barn staff all received a Camp Ned themed gift including a mug, handmade s'mores kit, inspirational message pocket notebook and pen, Mountain-Ear Coupon donated by *The Mountain-Ear*, and local gift cards donated by NMSHS families.

Friday – There was a coffee cart and barista making warm and tasty coffee drinks for our staff to enjoy with some croissants & BoBo bites to go with it – perfect for this cool day. Also, an email was sent to our amazing coaches, club leaders, and



PHOTO COURTESY OF NMSHS

Feeling appreciated

Teachers at NMSHS enjoy Teacher Appreciation Week with all the treats and goodies they were given during the week.

“extra duty” staff thanking them for all they do, and letting them know we have the mug filled with goodie gifts for them too!

What a fun week getting to treat our staff to things to enjoy as a heartfelt thank you for all they do!!

A big thank you to our NMSHS students & families for your

contributions and for helping the PTA make this week happen.

Special thanks to *The Mountain-Ear*, Kaleidoscope Kitchen, Decent Bagel, Amanda Fennessey (Embodiment Balance Massage), Bonnie Albrecht (Body in Balance Massage Therapy), Craft Coffee Cart, NMSHS STUCO & Dusty

Newberg, and the PTA Staff Appreciation volunteers.

You are all very appreciated for helping to create a wonderful celebration week for our staff!

The Panther Parents PTA and the NMSHS Students & Families Nederland

Letter to the Editor

We welcome thoughtful, local letters to the editor. You can submit online on our website or by email to info@themountaineear.com. Letters may be edited for length (less than 500 words) and content (rude, vulgar or obscene). Letters must include local name and address, to be considered for publication in the next available edition. We reserve the right to refuse to print letters. Submit your letter to the editor by emailing the newspaper at info@themountaineear.com, scanning the QR code here, or on our website at <https://www.themtnear.com/submit-letter-or-guest-opinion/>. Letters are the opinion of the author and do not reflect the opinion of *The Mountain-Ear*.



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The nicest things of all

Dear Editor,

Lorena and I lost our home and most of our material things in 2016, the Cold Springs Fire. Much of our property was torched. There were some untouched areas, and after a few years of hard work, things started to regrow. We had a beautiful (better, actually) view of the mountains, a year-round pond, and a cute little barn.

Friends, neighbors, and fire tourists would often stop by. Some were struck by the beauty - a straight-on shot of the mountains, with the sun setting behind. The pond attracted wildlife, ducks bobbed, and neighbor dogs would come over for a swim. The beauty was a very nice thing.

Others turned their backs to the beauty - literally - to focus only on the burn. A matter of perspective, they couldn't see the very beautiful, the very nice things.

In 2020 we had two big wildfires at the same time - Lefthand Canyon and Cal-wood. I worked for the County at the time, and I was sent to man a dumpster, behind the fire line, out in Raymond. This was so, when residents were allowed to return, they'd have a place to dump the spoiled contents of their freezers and refrigerators. The mountain was still ablaze, communication was sparse, the air was thick with smoke, and there were no other humans around. It was eerie.

When the road re-opened, residents trickled back in, smiling and waving as they drove to their homes. They returned later with their things that were ruined. They were relieved, they were thankful; we talked, there were tears. Some brought me food or treats. One woman brought me a bag of money she had collected from her neighbors (which I declined.) It was a very beautiful, very nice, thing.

A young man came in on the second day. He hadn't lost anything in the fire, he just wanted to dump his weekly trash. Which he normally did at the Allenspark Transfer Station, but that was temporarily closed, because it was

closer to the active fire. Standing out in the smoke, oblivious to the emotions of those around him who had sustained losses, he announced a more shallow perspective. He berated me for the "inconvenience" (his word) of having to drive an extra twenty minutes to dump his trash. In a sense, he turned his back to the beauty - people survived, losses could have been worse, and even though the flames still danced and the air was ash, we were there for him so he could dump his trash. Instead, he could only see the burn - the inconvenience to him.

I write some of the Mountain Folk Tales for this paper. Happy pieces celebrating the lives and stories of our mountain friends and neighbors. I always ask the people I write about to recount the first time they saw Ned. The answers are remarkably similar - cresting at the top of the canyon, seeing the ramshackle splotches of color behind the shimmering waters of the res, and the realization that this is it! For me, I found myself sitting at the counter in Dot's Diner (now Tres Amigos), with Neil Young in the background, calling my wife in Tampa to tell her, "I'm supposed to be here!" Like Brigham Young, I had found it - a beautiful, magical place. A very nice thing.

Sometimes that gets lost on people. All they see is the burn, what they don't have - convenience, paved roads and groomed trails, street lights and trail lights, pump tracks and bandshells, hamburgers and arcades, more services, more things, more concrete, and overriding it all, less taxes.

What are they thinking? We're in the mountains, we don't have much of a tax base - do the math. Life isn't convenient up here, but convenient doesn't mean nice. As for all those other unnecessaries we don't have, maybe so. But don't tell me we don't have nice things - we have everything we need, and beyond that, we have the nicest things of all. We have the nicest things that matter.

John MacKay
Nederland

Should South Beaver Creek Road be paved?

Dear Editor,

Whether creating a new road or fixing an existing one, you start at the bottom, and build up, using appropriate material, correctly placed, not try to fix what is wrong from the top down. To improve South Beaver Creek Road, the County needs to dig up a few of the soft spots in order to determine the depth of the liquefiable soil (dirt that can hold a lot of water and doesn't drain easily) and that soil needs to be removed. By doing so the County can determine the location of the geologic formation beneath the existing road that will be the foundation for any new road.

South Beaver Creek Road has been under construction since the first humans started following the game trail next to the creek. Every change in usage that required a wider track meant that more of the easily moved soil became part of the trail. Since that time the need for a wider more supportive path has changed to include many more vehicles up to tractor-trailer rigs with loads weighing up to forty tons and more.

Each of these vehicle operators expects a smooth, well maintained surface to drive on. Most of these drivers don't realize their driving on liquefiable soil and don't care. In order to address this need for a smooth, well maintained surface, it has been suggested that Gilpin County use asphalt either as chips from one source or new asphalt laid down by machine. Neither is a good idea.

Asphalt contractors are, I think, required to guarantee both product and installation. When they look at the South Beaver Creek Road and realize the condition it is in, including the areas of obvious liquefiable soil, they will say "no thanks." As for the chips, one must realize they are little pieces of rock covered with a large portion of their surface area with asphalt. When heat and pressure combine the pieces will adhere to each other, but not evenly. If the material is delivered to a nicely graded South Beaver Creek Road on a nice day, graded and rolled, it might be nice

for a while, but when the weather changes and the liquefiable soils do their thing and the road starts to heave, you are out of options for maintenance.

There is a much better option. The County could start by using an excavator, one of those beautiful machines that every real woman would park in the yard for her man, that has 360 degree capability. The County could add two dump trucks, one empty, one with 4 inch minus road fill material, a backhoe with a plate compactor and a number of road guards. The County could take the equipment and staff to South Beaver Creek Road. Since it is a two lane road, the County could work in one lane and direct traffic to the other lane. The County could begin by digging holes to find out where the geologically suitable base is in different locations. Subsequently, a plan could be developed for how to fix South Beaver Creek Road from the bottom up.

In 1996, the County successfully eliminated the mud hole on Lump Gulch Road that had been there for years by removing the liquefiable soil with an excavator, identifying bedrock beneath the road, replacing the liquefiable soil with gravel that would allow the water from rain and snow to drain away. New drainable road base was placed higher in the middle of the road and lower at the edges to promote additional drainage.

Finally, culverts were placed strategically to direct the water away from the road and into the ditches beside the road. Twenty eight years later Lump Gulch Road remains a smooth road as long as it is properly maintained with regular grading, removal of debris from the ditches alongside the road and clean culverts.

The County could do the same work on South Beaver Creek Road and not waste money on pavement that overtime would heave and crack because the soil beneath the pavement was not the correct foundation on which to add the paved surface.

Craig Nicholson
Gilpin County

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PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Gold Hill Memorial Day BBQ

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

Gold Hill was bustling with life on Monday, May 27, 2024, as people from all over the Peak to Peak region flocked to the dirt streets of the small mountain town to celebrate the Memorial Day Mountain Music Festival and Barbeque. The sound of live music filled the air as locals and tourists enjoyed the beer, food, and sunshine, and soaked in those beautiful views and vibes.

This year's festival featured some of Colorado's best bluegrass, folk, and country rock bands, including River Mann, Lundi Knight Trio, and The Gasoline Lollipops. The bands rocked the stage and got the large crowd to get up and dance, allowing attendees of all ages to sing loud and twirl in circles under the bright blue sky.

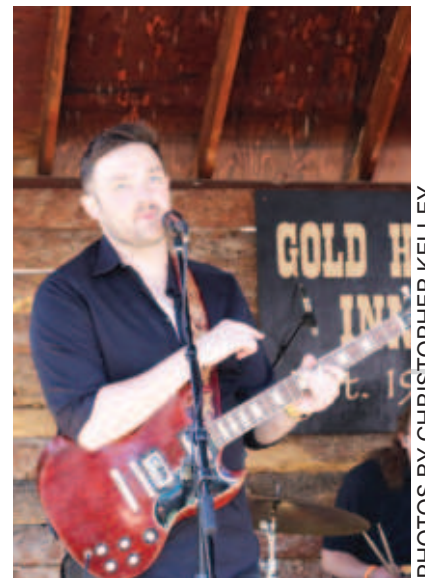
From noon to 5 p.m. the Gold Hill Inn served delicious smoked salmon and simmering apple cider brisket, with plenty of sumptuous side

dishes and tantalizing beverages, including lagers, pilsners, hazy IPAs, pale ales, brown ales, and Pabst Blue Ribbon for if you're feeling fancy.

The 2024 Gold Hill Memorial Day Mountain Music Festival and Barbeque was an amazing success thanks to the Gold Hill Inn, to all those who worked and volunteered their time, to all the courteous tourists and bicyclists traveling through, and to the gracious residents of Gold Hill.

Gold Hill packed on a sunny afternoon

Top, left: Gold Hill Inn served up great food and fun for the holiday weekend. Top, right: The field filled up fast with residents and visitors. Bottom, right: River Mann played a raucous set for the crowd. Bottom, center: Fiddle players are essential for live music in Gold Hill. Bottom, left: Everyone enjoyed a day in the sunshine, live music, and the feeling of community at the Memorial Day BBQ.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

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Contact us
The Mountain-Ear is located at 98 W. 1st Street, Nederland. And at 430 Lawrence Street, Central City. Questions? You can always reach us by email at info@themountaineear.com or phone at 303-810-5409.



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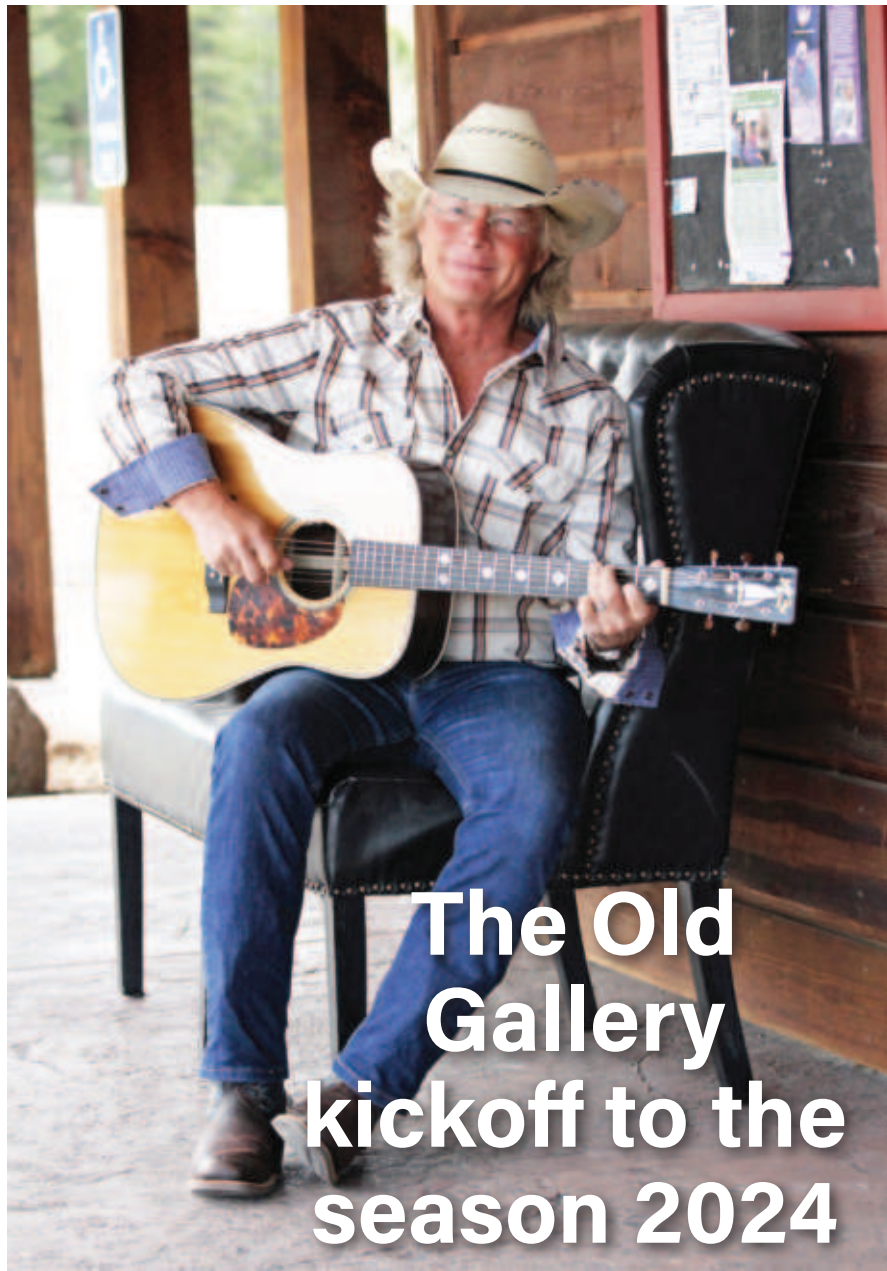
OMAYRA ACEVEDO ALLENSPARK

It has arrived: the unofficial "official" start of the summer season, and no one knows how to kickstart the celebrations like The Old Gallery (TOG) in Allenspark. Throughout Memorial Day weekend, TOG was the place to be.

The talented singer-songwriter, and Estes Park local, Brad Fitch, entertained the crowd with his wide range of musical stylings. To learn more about Brad Fitch, check out Jamie Lammers' article "Music of the Mountains: Brad Fitch" in the May 16, 2024, edition of *The Mountain-Ear*. You can also hear Brad Fitch podcast in Season 4, Episode 32.

And what's a Rocky Mountain spring celebration without flowers?! That's right! Memorial Day weekend was also TOG's annual hanging basket flower sale.

Flower baskets always sell fast and with good reason. Baskets are filled with colorful flowers, with sweet and comforting scents. Speaking of scents, TOG also offered Allenspark's locals and visitors free hotdogs and hamburgers. Nothing says Memorial Day like a good grilling.



The gallery was filled with new artwork, offering a tasty delight for the eyes as guests enjoyed their grilled treats. The seasonal Rocky Mountain Conservancy store is also now open at the gallery.

The Memorial Day celebration continued through Monday morning with fresh donuts from Estes Park's Donut Haus. If you missed The Old Gallery's Memorial Day celebration, there's plenty more to celebrate throughout the year.

From wine tasting to live music events and environmental talks to movie nights, there is always something fun to do at The Old Gallery!

The Old Gallery is located at 14863 Colorado Highway 7, Allenspark. You can find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheAOldGallery> or give them a call at 303-747-2906.



PHOTOS BY Omayra Acevedo

Music and treats

Left: Colorful flowers in hanging baskets are sold during the gallery's Memorial Day weekend agenda. Center: Cowboy Brad Fitch prepares to serenade guests of The Old Gallery, celebrating Memorial Day. Right: The Donut Haus donuts are freshly prepared for a Monday morning of mouth-watering delights.

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Jimmy Keith

RE/MAX of Boulder

jimmykeith@boulderco.com 303-898-2795 cell



BARBARA HARDT
PEAK TO PEAK

This spring *The Mountain-Ear* hosted a few contests. These are the winners of the Youth Art Contest. Thank you to everyone that participated.

Each winner will receive a packet with prizes in the mail, in the next few weeks. If you do not receive your packet, please check with us to make sure we have the correct mailing address. Email us at info@themountaineer.com.

Keep watching in July for our Dog Days of Summer photo contest.

First Place:
Willa Rae Stockdale

Youth Art Contest winners announced



Second Place:
Delilah Hundley



Third Place: Three way tie
Ariah Dueck



Third Place: Three way tie
Tori Turner



Third Place: Three way tie
Jasmyn Hickman



Poetry Contest winner announced

BARBARA HARDT
PEAK TO PEAK

This spring *The Mountain-Ear* hosted a few contests. This is the winner of the Poetry Contest. Thank you to everyone that participated.

The top three will receive an envelope with prizes in the mail, in the next few weeks. If you do not receive your packet, please check with us to make sure we have the correct mailing address. Email us at info@themountaineer.com.

Keep watching in July for our Dog Days of Summer photo contest.

Type 2

At treeline
I am small
I am one of many
In this storm I feel energy aplenty
but still
It does not excite me
I shake like a struck dog
And whisper please stop
Hoping the mountains will hear me
But they won't
Because
What do I matter to their
immortal slopes
That churn wind and grind fierce
thunder through the sky
With eyes wide I watch the flashes
And count the seconds till the sky
rips and snarls
Afraid to move
Like a chipmunk in its nest
And as the lightning moves over the
horizon
Rumbles grow longer but less angry
My body calms but the
weariness remains
I am a visitor here
I've never been so glad to see the
Milky Way

by Alyssa Johnson

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Putting on Social Activities for Seniors & Supporters

Learn about the various social and wellness events NAS hosts at the Nederland Community Center by visiting www.mountainpeaklife.org.

If you would like to be invited to special events at the new Senior Lounge - open to all adults - please email info@mountainpeaklife.org.

The next special lounge event is on June 13, sponsored by the 3rd Annual Nederland Jazz & Wine Festival.

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PHOTOS BY BARBARA HARDT

Summer reading kicks off at Ned library

BARBARA HARDT
NEDERLAND

The clouds parted a bit and like a gust of wind over 300 people descended on the Nederland Community Library to participate in the fun and games to kick off the Summer Reading Program, sponsored by the Nederland Library Foundation.

According to Jessie Ansari, "So far, 240 people have signed up

Jumping into reading

The Nederland Community Library hosted a kick off party, to encourage summer reading in the community. All ages can participate. Kids bounced, jumped and ran through the event with 240 signing up for the program so far.

for the Summer Reading Program challenge." The program is open to people of ALL ages and folks can sign-up all summer long, then pick up a packet at the Library or download online, color in each signpost once they have completed the goal and return completed sheets to the library by August 11 to be entered into the grand prize raffle to win a \$100 gift card to Colorado Adventure Center in Estes Park

or to a local business! Ansari also shared, "This year, EVERYONE who completes the challenge wins a super nifty carabiner compass!"

"It seemed like every kid in town was at the Summer Kick-off this year. It was such a fabulous community builder for Nederland. To top it off, the Library Foundation sold lots of children's books (\$5 donation/packet). The wind did not deter the love of reading!" shared

Susan Kelly, Nederland Community Library Foundation, President.

Kaleidoscope Kitchen served up delicious snacks and dinner, shaved ice was available with all colors and flavors, the Nederland Fire Department was on scene to collect signed pledge papers that kids turned into the Fire Department. The pledge says the kids agree not to play with matches or fire, not leave a campfire unattended, etc. Kids raced around and bounced on the giant inflatable castle.

The Nederland Library Foundation also hosted a book sale during the event. "While it wasn't the biggest day of the year for book sales, the foundation had a great time engaging with families and helping raise funds to keep supporting all the amazing programs and events that the Library offers," stated Ansari.

The Nederland Community Library is located at 200 Highway 72 in Nederland. For more information visit <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

Sugarloaf Garage Sale raises funds

HAYDEN HARDT-ZEMAN
BOULDER COUNTY

There's one thing I look forward to every single year. "What is this," you might ask? It's the annual Sugarloaf Garage Sale!

Every year on Memorial Day weekend the Sugarloaf Fire Department puts on a sale. It has thousands of items. They have antique specialty items, clothes, bags, blankets, pillows, tools, books, furniture, shoes, sports, bikes, games, kids toys, and my personal favorite, PLANTS!

According to Diana Costello, Friends of Sugarloaf Fire Department, "Sugarloaf Fire Protection District's



PHOTOS BY HAYDEN HARDT-ZEMAN



annual Memorial Day weekend garage sale took in \$50,134 in gross sales last weekend. Thank you to all who donated items, came to shop, and to those whose many hours of labor made the sale a rousing success. All proceeds go to support the Sugarloaf fire department." Over 500 people shopped during the weekend.

Want to find the best deal? Show up next year over Memorial Day weekend and indulge in the bargains! I'll see all of you there next year!



Sugarloaf Garage Sale nets over \$50,000 for fire department
The Sugarloaf Garage Sale was a huge hit for the community. Large amounts of diverse plants sold quickly, along with household goods, clothes and shoes, pet supplies, antiques, instruments, book and more!

George Bornhijm honored during Sugarloaf Garage Sale

DIANA COSTELLO
BOULDER COUNTY

Earlier this week, George Bornhijm, Sugarloaf Firefighter and a former long-time leader of the Sugarloaf Annual Garage sale, passed away at the age of 81.

Along with being a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother, George was a volunteer firefighter who also helped transform the Sugarloaf Garage Sale into a BIG EVENT. He loved to tease everyone around him that "If you ain't Dutch, you ain't much!".

Born in 1943 in Nazi-occupied The Netherlands, George joined the Royal Netherlands Navy after high school, and became a career pilot and officer. That included 11,000 flying hours as a NATO pilot.

After retiring in 1998, he and his wife, Sarah (Sally), and son, Rob, emigrated from the Netherlands to Sugarloaf, where Sally's mother was already living.

George joined the volunteer fire department, where he was able to apply both his mechanical expertise and his legendary quick wit to help improve the department.

He and Sally led the garage sale from 2000 until 2014, and in that time, it developed into the much-anticipated multi-day event that it is today. This year's garage sale is being dedicated to George, and the incredible effort he made to ensure its success.

He will be missed by firefighters and by the many volunteers and customers involved with the annual garage sale, but his exuberant spirit will never be forgotten.

"Proost," George, from all of us on Sugarloaf!



George Bornhijm



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

A very large check
The Horseshoe Casino and the Caesars Foundation present a \$5,000 check to the Gilpin Seniors. The money helps to fund senior lunches and activities.

benefit from their contributions. He also extended an invitation to the seniors to visit the Horseshoe Casino for cricket or a meal.

Makosky conveyed her gratitude to everyone present, particularly the Horseshoe Casino and the Caesars Foundation for their continued support. She noted that this is the third consecutive year they have received this donation, which will help cover the costs of lunches, Community Center admission for seniors and veterans, the senior fitness class, and future field trips once staffing is complete.

The Gilpin County Community Center serves hot, nutritious, and delicious lunches for seniors and their spouses twice a week. The Senior Program also provides transportation for seniors and their spouses living in Gilpin County, including scheduled luncheons, weekly grocery shopping trips, and medical and dental visits, with door-to-door service provided.

In addition to meals and transportation, the Senior Program offers various educational and recreational activities. Those interested in joining can contact Mary Ellen Makosky at 303-515-4292 to sign up for the monthly events calendar mailing list. The calendar is also available weekly in The Mountain-Ear.

Caesars Foundation gives Gilpin Seniors \$5000

MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

The Gilpin County Seniors gathered for lunch at the Gilpin County Community Center at 250 Norton Drive in Black Hawk on May 24, where they were surprised with a generous \$5,000 donation from the Caesars Foundation and the Horseshoe Casino.

The event saw the presence of Commissioners Sandy Hollingsworth, Susan Berumen, and Marie Mornis.

Resident Steve Compton highlighted the variety of

presentations and activities that follow the Senior lunches, which include topics such as identity protection, audio books for the hard of hearing, and bingo. Additionally, the program offers a Senior Fitness class before lunch, promoting a balanced day of exercise, nutritious food, and engaging activities.

“It’s a good change of pace from what I cook at home,” Compton remarked, noting the diverse menu that features entrees like salmon and Salisbury steak. Each month, a new menu is printed to inform the seniors of the available meal options.

At 1 p.m. representatives from the Horseshoe Casino presented a large check to the seniors, as part of their community outreach efforts. Executives Brandon Pulliam, Matt Lindberg, and Norris Hamilton joined the commissioners and Senior Services Coordinator Mary Ellen Makosky for a photo with the donation.

Lindberg expressed the foundation’s pleasure in supporting the community, mentioning that they have distributed approximately \$3 million to non-profits nationwide over the last three months. This donation marks the fourth local non-profit to

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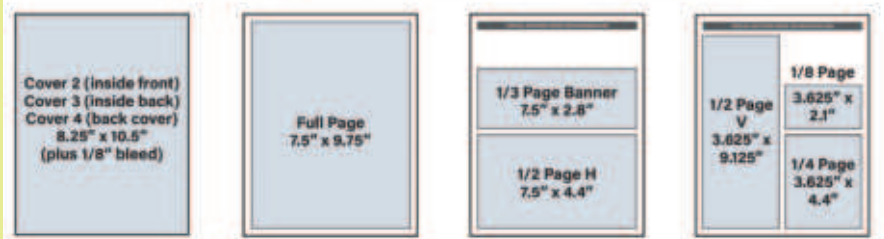
are stand-alone publications, printed three times a year, and are brought to you by YOUR community newspaper, The Mountain-Ear. The paper’s special sections are Health and Wellness, Taste of the Peaks, Studio Tour, and a comprehensive Visitor’s Guide.

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Organic healing

Top: Rebecca Linn poses at the Carousel of Progress where she practices acudetox. Bottom: Rebecca Linn works her ear acupuncture treatments on a client.

Healing and happiness at the Carousel

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
NEDERLAND

Acudetox is a five-point acupuncture treatment. It's been used as a method to reduce cravings and symptoms of withdrawal but has helped many people detox from various other things. The ear acupuncture also relaxes the nervous system and calms emotions. It can also balance energy levels in the body.

Rebecca Linn is a qualified, 70-hour didactic, hands-on acudetox practitioner in Nederland. She belongs to the People's Organization of Community Acupuncture (POCA) and is working on her Auricular Acu-Technician certificate.

Linn has lived in the Front Range since 1976, and in Nederland for the past 19 years. She grew up in rural Pennsylvania and studied drawing and painting at the Ivy School of Art in Pittsburgh.

She worked briefly as an illustrator but her desire to study art further, motivated her to join the US Army to receive the GI Bill, completing her Army career at Fort Carson, Colorado, in 1976.

Linn received a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and a Colorado Teachers' Certification from CU Boulder in 1988. Being a self-proclaimed "learning junky," she also earned a Fitness Specialist certification.

After retiring from the Boulder Valley School District in 2018, Linn began working as a carousel operator at the Carousel of Happiness. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, she began helping repaint animals, leading to a new career.

The story of how Linn began practicing acudetox is equally heartbreaking and inspiring. On November 1, 2023, she received a phone call while out on a hike that her daughter, age 33, died as a result of fentanyl poisoning.

Linn didn't know much about opioid addiction but knew her daughter struggled with it for years. "I began to read up-to-date information about addiction and how it affects our brains and our bodies," shares Linn.

She also says she spoke with Avani Dilger, an addictions counselor in Boulder who is certified in a multitude of healing specialties. From Dilger, Linn learned what opioid addicts physically go through.

Linn confesses, "My heart broke for them. I had to do something!" Upon learning of an upcoming Boulder training for acudetox practitioners, she signed up for January 2024 without hesitation.

Linn has learned how to use Narcan and fentanyl test kits, which she says are always in her bag. "I practice ear acupuncture now to honor my daughter and to give back to my supportive community; to bring healing to anyone who walks in ready to receive it."

Linn says when she offers ear acupuncture to a person, she gives and receives profound healing. For kids and folks who are needle-averse, she places ear seeds on the five needle sites instead. "I even have sparkly ones!" Linn shares.

The Carousel of Happiness has welcomed her into their space, which covers Linn's insurance.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF REBECCA LINN

Linn says the Carousel is a great fit as acudetox aligns with its mission as a 501(c)3 "to serve the well-being of the community."

Linn has fallen in love with Chinese Medicine. It allows her "to connect with and help heal wonderful beings who are my community!" She's looking forward to bringing acudetox to more mountain communities south of Gilpin County and north of Ward.

As of February 23, 2024, POCA offers free Five-Needle Point Protocol Acupuncture every Friday from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Carousel of Happiness. Free services are supported by grants related to opioid drug settlement funds.

Patients are asked to participate in a brief online survey, easily accessible via QR code to help keep the funding

sources flowing. Linn leaves the following touching message:

"We are a nation of independent do-it-yourselfers who pay a price for our unwillingness to listen to others or accept our neighbors. We need each other! We all have value and much to offer; that is how we will heal as a society."

To learn more about acudetox, visit <https://www.boulderacudetox.org/>. You can text Rebecca Linn at 720-435-9948 or email her at badgersnowfree@yahoo.com.

The Carousel of Happiness is located at 20 Lakeview Drive, Nederland. You can find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CarouselofHappiness/> or call them at 303-258-3457.

Gilpin Board says farewell to old/welcome to new principal

WES ISENHART
GILPIN COUNTY

The penultimate Gilpin RE-1 board of education meeting for the 2023/2024 school year took place on May 21, 2024, at the school boardroom. It was largely a ceremonial affair. The biggest business item on the agenda was the hiring of a new secondary principal.

With the end of the school year on the horizon, the Board celebrated the many accomplishments of the students and prepared for the school's graduation ceremony on May 25 by inviting past board

If everything goes as scheduled, MacKenzie reported, the final phase of the ADA access project will begin around June 10.

members to participate in the awarding of certificates.

The reports by the principals highlighted end-of-year activities and the completion of student testing. Elementary principal Patrick Linnehan reported that the Colorado Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies Assessments (CMAS) testing was a big success with a 100% participation

from the Elementary School students. Linnehan thanked the Elementary PTO for distributing hot breakfasts to all third to fifth grade students during the testing week.

Outgoing secondary principal Alexis Donaldson gave her last report to the Board and provided a schedule of the final secondary school activities for the 2023/2024 school year. In her final comments Donaldson thanked the board, Superintendent David MacKenzie, and the school staff for their support and an amazing 27 years at Gilpin RE-1.

MacKenzie had two capital improvement items in his superintendent's report. The first item was the scheduled meeting on Wednesday May 29 with ESCO Construction to discuss the sewer pipeline project and traffic on Highway 119 during construction. The Board will have a video of the meeting posted on their YouTube channel for the public to review.

If everything goes as scheduled, MacKenzie reported, the final phase of the ADA access project will begin around June 10.

Under new business, the Board approved by a 4-0 vote hiring Sarah Reich as the new secondary

school principal. Board chair Sarah Swanson recused herself from the vote because of personal connections with the applicant.

Reich lives in Idaho Springs and has been a teacher and administrator in the Jefferson County school district for the last ten years. When Board Member Tami Velaquez asked her why she wanted the job, Reich replied that she was ready to invest herself more in a smaller community.

Reich said that she has a child in elementary and a child in middle school. Being a working mom, Reich said her leisure time has been limited but the family enjoys outdoor activities like mountain biking, camping and fishing.

The other new business was to unanimously approve an invitation to present and past board members to participate in the graduation ceremony to recognize and honor past board members who served the school and their community.

The final board meeting for the school year will be held on June 4 in the school boardroom. There will be a Budget Study and Dialogue Work Session at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular board meeting at 7 p.m. The Board will vote on final approval of the 2024/2025 budget and set the calendar schedule for the new school year.

There is a video of the May 21 meeting on the RE-1 YouTube channel. The actual video starts around the 21st minute. The agenda and documents for this meeting are on the RE-1 website (gilpin.k12.co.us) under Board of Education Agendas.

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POETRY CORNER

Some words for the week

fresh snow come first light
 on the treeless peaks
 on the hood of my truck
 on the green grass of the yard
 frozen into ice slicks
 on the shaded sections
 of the mountain highway
 all melt into the dirt
 come ten in the morning
 all melt into faucet water
 sprinkler systems
 car washes
 hoses fountains lawns
 all that falls above
 and lingers glinting
 in the dawn rays
 wanes and is wasted
 in the plains by night

Alexander Shalom Joseph is a writer from Gilpin County. He is a published author. For more information and to subscribe to Alexander's Newsletter go to alexandershalomjoseph.com

Off they go



PHOTOS BY BARBARA HARDT

Waving goodbye
Nederland Elementary School says goodbye to the school year and their students until August.

"I will always protect you. I will always be proud of you. I will always love you unconditionally and will always be there for you."

- A parent to their children



In-person worship is happening every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Online sermons are available at <https://www.nederlandpres.org/>

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Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

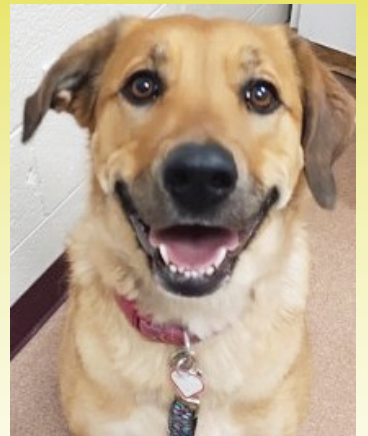
Pet of the week

*You remind me, I live in a cage
Safe from the past and doin' okay, but not very well
Few walks, few surprises, few crisis arisin'
My life goes along as it should
It's all very nice, but not very good*

*I'm ready to take a chance again
Ready to put my love on the line with you
Been livin' with rawhides to show for it
You get what you get when you go for it
And I'm ready to take a chance again with you*

*When they left me, in all my despair
I just held on, my hopes were all gone
Hopin' you'll find me here*

*And I'm ready to take a chance again
Ready to put my love on the line with you
Been livin' with rawhides to show for it
You get what you get when you go for it...*



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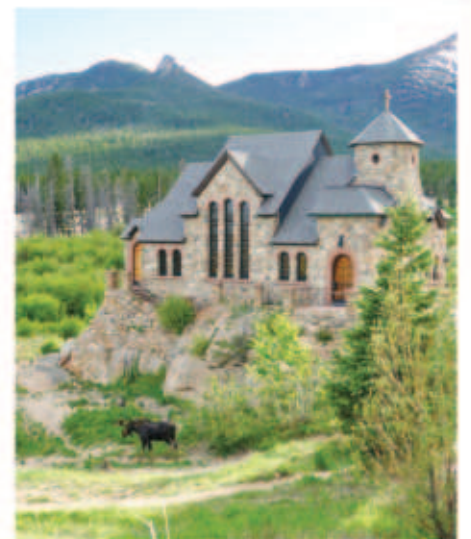


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Fifth graders head to middle school

HAYDEN HARDT-ZEMAN & POLINA SAVICH NEDERLAND

On Thursday, May 23, 2024, fifth grade graduation took place at Nederland Elementary school. If I know anything about fifth graders, it's that they can't wait to graduate!

As we walked through the halls to get to the gym, the place of the main event, I was filled with memories of our own fifth grade celebrations and our time at the very same school.

During the ceremony, we were granted the honor to listen to poems the fifth graders wrote for graduation. They told us about how they were excited, sad, happy, and scared about going on to the next chapter of their lives, that being middle school.

After their lovely presentations we watched them move their tassels from right to left, and as they did so many parents realized just how quickly their little preschoolers have grown up to be fifth grade graduates.

The graduates then joined the audience as we watched the class slideshow. After the ceremony, we moved to the dining hall for more celebration and of course snacks! The school day ended with the graduates going home happy, excited, and full of cake.



PHOTOS BY HAYDEN HARDT-ZEMAN



RYAN ROBERTS
BROKER

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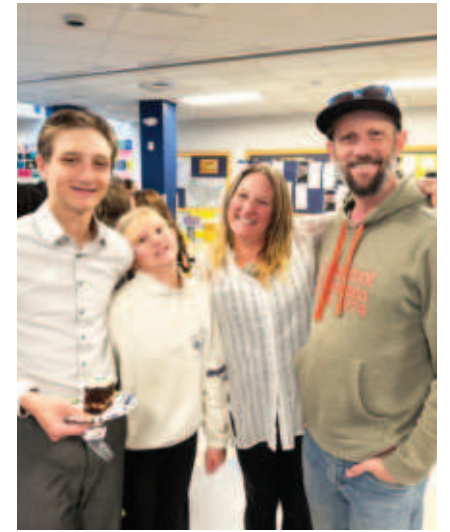
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An annual tradition
On the last day of school at Nederland Elementary, fifth graders participated in their "Send-Off" as they leave the building for their final time. Congratulations and good luck in middle school!



High school here we come
 Top, left: It is time to sign year-books and celebrate with cake.
 Top, right: The Hambourger Family celebrated the end of the school year with an eighth grader and a fifth grader. Bottom: NMSHS's eighth grade class.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AIMEE TOMLINSON

Eighth graders say goodbye to middle school

SARA SANDSTROM
 NEDERLAND

It is tradition for Nederland Middle-Senior High School (NMSHS) to honor their eighth grade students with a ceremony to celebrate the end of their middle school years and welcome them to high school. 40 students were acknowledged on May 22 at NMSHS. Family and friends attended to support the students and celebrate with them.

NMSHS Principal Gavan Goodrich welcomed all attending and made opening remarks. He

spoke of the quality of the students' work and the possibilities that lie ahead of them.

Cassin Rosenblum and Naima Billings were the student speakers. Rosenblum quoted A.A. Milne: "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." He reminded his classmates and everyone in the room to be grateful for every minute they have.

Billings spoke about coming into middle school during the pandemic and how bumpy middle school can be at times. She proclaimed that she is proud of the class's

accomplishments and looks forward to what is ahead for each of them.

Goodrich and Vice Principal/Athletic Director Sean DePaula presented the eighth grade class to

all present, and gave each student a certificate of achievement. He then went on to give closing remarks.

Class of 2028, you are now stepping into your journey to high school!

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PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Chinook's 2024 graduates celebrate

Continued from page 1

TEENS, Inc. Executive Director Stephen LeFaiver took to the microphone as the master of ceremonies and spoke to the core values that all Chinook West students adhere to, including healthy risk taking, time management, and goal setting skills.

"We come together, we solve problems that may be difficult, we take ownership of our behaviors and find common ground with a classmate or teacher and figure out how best to move forward," LeFaiver said to the crowd. "All of these graduates not only have learned these skills, they've met them head on and demonstrated them over and over again."

LeFaiver introduced guest speaker Katy Nielsen as a TEENS, Inc. alumna, owner of Outlaw Production Collective, an artistic director, performance artist, producer, model, actress, and bass player. Nielsen's keynote speech highlighted for the graduates how their unconventional education from Chinook West and unique experiences in Nederland will serve as an advantage as they venture forward.

"You are going to be able to offer insight and solutions to issues that the majority of folks out there may not have the tools to address. As individuals whose baseline of education and experience is outside of what's 'normal,' you have the inherent ability to think and live

differently. This is going to allow you to challenge the status quo, and ultimately create a better system and a better world," Nielsen said in her speech.

"I take a lot of comfort in the knowledge that you, with the tools you've been gifted here at Chinook West, are our next generation of leaders. You have what it takes to go out there, challenge the old ways and innovate a better system. You've already done so much – congratulations!"

LeFaiver gave a shout out to the members of the TEENS, Inc. Board of Directors before introducing board member Shenna Fitzgerald, who gave each graduate a copy of *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss.

"This is a big day in your life, but it is your first big day in a lifetime of many big days and we can't wait to see where you all go and the paths that you all take," Fitzgerald said.

Max Marschhausen, Community Mobilizer for TEENS, Inc., presented the first graduate, Wylda Monroe-Kelly, with his diploma and spoke of his resilient nature.

"You have faced and tackled challenges that not even some adults have faced in their own lives, and I have seen you face these challenges with deep authenticity, emotional intelligence, and a gravitas that's only fitting for the young man that you are," Marschhausen said.

(Continued on page 21)



The first big day of many big days

Top: The three graduates were honored in cake form. Bottom: Graduates received their diplomas and copies of a Dr. Seuss classic.



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PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Chinook

(Continued from page 20)

“I have zero doubt in my mind that by just being the incredible young man you are you will build a life for yourself that is fulfilling, adventurous, and joyful.”

Monroe-Kelly spoke about how he once considered dropping out of public school, but his experience at Chinook West changed the course of his journey.

“I’m so proud of all the things that I’ve learned here at Chinook West; Chinook is the environment where I learned how to be a person,” Monroe-Kelly said.

“I couldn’t even imagine seeing myself standing here until right now. So I’d like to thank all of those who helped me get to where I am today.”

TEENS, Inc. Science Teacher Cameron Kollar, in her speech celebrating graduate Ava Bruno, began to cry as she spoke about Bruno being the first friendly face to make her feel welcome as a new teacher.

“Ava is truly a leader in our community,” Kollar said. “Her resilience, groundedness, and compassionate nature have set a powerful example for all of us. Her kindness, empathy, and willingness to support others have made a lasting impact on everyone that she has met.”

“I hope that you loved your time here and that you can move forward with optimism, courage, and a sense of purpose.”

Bruno shared some words with the crowd, and expressed how she was grateful for Chinook West for renewing her confidence in herself.

“Thank you, Chinook, for listening to me rant or cry, every single day,” Bruno said. “For making me laugh in the morning, even if I was angry that day. Thank you all so much.”

Andrea Bianchi, Director of Student Engagement for TEENS, Inc., presented Ehren Busby with his diploma and spoke of his perseverance.

“We are so lucky to have Ehren as part of our community here at Chinook, and as part of our community here in Nederland,” Bianchi said. “You should be so proud of yourself. You can go wherever you want to go and whatever community you become a part of will be better for having you in it.”

Ehren expressed how learning at Chinook West differed from his experience in public school.

“I started out at Ned High, and all you really do is learn basic material. As soon as I came to Chinook I learned more about life,” Ehren said. “I appreciate Chinook for teaching me life skills, not just math and reading; it’s all about social interaction and being appropriate, and I’ll miss it.”

LeFaiver led the crowd in a special shout out to the graduates, as well as to the past grads and future grads in the audience, and the TEENS, Inc. staff. Then LeFaiver asked for a quiet moment of intention, for the crowd to send their best thoughts and wishes to the graduates.

“We have rituals throughout the year: every Wednesday we come together as a community in this room here and we talk about things that are working well, that are not working well, and some hard discussions about what we need to change to make things better within our community,” LeFaiver

Students told to embrace their Ned-ucation

Left: Keynote speaker Katy Nielsen delivers her speech to the grads. Center: Ehren Busby shows off his diploma to the crowd. Right: TEENS, Inc. science teacher Cameron Kollar tears up when introducing graduate Ava Bruno.

said.

“We start every gathering with a moment of silence just to come together and have intention within that space. So to end this graduation I’d like for us to be quiet for a moment or two and really put

intention into our graduates, sending them out with as much positive thought and hope that we can give them.”

Congratulations to the Chinook West High School graduates of 2024!

PLANNING AN EVENT?

List it online AND in our weekly Cracker Barrel

Go to www.themtnear.com to submit your event details or email info@themountainear.com

MOUNTAIN FORUM FOR PEACE

Drop-Off Clean Goods at the Nederland Community Center

Sunday, May 26th; 11am - 6pm
No Drop-Off Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 28th; 11am - 6pm
Wednesday, May 29th; 11am - 6pm

We CAN take (must be clean and in unbroken condition):

- Clean gently-used clothing • CD, DVD, Vinyl, VHS • Shoes • Craft Supplies
- Sports equipment • Bikes • Kitchenware • Small furniture • Housewares
- Books • Plants • Small working appliances • Tools • Jewelry • Toys

We CANNOT take:

- Baby Gear (strollers, walkers, swings, play pens, cribs, bouncers, bottles) • Cribs
- Kids carseats • Large appliances • Televisions • Mattresses • Paint
- Particle board furniture • Computers, printers, monitors, keyboards • Electronics
- Exercise bikes • Headboards • Beds • Paint • Desks • Tires
- Broken/incomplete plastic toys • Couches • Futons • Bean Bag Chairs

YARD SALE

Friday, May 31st & Saturday, June 1st, 9am - 6pm
Sunday, June 2nd, 9am - 11:30am (half-price)
12pm - 1pm (free)

Nederland Community Center

www.mountainforumforpeace.com

Gilpin seniors celebrate success with pride



OMAYRA ACEVEDO
GILPIN COUNTY

On May 22, the Gilpin County High School seniors began a special celebration with a relaxed dinner at 6 p.m. Friends, families, and staff gathered to honor the Class of 2024. By 7 p.m., everyone made their way to the auditorium.

For one hour, Gilpin's graduating class received scholarships from many of the area's organizations. Announcements began with honor roll students, followed by the first scholarship award, the Shelby Allen Memorial Scholarship, awarded to Jordanna Gagnon and Lynda Icenogle.

From there, 10 more scholarships were awarded. Garet Adler received The Colorado Skills USA Scholarship. The Daughters of the American Revolution Scholarship was given to Jordanna Gagnon.

The City of Black Hawk Scholarships were given to all students who applied. Each student received \$8,800. The Gilpin Booster Club honored eight students with \$500 scholarships each.

Barbara Hardt, Managing Editor of *The Mountain-Ear* was among the evening's presenters, giving Anna Thomason the Barbara Lawlor Memorial Scholarship. Barbara Thielemann presented Sterling O'Sullivan with the Peak to Peak Rotary Scholarship.

Sterling also received the Lady Elks Scholarship that evening. Seven scholarships went to Gilpin High School seniors, presented by the Gilpin County Education Foundation. Five Gilpin County School alumni from various graduating classes (1958 - 1965)

(Continued on page 23)

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The Mountain-Ear presents:
News and Brews at Melt Coffee
Thursday, May 30, 8:30-10 a.m.

Come talk to staff members about anything newspaper related!

This session will include:
Barbara Hardt, Managing Editor
Sara Sandstrom, Editor
Christopher Kelley, Senior Journalist
Bethany Haas, Marketing & Advertising

Next up:
Sunday, June 9 10 a.m. to Noon
at our booth at Ned Farmer's Market



Awards and more

Top: After the capping ceremony, Gilpin's 2024 class poses as a group. Center: The first of many awards are distributed on stage as seniors receive well-deserved applause. Bottom: The three Alan Green Memorial Foundation award winners pose for a quick photo.

PHOTOS BY Omayra Acevedo

Gilpin pride

(Continued from page 22)

joined the celebration.

Sarah Swanson, Class of 1961, presented the very first Maxine Gray Science Award to Lynda Icenogle. Gilpin County Sheriff Kevin Armstrong presented the Alan Green Memorial Foundation Scholarships with two \$4,000 scholarships to Skylar Webb and Sterling O’Sullivan.

The largest award of the evening went to Alexa Brandon, winning \$60,000 from the Alan Green Memorial Foundation. Seniors lined the walls near the stage for the capping ceremony, where once more, families, friends, and teachers showed their support.

The evening ended after a slideshow of memories from the seniors’ perspectives, during which



PHOTO BY Omayra Acevedo

Rewarding interns

Anna Thomason receives the Barbara Lawlor Memorial Scholarship for her participation in local journalism.

much nostalgia and joy could be sensed across the auditorium. Congratulations Gilpin County graduating Class of 2024!

2024 Senior Scholarships and Plans

Garet Adler

Scholarships:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Colorado SkillsUSA \$3000
\$11,800

Garet will be attending WYOTech and participating in the welding program.

Aaliyah Amaya-Beard

Scholarships:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Aaliyah will be attending Metro State to pursue her degree in World Languages.

Alexa Brandon

Scholarships:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
CSU Green and Gold Scholarship \$12,000
Gilpin County Booster Academic Scholarship \$500
IZ Bar Leadership Award \$60,000
\$81,300

Alexa will be attending Colorado State University where she will be studying animal science.

Lili Cope

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Lili plans on attending Red Rocks Community College and is interested in Welding

Dakota Cowles

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Dakota is going to take a Gap Year and continue in the workforce, then he plans on attending a trade school for heavy equipment or another area.

Rayna Durnen

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Rayna will be attending Red Rocks Community College as an ASCENT student and studying Technical Theatre.

Cheyenne Fejarang

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Colorado School of Mines Outstanding Junior Award \$1000
Mines Provist Award \$4000
\$13,800

Cheyenne will be attending Colorado School of Mines to study economics.

Elara Frisch

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Elara plans on attending Trade School to become an electrician

Jordanna Gagnon

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
DAR Scholarship \$500
CSU Green and Gold Scholarship \$16,000
Shelby Allen Memorial Scholarship \$500
Gilpin County Booster Academic Scholarship \$500
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$2500
\$28,000

Jordanna will be attending Colorado State University and is interested in criminology and business

Vincent Garcia

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Vincent plans on taking a Gap Year and continuing to work in Graphic Art. He would then like to attend Art School.

Sophia Guiliano

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
CU Boulder Gold Scholarship \$3800
\$12,600

Sophia will be attending CU Boulder and majoring in business.

Caleb Hopkins

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Ameristar Scholarship \$10,000
\$18,800

Caleb will be attending Red Rocks Community College to study business administration and marketing.

Lynda Icenogle

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Mines President’s Award \$16,000
Shelby Allen Memorial Scholarship \$500
Maxine Gray Science Award \$1000
Gilpin County Booster Art Scholarship \$500
\$26,800

Lynda will be attending Colorado School of Mines to study civil engineering and will be competing on their D2 Cheer Team.

Roland Keller

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$1000
\$9800

Roland will be attending CU Boulder in the Exploratory Studies program.

Cadence Lautrup

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Cadence is taking a Gap Year and continuing in the workforce. She may pursue a degree in education in the future.

Christian Lautrup

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Christian hopes to participate in the Timberline Fire Fighter Program.

Dusty LeBeau

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$1500
\$10,300

Dusty will be attending CU Boulder to study Integrative Physiology.

Chrislyn Martinez

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Chrislyn plans to take a Gap Year and continue in the workforce. In the future, she wishes to study quantum physics and music.

Jessi McCurry

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Booster Art Scholarship \$500
\$9300

Jessi is planning on attending Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design to study graphic design and 2-D animation.

Sterling O’Sullivan

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Booster Athletic Scholarship \$500
Central City Lady Elks Scholarship \$1000
Peak to Peak Rotary Scholarship \$1000
Alan Green Memorial Scholarship \$4000
\$15,300

Sterling will be attending Colorado State University in the Exploratory Studies Program.

Abigail Parton

Scholarships:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Abigail will be joining the workforce and is interested in either working in dispatch or working with the Cheezo group.

Alex Pence

Scholarships:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Alex is going to take a Gap Year then plans on attending a trade school to pursue a career as an electrician.

Brianna Rice-Dietz

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Bri is joining the Navy and is going to study nuclear engineering. The Navy will cover all her educational expenses.

Lloyd Rousseau

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Lloyd will be attending Red Rocks Community College and later transfer to Ft. Lewis. He is going to study graphic art.

Kailee Starkey

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$750
\$9550

Kailee will be attending Red Rocks Community College and studying Cosmetology.

Anna Thomason

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
CU Denver Scholarship \$4000
Barbara Lawlor Memorial Scholarship \$1500
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$1500
Gilpin County Booster Art Scholarship \$500
\$16,300

Anna will be attending CU Denver to study Biochemistry on the premed track.

Teddie Vaughan-Tomlinson

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Booster Art Scholarship \$500
\$9300

Teddie is going to take a Gap Year then plans on attending school in Laramie, Wyoming to study musical performance and zoology.

Connor Vincent

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Connor will be attending Red Rocks Community College to continue to pursue a career as an electrician.

Lincoln Vincent

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Lincoln will be attending Red Rocks Community College to continue his studies in sound technology.

Skylar Webb

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Alan Green Memorial Scholarship \$4000
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$750
\$13,550

Skylar will be attending Colorado State University to study marketing.

Cheyenne Weger

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Cheyenne will be attending the Bridge to Bachelors program at Red Rocks Community College as an ASCENT student and is studying computer engineering. She plans on transferring to Colorado State University.

Lane Willis

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Booster Art Scholarship \$500
\$9300

Lane plans on attending Park City Culinary Institute to pursue a career in the culinary arts.

Russell Wood

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Gilpin County Education Foundation \$1000
\$9300

Russell will be attending Red Rocks Community College in general studies.

Ben Zeckser

Scholarship:
City of Black Hawk \$8800
Ben is going to take a Gap Year to travel, then plans on attending a trade school to become an electrician.

Gilpin graduation class of 2024

DAVE GIBSON
GILPIN COUNTY

On Saturday, May 25, a procession of Gilpin County School board members and teachers entered Gilpin County Stadium and took their seats on the field. Following them were the 34 Gilpin seniors that would be graduating on this special day during which they could reflect on their high school years, celebrate their accomplishments, and look ahead to the next phase in their lives. Acknowledging their many supporters in the overflowing bleachers with smiles and waves, they also took their seats.

Salutatorian Brianna Rice-Dietz sang a beautiful rendition of the national anthem and Secondary Principal Alexis Donaldson expressed her fond memories about the Class of 2024 and wished her charges the very best in the future.

Joseph Wuchter delivered the Commencement Address. He noted that when he first met the Class of 2024, all of his students were wearing masks because of the pandemic. Tongue in cheek, he said that the scary part was when the masks came off and his pupils began asking questions, which brought a laugh. He mentioned amazing rallies by his sports teams and the sound character they possess. In



Valedictorian Jordanna Gagnon



Salutatorian Brianna Rice-Dietz

his parting words, he encouraged the outgoing seniors to “not waste major time on minor things.”

Every year the seniors purchase a gift for the school. Looking very comfortable at the podium behind a microphone, Caleb Hopkins presented this year’s Class Gift of a new water cooler dispenser to be installed in the gymnasium for when their athletes need recharging.

Boasting the second-highest grade point average in her class, Salutatorian Brianna Rice-Dietz spoke: “Thank you, everyone, for all the memories. I wish each and every one of you the best of luck in this world. May we all take that final leap and learn to spread our wings. For we must fly into the sunset of this chapter of our lives only to fly into many more sunrises.

Congratulations Class of 2024, we made it!”

Cheered on by her classmates, Valedictorian Jordanna Gagnon’s smile reached from ear to ear when she walked toward the stage to give her speech. She shared humorous observations and stories about

(Continued on page 25)



34 special seniors

Top, left: Gilpin Principal Alexis Donaldson shares a moment with graduate Kailee Starkey. Top, right: Brianna Rice-Dietz thanked Christopher Rouse. Bottom, right: Lynda Icenogle receiving her diploma from School Board President Sarah Swanson. Bottom, left: Superintendent Dr. David MacKenzie congratulates Dakota Cowles.

PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Class of 2024

(Continued from page 24)

her time at Gilpin Schools along with deeper musings. Toward the end of her address, she continued, “Though you may no longer wish to be an astronaut, or princess, remember the big dreams that your childhood self had; don’t give up on those dreams when you have just become old enough to go for them. No matter what, keep working for what you want and don’t let anyone tell you when to quit.”

Kim Cobb individually recognized every student who received a scholarship. On this occasion, all of them earned at least \$8,800 to assist them with their onward journeys. In all, almost a half million dollars was awarded in scholarship money.

In the Flower Recognition Ceremony, students each grabbed an armful of flowers and handed them out to family, teachers, and administrators that were always there for them. Sentiment ran heavy as they thanked those people.

At last, the moment had arrived. One by one, a long queue of students stepped onto the stage to be met with a hearty handshake, congratulations, and given their diploma. The joy they felt at that instant and pride experienced by family members was immeasurable. Returning to their chairs with tassels moved from one side of their caps to the other, the honorees let their mortarboards fly. They were now officially high school graduates!



Moving on with their lives
 Top: Hats off to the Class of 2024!
 Bottom row, left to right: Joe Wuchter delivered an inspiring Commencement Address. Student Council President Caleb Hopkins presented the seniors’ gift to the school. Aaliyah Amaya-Bear began the Flower Ceremony.

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Nederland - Boulder - Mountains

Redesigning Ned's roads, sidewalks, and trails

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

Fehr & Peers, the firm contracted by the Town of Nederland in June of 2023 to develop the Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP), has delivered on the next phase. Representatives for Fehr & Peers have been eliciting feedback from the Town's advisory boards concerning their recommendations for roundabout and intersection redesigns, and improved sidewalks and crosswalks.

The MTP is funded through the Denver Regional Council of Governments as part of their Fiscal Years 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

Fehr & Peers have been leveraging engagement with residents, Town staff, and local officials to draft a guiding document of medium-to-long term solutions regarding pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle transportation through recommended policies, projects, and programs.

Engineer and certified Road Safety Professional Charlie Alexander, and Transportation Planner and Senior Associate Carly Sieff of Fehr & Peers, met over the course of a week with the Parks, Recreation,

and Open Space Advisory Board (PROSAB), Planning Commission, and Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB).

Alexander also met, for the second time, with the Task Force consisting of Katrina Harms, of the Peak to Peak Housing and Human Services; Landon Hilliard, the Senior Transportation Planner for Boulder County; Nathan Skalak of JVA; Steve Rowntree, the Director of Business Operations at Eldora Mountain Resort; and Ron Mitchell, Chair of the Nederland Downtown Development Authority (NDDA).

Town Administrator Miranda Fisher, Community Planner Britt DeMinck, Nederland Community Center Manager Dawn Baumhover, Parks Manager Nicki Dunn, and Mayor Billy Giblin were also in attendance for the Task Force meeting on May 23.

The recommendations from Fehr & Peers were met with thoughtful consideration and discussion from board members and commissioners, though some of the more impactful recommendations received criticism and concern that some of the recommendations might meet with negative reactions from the community.

These recommendations have yet to be finalized; this draft of the MTP will be further refined after a pass through broader community engagement occurring over the summer.

Roadway Recommendations

Fehr & Peers recommends updating the Town's only roundabout by increasing the size of the center island to increase the radius vehicles will need to traverse, in order to force them to slow down when entering and traveling through the roundabout.

Splitter islands for the major highways approaching the roundabout will also help to mitigate speeding issues. They suggest that East 2nd Street and North Bridge Street be made into one-way streets feeding into the roundabout, to accommodate a smoother traffic flow and to allow for the roundabout's roads to be redesigned for a wider circle.

The intersection of Lakeview Drive and Bridge Street was redesigned with wider roads to include the suggested implementation of turning lanes to

create turning ease for those going to Ace Hardware or the Caribou Village Shopping Center, and to create a sufficient traffic flow for through traffic.

The intersection of Eldora Road and Highway 72 is also redesigned, with wider roads for the creation of turning lanes, to alleviate congestion from vehicles attempting to turn onto Eldora Road, or attempting to turn left from Eldora Road back towards town.

It was noted that the viability of roundabouts were researched at both of the town's problematic intersections. However, there were concerns as to whether a roundabout would fit in such areas, and the high cost of constructing them.

Fehr & Peers also reviewed the four possible locations for a second bridge across Middle Boulder Creek for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The location behind the Wolf Tongue Mill, and the suggestion to build up Weir Bridge, where the creeks meet the reservoir, were not considered to be viable options due to grading challenges, and both being located too far from the center of the Town.

The two locations proposed to cross Middle Boulder Creek into Chipeta Park, including the 100 East 1st Street and the Fisherman's Lot locations, were selected by Fehr & Peers to be the most logical locations for the construction of a second vehicle bridge.

Alexander noted that Fehr & Peers were suggesting the Town pursue

(Continued on page 27)

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Redesigning

(Continued from page 26)

multiple bridges across the creek. During both the Planning Commission and Task Force meetings, concern was raised about the roundabout redesign regarding complications arising from making North Bridge Street a one-way street, as that would potentially create a new congestion problem with vehicles turning left off the Highway to get into the gas station.

Though many who commented felt that the addition of turning lanes at the town's two major intersections would be helpful, members of the SAB questioned whether the visual representation in the MTP was possible when considering the reality of widening those roads.

"What we're trying to do is understand concepts that should move forward as line items for future budgeting and delivery," Alexander explained. "We're not trying to get to construction level documents for every single project in the plan."

Alexander noted that road widening may impact rights-of-way for some adjacent properties in terms of the possible relocation of sidewalks and landscaping, and that Fehr & Peers will investigate further to obtain more information as to the feasibility of their recommendations.

Parking Recommendations

Fehr & Peers are suggesting that the Town focus on managing its existing parking by implementing shared parking initiatives, creating paid parking zones, adding clear signage and wayfinding, and making code changes to institute more specific restrictions and fines, as well as neighborhood parking permits.

The MTP highlighted that paid parking would occur only on East 1st Street and the Visitor's Center parking lot, and suggested that there be scattered parking opportunities throughout the downtown area, as opposed to focusing on hopes for a parking garage on the RTD Park-n-Ride lot.

As for the suggestion of creating shared parking initiatives, a collaboration between the Town of Nederland and Eldora Mountain Resort was recommended to implement specific parking zones in

town for an Eldora shuttle service. Practically all of Nederland's advisory boards and commissions took umbrage with the suggestion of implementing neighborhood parking permits, with many board members questioning the logistics and language involved with such a change to municipal code.

Though it was specified that the Town would have liberty in creating their desired terms and conditions to be included in such code language, the issue of enforcement was raised; the Town's contract with law enforcement, and current staffing limit, does not factor in citing parking violations and enforcing parking code.

Patricia Dowd of the SAB expressed her disappointment that the MTP was seemingly catering to the needs of tourists and thru traffic, and was focusing more on vehicular traffic as opposed to a central parking location which would promote pedestrian and bicycle transportation through town.

"I don't think we're looking holistically at a way in which we can utilize our infrastructure," Dowd said. "I want people to walk around Nederland. As things change and we turn more into West Boulder it makes me sad to see that this is what we're talking about."

SAB Chair Melody Baumhover stated that there was once a push from the Town to promote actual multimodal transportation across Nederland, from bicycle taxis to golf carts, but the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) would not work with the Town to change the laws to permit such transportation on the highways.

Rab Lachance of the SAB also inquired whether the revenue generated from paid parking would be enough to cover its monitoring and enforcement.

"Generally speaking, when towns are implementing systems like these the goal isn't necessarily to generate revenue, or to add cost burden to the Town, but to offset your cost of enforcement," Alexander answered.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Recommendations

According to data gathered from Fehr & Peers' first round of community engagement, more than 70% of Nederland residents desire improved pedestrian crossings, and over 60% desire sidewalk repairs and additions.

Further recommendations for transit improvements include creating sidewalks, benches, and shelters at bus stops, with access to bus information, as well as making all bus stops compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In addition to highlighting needed trail connections and sidewalk connections, especially along the highways, the MTP also showcased recommended improvements for the crosswalk across Highway 119 connecting the Visitor's Center to East 1st Street, and the crosswalk across Highway 72 connecting the RTD Park-n-Ride and the Nederland Community Library.

Fehr & Peers are recommending that Nederland's social trails be formalized, that the crusher fine sidewalks be replaced, that all crosswalks should be made "all-weather"—referring to the installation of stamped and colored concrete — and that a pedestrian-actuated traffic light should be installed at the Visitor's Center crosswalk.

The traffic signal is to ease traffic congestion from backing up into the roundabout by staggering pedestrians crossing the highway. The light would only turn red when a pedestrian presses a button at either end of the crosswalk; there would be a delay to allow vehicle traffic time to move comfortably through instead of being forced to instantly stop at the red light for crossing pedestrians.

An underpass to potentially flow traffic under Highway 119 was also researched, but was classified as difficult to construct and unsustainably expensive.

Skalak of JVA mentioned that a path could be created to run along the creek, under the existing road, which could be closed off during flooding of the creek. Alexander expressed his belief that pedestrians would ignore the underpass and would continue to attempt to cross the highway at the Visitor's Center.

Skalak also noted that CDOT would not be in favor of concrete crosswalks due to the possibility that their plow trucks would be affected, and suggested instead to create recessed crosswalks by striping and grinding down the concrete.

Dunn pointed out that the Safer Main Streets project, per approval from CDOT, involves the improvement of four of the Town's crosswalks, including across Highway 72 at the Nederland Community Library, as well as at the Presbyterian Church, and across Highway 119 at East 1st Street and at the Visitor's Center.

The East 1st Street crossing and Nederland Community Library crossing are planned to be beacons crosswalks.

The Planning Commission were mostly unanimous in their agreement that a traffic light in Nederland was a disagreeable prospect, regardless of being pedestrian-actuated, and that promoting such a recommendation would be detrimental to public trust.

Transit Improvements

Fehr & Peers suggests working with CDOT for road redesign of the major highways, or gateways, that flow into Nederland. The redesign would include speed changes and gateway "features" that would promote slowing down when approaching the Town.

The MTP also mentioned installing speed cameras at the major entrances to town. This prospect was proposed by Boulder County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Nederland during last year's budget discussion with the Board of Trustees. Trustees voted against pursuing speed cameras due to concerns regarding public support — or the lack thereof.

As for what additional measures could be taken to promote slower speeds when approaching the Town, a member of the public suggested a flashing "speed feedback" sign on Highway 72 before the corner into town. Trustee Aaron Tye agreed that such a sign in that location would slow traffic down just by showing drivers how fast they are going as they approach.

Further recommendations for transit improvements include creating sidewalks, benches, and shelters at bus stops, with access to bus information, as well as making all bus stops compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The MTP also suggested the creation of additional bicycle parking at bus stops and around the town.

Though it was suggested within the MTP that the Town should attempt to pursue the recommendations for transit improvements despite the knowledge that RTD may not be planning to expand its services, Hilliard stated that Boulder County is working with RTD to establish hourly NB route service, which is expected to come to fruition by January, 2025.

Program and Policy Recommendations

Fehr & Peers is recommending that Town staff and officials create a Street Sweeping Plan, complete Wayfinding initiatives (currently in development by the NDDA), require developers of any large residential or commercial projects to provide a Traffic Impact Study, to circulate education on roundabout travel and safety, and to pursue funding from additional sources, such as grants.

The next steps for Fehr & Peers include committing to more broad engagement with the town's residents and stakeholders over the summer, and to provide a more thoroughly researched draft to the Board of Trustees by the fall. The entire MTP project is expected to wrap up before the end of the year.

Candidate Questions: *Jessica Kays*

BARBARA HARDT
BLACK HAWK

As many of you know, two Republican candidates are running for the same seat in District 1 in Gilpin County. On Thursday, May 16, 2024, The Mountain-Ear sent an email request to commissioner candidates Jessica Kays and Marie Mornis requesting a Q&A with both of them before the upcoming Primary election. Both candidates agreed to answer questions. We collected questions from the community and sent them to both candidates on Friday, May 24. Both candidates submitted their responses by Monday, May 27. These questions and answers are published without any edits, as received. The Mountain-Ear is also willing to host a Candidates roundtable discussion. If both candidates agree, we can plan it between June 8 and 15.



Commissioner Candidate Jessica Kays

1. How long have you lived in Gilpin County? 30+ years. I moved to Gilpin with my family in 1993.

2. What sort of County oriented volunteering do you do? I am an active leader in the Gilpin Republican committee and am a part of a working group where we focus on community activities and programs. I recently organized a highway clean-up on June 15th where we will be responsible for 3-miles on Highway 119.

Between myself and my businesses, I do support the food bank through donations and engage others to support.

3. What other volunteer work do you do? Working full-time and running three small businesses, I still try hard to find time to support my County and fellow residents.

4. What boards or committees are you currently on? I am currently the Treasurer of the

Gilpin County Republican Central Committee.

I am also an active, ten-year member of the Elks Club.

5. Why do you want to be a commissioner? I love Gilpin County and this community. I see frustration in friends and local business owners in the way things are being handled at the county level. I believe we need to make changes now. I am a positive change and bring fresh perspectives; and give a voice back to the residents.

6. What previous government experience do you have? I have 25 years of experience of working in and for Gilpin County. I have worked as staff, a twice-elected official, and am currently a contractor for the County.

In my current capacity I also have the pleasure of working with a variety of other counties, municipalities, and special districts.

7. What do you feel qualifies you to be a County Commissioner? Gilpin Residents = My Passion! I will work for you and represent your voices.

To elaborate on my 25 years of experience, I have well-established relationships with nearly every staff member in Gilpin. I understand the intricacies of each department, and their importance to not only the operations of the County but their impact on our community.

Additionally, I currently operate three successful small businesses: managing budgets, timelines, and projects is second nature. Whether it be a personal, business, or government budget, understanding how to operate within our means is the only way to run an organization.

8. What specific goals do you have for the County if elected? Please prioritize your top three.

- Ensure Fiscal Responsibility. Achieving goals such as funding

the Community Center, water/cistern development, and wildfire mitigation planning with alert and warnings plans.

Continue forming the framework for the county's maintenance and replacement cycles to minimize the budget rollercoaster.

- Attainable Housing and Affordable Child Care. Being in a rural mountain community we need to be creative in our partnerships and funding opportunities.

I will work tirelessly to ensure we have dependable and affordable pre-school and after-school childcare options for our workforce families. Raising three boys in this community, I understand this issue deeply.

- Maintain Quality Rural Lifestyle with Responsible Growth. Being a 30-year resident of Gilpin County, I respect and appreciate the desire to "Keep Gilpin Rural." We need to preserve the balance between our quiet mountain life and visitors, the hospitality industry, and support of small businesses.

9. What is the most important skill you bring to this position? Communication and my willingness to talk with anyone! I believe strongly in the power of open, civil communication – this includes listening and would suggest it is more important than talking.

Collaborating with residents, fellow board members, fellow elected officials, the cities, and agencies within the county will move our county forward: together and with common goals being achieved.

10. Please share your vision of growth and economic development in the County. I have stated the importance in maintaining a balance between our rural character and economic development. Supporting development in currently established areas – Rollinsville, Central City,

Black Hawk, and the mid-county area (MM 15 on 119). These are areas in Gilpin County where it has been more conducive to growth. With the proper infrastructure and community support, I believe these businesses will continue to flourish.

Gilpin County revenues are primarily derived from Gaming Tax revenue, so the biggest challenge is stimulating a diversification of non-gaming businesses. I am committed to thinking outside of the "government box" and finding solutions that are resident supported.

11. How would you integrate renewable energy and green policies in County planning?

With the growing renewable energy grant opportunities for businesses, residents, and the county it brings prospects to the future of our County. The County is currently moving forward with charging stations at the library and as County Commissioner, I would invite appropriate renewable energy ideas at any existing or new buildings owned by the County.

For residents, solar permitting is currently available through the Community Development department.

12. What quality of life issues do you think are important for Gilpin County residents? How would you deal with them?

I believe many of us have chosen to live in Gilpin County primarily for the quality of life, choosing a greater overall well-being. We enjoy the natural splendor, freedom from over regulation, and limited government involvement.

Possible impacts to ones' well-being are cost of living and lack of social interactions.

As a County Commissioner I will advocate to de-regulate where possible while maintaining public safety. Additionally focus on opening the Community Center fully, which is the heart of our County and is an excellent source of social interaction so many of us need.

13. Tell us what you know about the county's budget and the gaming tax revenues.

Having been involved in the County's budget processes for the past 21 years, I am experienced in developing a budget as an elected official for Gilpin. I have also worked with every department and budgeting their IT needs.

The budget is a public document and as a citizen, I have reviewed the budget and have highlighted some fun facts below:

- The County has an overall budget of:

Revenue: Nearly \$31 Million
Expenditures: ~\$39.5 Million
Ending Balance (2024): \$20 Million

- The income sources for revenue are:

Gaming Tax
Property Tax
Grant Monies

- Gilpin's portion of Gaming Tax Revenues are set at 12% by Colorado law.

- The County has 27 departments that operate out of the General Fund

(Continued on page 29)

Jessica Kays

(Continued from page 28)

and there are 8 Special Reserve Funds.

- The County currently has no debt – bonded or otherwise.

14. What experience do you have in networking with other groups and people who have ideas different from your own?

I am experienced in networking, reaching outside my “bubble,” and actively pursuing conversations outside my political affiliation to avoid the inevitable partisan echo-chambers that occur.

I consider different perspectives to be an opportunity for me to understand as much as I can from others. If there is a chance to reach across the aisle, engage with new people, and learn new things I embrace that. I enjoy stepping outside my comfort zone, being challenged in conversations that expand my knowledge. I find this approach will not only make me better informed but makes me a great leader.

15. Does the Candidate believe the current changes to the Climate are caused by human activity?

I do believe that human activity plays a role in the changes to the climate. I also understand there are other factors outside human control that influence the climate.

We need to be better stewards of our planet by taking responsibility of the nature around us. Be mindful of our everyday actions and the footprints we leave.

16. What is your position on the IGA the City of Black hawk offered re: the Community Center?

I am opposed to raising taxes and I am opposed to taking the million dollars from the City of Black Hawk.

Partnerships are built on trust and good faith, not “non-negotiable” contracts. Being unable to sit down with the city and discuss a deal that affects County residents is disheartening. I believe the relationships between the County and both cities are fundamental to good government and establishing quality services for all residents.

This is not a binary choice, “take the million or raise taxes,” I don’t agree with either of these options because they are both similar in their result, but they make the County hooked on money that is unnecessary.

Instead, I am in favor of returning to the 19-year precedent of fully funding the community center from the General Fund. Throwing another million dollars into the budget does not deal with the fiscal responsibility concerns or increased staffing requirements. We need to develop plans for current and future generations.

While the Community Center is not statutorily required, it is vital to Gilpin County. Not only is it used for Emergency Evacuation needs, it is also a facility where families come for quality time, seniors come for socializing – it is truly the center of our community and needs to be treated as such.

17. What is your position on the Sustainable funding for the community center?

The County has a 19-year precedent of funding the operations of the Community Center. I want to re-establish operations fully and believe that it is attainable for 2025 and the foreseeable future.

I support the County’s recently implemented capital improvement plan addressing the needs for all County facilities. This plan allows for responsible future maintenance and repairs while balancing the County budget.

18. What is your position on the proposed food pantry annex?

I have been a long-time proponent of the food pantry. It is important to aid our fellow residents, as no person or family should go without food or the necessities to thrive.

The current Board approved a one-time \$1.3 million dollar expenditure for the development of a new Food Pantry annex in 2024. The County is now anticipating over \$900k in grant money, making the County’s out-of-pocket expense around \$400k.

If the \$900k grant monies are awarded, the County could then re-allocate the originally committed 2024 funds from the food pantry annex and open the Community Center fully in 2024 or apply it to fully funding the Community Center in 2025. Furthermore, because the County was able to approve a one-time \$1.3 million dollar expense for a food pantry in 2024, and that expense will not occur in perpetuity – the \$1.3 million could become available to the Community Center starting in 2025.

I do believe in ensuring the food pantry continues to be managed without creating long-term financial consequences. I am open to the idea of a non-profit or any private/public partnership managing the food pantry and removing the County’s responsibility from that portion. So long as this is done responsibly and with guarantees for a long-term service.

19. What is your position on a mill levy increase to fund the Sheriff’s Department?

I am not aware of a current mill levy increase for the Sheriff’s Office, however there was one in 2020. I was a supporter then, and I would support another one, if deemed necessary.

As Commissioner, I want to ensure the Sheriff’s Office has every tool and resource required to perform their public safety duties to the best of their ability.

20. What is your position on the proposed Sexually Oriented Business in Central City?

The Central City Council (Mayor and Alderman) are elected positions and have the obligation

to do what is best for the City of Central while representing the will of the residents.

Council should seriously weigh and take into consideration the impactful responses heard, and the significant turnout seen at the May 21st meeting. They should listen to every resident they can, have townhall events, open meetings, or maybe even take the issue to an election so all residents can have a voice.

Additionally, I would suggest waiting for the results of the Sexually Oriented Business Impact Study Gilpin County is working on. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on May 21st and the study should begin after July 1, 2024. There is no need to push the current proposed ordinances through until a thorough study from an impartial organization is completed.

21. Do you think the 2020 Presidential election was free and fair?

Having extensive experience and knowledge of elections, I do think Elections in Colorado ARE free and fair.

22. Do you have faith in mail-in balloting and if not, please cite verifiable examples that lead to your conclusions?

Yes! Both Colorado and Gilpin require many levels of checks and balances to provide free and fair elections.

23. Do you feel the County is overstaffed? If so, what would you cut?

In general, I believe the County has increased staff at a rate greater than the population has grown or services offered have been expanded. I believe it is important to take a deep look into all positions within the County.

However, I do not think it is right or fair to staff to publicly oust specific position(s). This is not how I would want anyone to find out if their job was possibly on the line.

Staffing overall needs to be addressed. Gilpin County needs to focus on hiring the best candidates, paying staff appropriately, and creating an environment where employees want to stay. Retention of quality staff is important for the services provided to the residents.

We need to create a greater employee efficiency by investing in them through training and providing the proper tools. Emphasize on streamlining and cross-training staff for enhanced services to residents of Gilpin County.

24. Assuming the Gilpin Republicans hold a majority on the Board of Commissioners, what, if any, decisions made by the previous Board would you seek to overturn and why?

Whether the Republicans were the majority or not, there are a few things I would like to revisit with the sitting board:

- I would work tirelessly to fund the Community Center, at least 6 days a week, from the County General Fund.
- Expand Public Meeting accessibility (see previous comments).
- Based on overwhelming comments from the residents, review the Building Code and OWTS permit processes.
- Review current STR thresholds to ensure we are meeting the needs of residents and local small business owners.

(Continued on page 30)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.”
– Oscar Wilde

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SAT AUG 3	DIGGIN' DIRT W/ THE GUERRILLA FANFARE BRASS BAND
SAT AUG 17	ATOMGA W/ SELASSEE & Fafa FAMILY
SAT AUG 31	THE RIVER ARKANSAS & SILAS HERMAN AND JACK CLOONAN

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Candidate Questions:

Marie Mornis

(Continued from page 29)



Commissioner Candidate Marie Mornis

1. How long have you lived in Gilpin County? My husband and I purchased our home in the summer of 1982 (forty-two years ago) and raised three children who attended the Gilpin school.

2. What sort of County oriented volunteering do you do? Being a county commissioner is a full-time job with unpredictable on-call hours, so volunteering is now a luxury for me. Before I became a commissioner, I was elected to the Gilpin County School Board and served as the Treasurer. My pre-COVID service to the Gilpin Seniors was driving seniors to the lunches and assisting with food service and cleanup. My husband and I volunteered for the Idaho Springs food pantry - stacking, distributing, and serving food items to the needy. I also helped organize and donated to the Gilpin Food Pantry's Thanksgiving Food Drive and the Teen Make-a-Wish Christmas Gift Drive.

3. What other volunteer work do you do? Presently, I volunteer at my church, scheduling volunteers to help with the Sunday church services and assisting on the Donation Counting Committee. I also serve as the Gilpin County Republican Party Chair, recruiting, encouraging, and promoting candidates for county and statewide elections.

4. What boards or committees are you currently on? As commissioner, I am on the 911 Authority Board, a Director on the Denver Regional Council of Governments, a member of two statewide county lobbyist groups, the Board of Health, and the quasi-judicial Local Liquor License Authority. I believe it is important

to be informed and engaged in federal and state legislation and programs, but my major energy and interest is to serve Gilpin County.

5. Why do you want to be a commissioner? The question for me is "why do I want to continue to be a commissioner?". Living in Gilpin County for over four decades, I have seen many changes over the years - with the one exception of gaming - most have been gradual without extreme disruption to the community. However, for the past several years the constant increase in county personnel and funded projects that result in unsustainable obligations has caused a loss of services to the community. I have voted against both increases in staffing, especially in administrative positions, and the four-day work week, which results in a reduction in access for residents. There are many other projects, like the \$1.5 million food pantry and the \$500,000 shooting range that I believe are unnecessary. To be clear, I am not opposed to either of those services for our citizens...I oppose the decisions made to build and maintain a 2,500 sq. ft. new food pantry and the location of the shooting range to another county. These decisions leave less money for desired community services, such as the recreation center and senior transportation. At times, I am the only commissioner speaking up for common-sense solutions and fiscal restraint. I want to continue to be that voice for the citizens of Gilpin County.

6. What previous government experience do you have? Prior to serving as County Commissioner, I was elected to the RE-1 School Board and served as Treasurer. During my time on the Board, a new Superintendent and Principal were hired. Plans for a new high-school wing were initiated by the Board. With a preliminary budget in hand, a mill levy was placed on the ballot to fund the new wing. The people passed the mill levy.

7. What do you feel qualifies you to be a County Commissioner? I know Gilpin County! Gilpin County is my home! My concerns for this county are keeping taxes low, providing services as we did in the past for our citizens. As an incumbent Commissioner, I work every day to bring back the Gilpin County we knew and loved. Neighbors helped each other, were kind to each other and supported each other. That is my primary passion for the county.

My experience as a project engineer (fifteen years) required me to manage projects from concept to design, procurement, construction and start up within +/- 10% of budget. For a successful outcome, it was necessary to communicate well with other departments, such

as finance, scheduling, safety, engineering, and operations. The skills I developed of analysis, planning, budgeting, discernment, and teamwork apply to the qualities needed for a County Commissioner.

8. What specific goals do you have for the County if elected? Please prioritize your top three?

- Fund the recreation center seven days a week, as the county has done since its opening; with or without the Black Hawk IGA annual offer of \$1 million.

- Our food pantry is necessary for the needy in our community. It is not necessary to spend \$1.5 million to build a new building in a new location.

Repair or replacement at its current location would save the county approximately 75% of the proposed costs.

- Continue a laser focus on developing quality and reliable broadband service for all our county. This has been a serious issue for our first responders and citizens with inferior service.

9. What is the most important skill you bring to this position? I analyze data and issues with the needs and concerns of the county foremost in my mind.

10. Please share your vision of growth and economic development in the County.

- Cooperate with the two gaming cities to assist in their growth and success, where possible.

- Support measured growth in the county, balancing the need for services with the peoples' desire to maintain their rural community.

- With the planned expansion of broadband, economic opportunities will be open to everyone interested in online commerce.

11. How would you integrate renewable energy and green policies in County planning?

- Research and implement a feasible method to use county generated slash piles to fuel the wood-chip boiler that heats the Public Works facility. This will save the cost of man-hours, transport and disposal fees.

- A feasibility study to add solar panels on the recreation center building to help reduce energy costs.

12. What quality of life issues do you think are important for Gilpin County residents? How would you deal with them?

- Keep the peace and beauty of our small mountain community: o Request more state trooper presence on the highways to reduce loud, speeding traffic (motorcycles, race cars).

- o Forbid the Gross Reservoir wood-hauling trucks from traveling through Gilpin County.

13. Tell us what you know about the county's budget and the gaming tax revenues. Gilpin County has received \$42,047,420 in gaming revenue since 2021 and property tax revenue of \$18,111,166 since 2021 for a total of \$60,158,586 from 2021 to 2023.*

Our 2024 budget expenditure is \$39,453,754. Expenditures for the three year period 2021 to 2023 is \$79,447,058. This type of spending is not sustainable for the long-term fiscal health of our county.*

*All values are from the Gilpin County Annual Budget, Fiscal Year 2024

14. What experience do you have in networking with other groups and people who have ideas different from your own?

I have many years of experience working with multi-disciplined professionals in my engineering career. Teamwork is a strong practice I value and used to accomplish the goals of project management. I expect to work together with the next Board of Commissioners to serve the community.

15. Does the Candidate believe the current changes to the Climate are caused by human activity? I don't claim to be an expert in this area. If it ever becomes an issue for Gilpin County, I will proceed with due diligence to become informed.

16. What is your position on the IGA the City of Black Hawk has offered re: the Community Center?

I see strong positives to the offer. The community wants the recreation center supported by the county general fund as it had been in the past. The failure of the 1A mill levy is a strong indication of the citizens' displeasure with tax increases. Black Hawk's generous offer of \$1 million per year would help offset operation cost and allow time for the Board of County Commissioners to evaluate the staffing, hours of operation and programs. If for any reason the IGA is no longer a benefit to the county, the Commissioners may withdraw from the agreement at any time without penalty. I wonder why anyone would refuse to accept the \$1 million per year.

17. What is your position on Sustainable funding for the Community Center?

The recreation center was built with no debt and has been supported by the county general fund for 17 of the past 20 years. The Board of Commissioners must make the recreation center a priority and fund it for seven days a week, with or without the Black Hawk IGA.

18. What is your position on the proposed Food Pantry annex?

Our food pantry is necessary for the needy in our community. It is not necessary to spend \$1.5 million to build a new "Community Center Annex." The proposed annex includes offices and a commercial kitchen. I see both of these as unnecessary expenses.

(Continued on page 31)

Marie Mornis

(Continued from page 30)

19. What is your position on a mill levy increase to fund the Sheriff's Department? I have always supported the needs of the Sheriff's Department. However, the 2024 Sheriff's budget of \$12,943,061

adopted in December of 2023, increased \$2,181,876 from the 2023 budget. Part of this increase is due to newly-passed State legislation requiring law enforcement to provide additional, extraordinary services for inmates. I will not vote for a tax increase on the people, but will work to find ways to support our Sheriff's department, including reimbursement from the State for their mandated services.

20. What is your position on the proposed Sexually Oriented Business in Central City? As a private citizen I believe SOB's will be a detriment to the cities and the county.

21. Do you think the 2020 Presidential election was free and fair? Lawsuits on this issue are still working their way through courts across the country.

22. Do you have faith in mail-in balloting and if not, please cite verifiable examples that lead to your conclusions? Mail-in ballots have been fraught with fraud, as county clerk offices have been unable to maintain accurate voter rolls. Even in our county, election judges have encountered voters attempting to vote in person, only to find that someone else had returned a mail-in ballot in their name.

23. Do you feel the County is overstaffed? If so, what would you cut? The 2022 Compensation and Staffing study presented to the Board indicated we needed further staffing in Patrol and Dispatch. I intend to look into areas of staffing in my next term as Commissioner.

24. Assuming the Gilpin Republicans hold a majority on the Board of Commissioners, what, if any, decisions made by the previous Board would you seek to overturn and why? I believe it is presumptuous to assume that the two new Republican Commissioners would vote in lock-step. I would support the following changes:

- Accept the Black Hawk IGA for \$1 million annually.
- Stop the \$1.5 million food pantry in favor of replacing or repairing the existing pantry.
- Approve live streaming of Commissioner work sessions and allow limited public interaction.
- Update the employee handbook removing the recently-added text allowing county employees to campaign on the job.

Pop Up Pump Track



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOM MAHOWALD AND SAM OVETT

Volunteers help build bike recreation

Ron Mitchell, owner of 100 East 1st Street, has offered his land for a bicycle pump track to be built, with volunteer effort, by new trail construction venture Hero Dirt Works. More news to come on this new recreational asset and its grand opening later this summer.



Gross Reservoir Community Survey results meeting

WES ISENHART
BOULDER COUNTY

Boulder County government held a public meeting at the Nederland Library on May 21, 2024, to discuss the results of their Gross Reservoir Community Land Preservation Survey.

The settlement agreement with Denver Water provided for \$5.1 million for a land acquisition fund to mitigate impacts from the Gross Reservoir expansion project.

Samuel Wallace of Peak Facilitation Group was the moderator for the meeting. Aaron Clark, Land Officer for Boulder County Open Space, and Barbara Halpin, Special Projects and Community Engagement Coordinator, led the discussion and provided background information as to how the acquisition fund might be used.

The settlement agreement stipulated that the acquisition fund could be used to reduce impacts on recreation areas in Boulder County through purchasing property for open space, acquiring conservation easements, and establishing trail corridors. Boulder County received payment from Denver Water in May, so the acquisition fund has been established.

Halpin explained the process for using the fund, which started with the survey that was sent to over 2,000 residents from their Gross Reservoir contact list. The survey was conducted from April 15 to May 13, 2024, and the results have been tabulated and analyzed by County staff.

The survey considered four potential uses of the fund. The first use was to protect habitat by purchasing land that would protect wildlife, expand a wildlife migratory corridor, protect a nesting area, or create a buffer between human development and wild spaces.

The second proposed use would be for undeveloped (non-motorized) passive recreation. Land purchases in this category would be aimed at connecting publicly owned parcels or acquiring mining claims, but would have no amenities like trails.

Developed (non-motorized) passive recreation would focus on acquiring land that would allow for amenities like parking lots, toilets, and trailheads.

Purchasing land for a shooting range was the fourth proposed use for the acquisition fund. Development of a shooting range would allow the County to implement shooting restrictions in some areas of national forests in Boulder County and around Gross Reservoir.

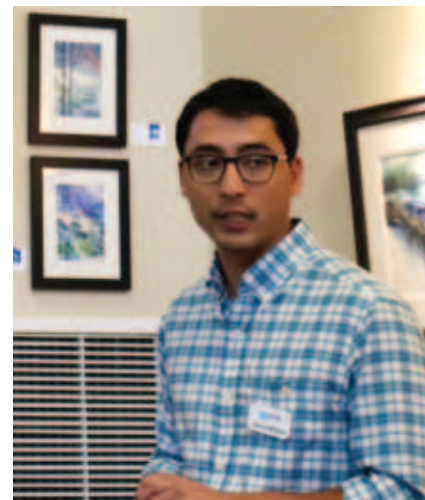
Clark used a PowerPoint presentation to discuss the results of the survey. The survey was a preference poll on each use with a scale from 1 to 5.

The aggregated and weighted scores of the four uses showed habitat protection as the highest ranked use (4.27) followed by undeveloped recreation (4.11), developed recreation (3.14) and shooting range (2.19).

Public comment included pros and cons for the different uses. One comment noted that purchasing land for habitat or undeveloped recreation does not mitigate issues



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



Gross Reservoir Survey discussed

Top: Land Officer for Boulder County Open Space Aaron Clark discussing the criteria for open space land acquisitions. Bottom: Samuel Wallace of Peak Facilitation Group moderating the Gross Reservoir Community Land Preservation Survey meeting at the Nederland Community Library.

conserve habitat is an appropriate use of these funds.

Based on the results and staff review of available options, the Boulder County commissioners will receive a set of land acquisition recommendations later this summer.

After commissioner approvals or changes, expected this fall, open space staff will proceed with purchasing and developing land using the acquisition fund. Due to the complexity of land reviews and purchases, it will take several years for this acquisition fund to be completely exhausted.

A video version of this meeting can be found on YouTube. Use the search term: Gross Reservoir Land Preservation Survey Community Meeting.

The link to the survey results is: assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Boulder-County-Gross-Reservoir-Expansion-Land-Preservation-Community-Survey.pdf.

For more information about this land acquisitions process, contact Barbara Halpin at 720- 564-2830 or bhalpin@bouldercounty.gov.

caused by the expansion of the reservoir. Other comments stated that people move to the area for the mountains, forests, and wildlife, so purchasing land to



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SAB discusses environmental values, transportation, and tourism

TANYA UNGER
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) was called to order at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 23.

Without hesitation, Mayor Billy Giblin kicked off the Rights of Nature (RoN) discussion with Nederland's water attorney Aaron Ladd. Giblin expressed appreciation for the concept of the RoN granting legal status to nature, but noted the difficulty the Board of Trustees (BOT) faced in aligning this approach with the need for storage to secure Nederland's future water resources.

While acknowledging the town's pioneering status in adopting RoN, Giblin cautioned against continued association with Save the World's Rivers (SWR), citing potential threats to exercising Ned's water rights. Giblin mentioned opposition statements from SWR impacting several towns along the Colorado River, raising concerns about the organization's reputation in water courts and water congress.

In a recent development, Giblin revealed concerns about the intentions of Gary Wockner, founder of Save the World's Rivers (SWR), previously seen as an ally in sustainability efforts. Giblin cited conversations with Wockner prompted by legal and engineering advice following SWR's filing of statements of opposition to water rights applications from Saint Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District's Coffintop Reservoir and from the Eldora Ski Resort.

Wockner ultimately submitted a statement of opposition to Nederland's water plans. Giblin urged Wockner to reconsider, emphasizing the potential impact on the community's water rights. Despite these discussions, Wockner continued to oppose the Town's proposal. The BOT then unanimously decided to pursue a repeal of the RoN ordinance, a move perceived as necessary to minimize the risk of threats to the future of Nederland's water rights.

Board member Rab Lachance inquired as to the liabilities that RoN brought to the Town that required it to be repealed. He added that, while RoN is affiliated with SWR, they are not the same organization.

The Board also explored ways to offer tourists an authentic "Ned Head" experience.

Giblin responded that water courts see RoN tethered to SWR and this creates a problem for us. Ladd agreed with this statement.

Board member Rick Orman added that SWR has made themselves a legal adversary of the Town of Nederland, and from a legal perspective the Town must rescind. "Water is life and without water we don't have a town – and Save the World's Rivers does not care," he continued.

Ladd clarified that the concern raised is whether Nederland is inadvertently supporting an organization that is litigating against it and potentially influencing Town affairs from within or through the guardians.

It was recognized that there is ample expertise within the town and the SAB to advise the BOT effectively, instead of relying on external organizations to dictate decisions. Ladd stressed the importance of evaluating key factors such as water rights security, political relationships beneficial for the community, and decisions that align with the community's best interests.

SAB Chair Melody Baumhover asked Ladd, "What harm could arise from adopting the RoN if they are not upheld in water court?" Ladd highlighted the novelty and associated risks of using the RoN in court proceedings. He acknowledged the Board's need to address these risks, and the need to identify alternative approaches that preserve the best aspects of the RoN.

Ladd outlined the potential consequences if RoN were used against the Town in court. He pointed out the potential implications for the town's development pursuits. He also identified the unknowns associated with diverted funds as a key risk factor. Funds originally intended for water and sewer infrastructure improvements now face redirection toward legal battles.

Board members discussed the need to refine the concept of sustainable development, acknowledging that the RoN may have been too stringent regarding any development. Instead, they

emphasized the importance of finding ways to develop with minimal harm rather than imposing strict limitations on development.

Questions arose regarding Wockner's involvement with the guardians. It was noted that Wockner had first proposed that his organization, SWR, serve as the guardian. The SAB instead appointed members Rick Orman and Alan Apt, signaling the town's need to distance itself from too much influence from external organizations. Orman and Apt's roles as guardians were clarified as being information conduits to the BOT, independent of SWR's influence, although SWR initially contributed to the wording of town ordinance.

Apt highlighted the RoN's language issues. He emphasized the need for Nederland to articulate its environmental values using its own terminology and principles. He suggested utilizing the existing Sustainability Scorecard as a foundation for this endeavor, expressing optimism about creating a policy aligned with local values and not intended for litigation.

Giblin prompted the SAB to focus on maintaining an approach centered on information sharing. To address this, a subcommittee was proposed. This group could monitor the physical environment, including watershed, wildlife, trees, and air quality, and provide input to the SAB and BOT on emerging issues while serving as a community sounding board.

Lachance moved, with unanimous approval, to establish the subcommittee. Baumhover, Orman, and Lachance were voted onto the subcommittee and tasked with gathering legal advice and crafting a draft resolution for the June SAB meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the latest Multimodal Transportation Plan update, presented by Charlie Alexander from Fehr & Peers. The plan prioritizes sustainability through transit, walking, biking, and emission reduction.

SAB input was sought on bicycle and pedestrian facilities, sidewalks, trails, and transit enhancements. Additional feedback from the SAB focused on parking and traffic calming measures. For more information regarding all aspects of the current draft of the Multimodal Transportation Plan, please refer to the full coverage in this edition of *The Mountain-Ear* or online at <https://www.themtnear.com>.

Public Engagement Officer Peter Cacek introduced the Nederland Tourism Management Strategy 2024-2027, a product of collaboration with the Colorado Tourism Office. Emphasizing its distinction from a marketing plan to bring more tourists, Cacek outlined its focus on addressing existing local tourism challenges while preserving community values.

Strategies discussed included tourist education, data collection for impact assessment, and maintaining community integrity amid tourism growth.


The Board also explored ways to offer tourists an authentic "Ned Head" experience, highlighting events like Miners' Days and the Nederland Farmers Market. The potential for a sustainability eco festival was discussed. Wild Bear Nature Center was recognized as a key partner for environmental education, with enthusiasm for the idea of an electric shuttle from their new parking lot to town.

Winter traffic concerns, noise pollution, and parking management at Eldora were also addressed, with suggestions for a reservation system and noise mitigation measures. Cacek plans to gather feedback from Nederland's boards before seeking public input to refine the strategy document.

The Board appointed Maddie Woods as Secretary for May through June. In July the SAB will hold its regular leadership elections.

Sustainability Coordinator Leah Haney gave a brief update on the EV chargers at the Visitor's Center parking lot. Nederland will begin to charge money to use the EV chargers in order to cover their cost and bring in revenue. A public outreach campaign is planned prior to implementing a fee structure.

Nederland Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2024. For more information go to: townofnederland.colorado.gov/sustainability-advisory-board.



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Gilpin commissioners unveil historic markers: Part 1



MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

At 10 a.m. on May 21, the Gilpin County commissioners recessed their work session and drove to Mile Marker 2 of Highway 119 to tour various historic sites around the county. They began at Cottonwood Camp, unveiling the Chinese Pioneers sign. They also visited the historic Red Tail cabins near Robinson Hill.

There will be four new heritage tourism route signs throughout the county. The commissioners unveiled two of them today, with the other

two scheduled for unveiling later this summer.

Grant Manager Jamie Boyle and County Manager Ray Rears attended the first sign unveiling.

Boyle described the sign's content, noting that from 1870 to the 1890s, Gilpin County had a significant group of Chinese immigrants, primarily miners, who did back-breaking physical labor such as pan-mining leftover gold mines in the area.

Many of the miners were recruited from China, or from the railroad in other parts of western America, by an influential leader, Chin Lin Sou. He had been a crew leader on the Central

gather information, which was taken from the Society's book, *The Little Kingdom of Gilpin*.

Cottonwood Creek provided the group with clean drinking water, as much of the available local water was polluted with mining runoff.

Rears mentioned that he had performed a cleanup of the area ten years prior, where he possibly saw some Asian pottery shards along the creek. The only remaining remnants of the Chinese immigrants are the mineral cases in the commissioners' room at the Gilpin Courthouse, which have a distinct Asian style.

Commissioner Sandy Hollingsworth noted that May is Asian-Pacific Islander Month, making the unveiling particularly timely. Boyle summarized that shedding light on the group's history and honoring their presence felt appropriate.

The signs were funded through Gilpin's lodging tax, revenue of which provided the \$7,000 needed to match a Colorado Tourism Grant. Together, they completely covered the project's costs.

Next, the commissioners visited the historic Redtail Cabins, located off Robinson Hill at 114 Redtail Road, a private dirt road only recently named. Two historic cabins, a concrete root cellar, and the remains of a stone building, all believed to be built around 1900, occupy the property.

The County acquired the property around 2018, and the commissioners expressed a desire to see the cabins since they had yet to visit them.

Then the commissioners went to see the second sign on the tour, located at the Gilpin County Community Center on the west side of the building.

This sign describes the strange tale of a submarine discovered in Missouri Lake in 1932. The submarine was



Promoting Gilpin history

Top, left: The commissioners and Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan visit the historic Redtail cabins. Top, right: The commissioners unveil the first Heritage Tour Sign at mile marker 2 on Highway 119. Bottom, right: The second sign on the tour tells the strange tale of a submarine in Missouri Lake. Bottom, left: The first sign shares the lost history of Chinese pioneers in the area.



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY

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SUBMIT

Pacific Railroad and had an excellent grasp of English, earning him respect in Gilpin County.

He brought his wife and their daughter, Lilly, to Gilpin County. Lilly is believed to be the first Chinese-American child born in Colorado.

Initially residing in Central City, the Chinese immigrants were eventually forced out of town and relocated to Cottonwood Camp, which had a train depot, houses, and infrastructure until a flood wiped out everything in 1911.

This community, numbering over a hundred, was, outside of Denver, the largest group of Chinese immigrants in the state – an important yet often overlooked part of local history.

There are no markers for their graves or much documentation of their lives. Gilpin County worked closely with the Gilpin County Historical Society to

commissioned by the U.S. Navy to be built in Central City by Rufus T. Owen in 1898.

Owen tested the submarine in Missouri Lake, but the placement of rocks inside for ballast was miscalculated, causing the sub to sink. Permanently.

It was forgotten until 1932, when a mining company needed to drain some of the lake for ore mining. Then, in 1944, a Central City resident recovered the sub from the lake. It sits today on display at the Gilpin History Museum located at 228 East First High Street in Central City.

For more information, visit the Heritage Tour signs at mile marker 2 of Highway 119, and at the Community Center at 250 Norton Drive.



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

Work session discussion
From the left, Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan, Division Chief Greg Demo, Human Resources Director Chanda Johnson, and Division Chief Sean Wheeler speak to the board about hiring, referrals, and retention for critical, hard-to-fill positions.

Gilpin looks at employee recruitment and retention

MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

The Gilpin County Commissioners (BoCC) called their work session to order at 9 a.m. on May 21, 2024, at the Historic Courthouse in Central City. In attendance were Commissioners Susan Berumen (Chair), Marie A. Mornis, and Sandy Hollingsworth, as well as County Manager Ray Rears and County Attorney Brad Benning.

Benning handed out the written policy on electioneering to clear up any recent confusion. Electioneering includes campaigning for or against any candidate on the ballot, or for or against any ballot issue; the distribution or display of campaign posters, signs or other campaign materials, including apparel; and soliciting signatures for a candidate petition, a recall petition, or a petition to place an issue on a subsequent ballot.

These activities are prohibited within 100 feet of polling locations, i.e., the Gilpin Courthouse, the Community Center, and the polling station in Rollinsville. They are also prohibited within 20 days preceding the election. This year, the cutoff day for electioneering in these areas will be June 5.

Statute decrees: "No person shall do any electioneering on the day of any election, or during the time when any voting is permitted for

any election, within any polling location or any public street or room or in any public manner within one hundred feet of a building in which a polling station is located, as publicly posted by the designated election official."

Chanda Johnson, Director of Human Resources for the County brought to the Board's attention a proposal regarding Employee Recruitment, Retention, & Referral Bonus for hard to fill positions.

The purpose is to provide a monetary incentive to candidates for applying for and filling critical safety-sensitive or hard-to-fill positions.

"There are struggles with recruitment and retention," said Johnson. "There are a lot of positions that have not been filled since the nearby Denver market is competitive."

Johnson proposed to bring this topic to the next regular board meeting. Rears said any of these positions would be offset by salary savings and that, as a whole, the County is below budget since 9% of the positions have yet to be filled.

To be eligible for the hiring bonus, the position must be open for over 12 months, critical to the safety of others, be approved as a critical need, and the direct supervisor must attend an in-person Human Resources-supported management training course that is at least eight hours long.

The hiring bonus for a position that has been vacant for 12-19 months would be given \$1,000 30 days from the start of employment, with \$2,500 allotted after six months of employment.

Retention bonus payments would increase based on how long a position remains unfilled, and would occur on the one-year anniversary of the hire date. Employees cannot receive both a hiring bonus and a retention bonus at the same time.

"Being short-staffed hurts," said Johnson, and current employees will be likely to recommend potential coworkers if there is a referral bonus. The data on referrals show higher performance and longer retention.

There will be no limits on referral bonuses. After the referred employee has been working for six months, the referring employee will receive \$300. After one year, \$600.

Johnson said the estimated numbers are accounting for worst-case scenarios.

If a position remains unfilled after 24 months, there will be an investigation into the issue to analyze financial benchmarks.

Hollingsworth asked if Johnson's intention would be to hire an outside consultant to investigate unfilled positions.

She said that could be the case, or it could be an internal deep-dive. Rears said that an outside group or consultant would be more objective

and neutral in assessing why a position has not been filled.

Division Chiefs Sean Wheeler and Greg Demo attended the work session and discussed the issue with the BoCC.

"We are seeing a lot of positive feedback from our current staff," said Demo. Supervisors may not be eligible for retention bonuses, and the hiring manager, or person who hires the new employee, would be ineligible for a bonus.

Rears asked the board what positions would be exempt.

"This is a toolbox and we are looking at various tools," said Rears, explaining that this is part of the process and a piece of the puzzle in filling vacant positions.

Berumen mentioned positive marketing and getting the word out for the positions.

Rears asked for direction from the Board. He summarized key points and questions for them to consider before the next meeting on June 11:

- The word "bonus" would be changed to "incentive."
- If supervisors are included, the BoCC should define exempt and non-exempt positions.
- Will the BoCC accept outside consulting regarding positions vacant longer than 24 months?

Johnson said the potential cost of instituting the recruitment and retention program would be \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year, but would come from salary savings, practically paying for itself.

The proposed referral program would be instituted the day it is approved, reevaluated annually; and the hiring and retention program may possibly be renewed every five years.

Berumen said it will be two to three years before the efficacy of the program could be evaluated.

The work session concluded at 11:53 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for June 11, 2024, at 9 a.m. and will be held in person at the Historic Courthouse, 203 Eureka Street, Central City and online via Zoom.

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Administrator's advice to Nederland: seek to understand



CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Town of Nederland is changing, all the time. It changes every year, every season. In its position on the Peak to Peak Highway, Nederland is a central ventricle, a beating heart with all sorts of life being pumped through it. It expands and shrinks as different people constantly visit here, move here, move away, come back, camp here, work here, and try to make a life here.

Miranda Fisher grew up here; she calls Nederland her home town, and for the last five years has served as the Town Administrator, a position which she has expressed feeling honored to have held.

She has taken the responsibilities that come with being at the helm of a town in such an important geographical position, knowing that she would have to face a community that's constantly wrestling with the challenges of living in that very

position.

A community that is used to being ignored by Boulder County, used to poor communication from CDOT and RTD, used to power outages and wind storms, snow storms, floods, and fires. Such hardened communities often become so acclimated to disenfranchisement that they directly oppose that which threatens to change it, such as tourism, economic development, population growth, and downtown revitalization.

Fisher is from this community and was aware of these matters before taking the job, though she admits that there was a learning curve when she started in the position of Town Clerk in 2019. But mitigating an entrenched culture in Town government helped Fisher to fully grasp the reality of the career she had chosen.

"I remember the first time I was publicly criticized," Fisher told *The Mountain-Ear*. "There was this moment where I thought, 'you're either going to grow a really thick skin and move forward or this isn't the job for you.' And in that moment I decided that I did want this job and wanted to do it for the rest of my career."

Fisher holds a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and Technical Communication from Colorado State University, a Master's degree in Public Administration from Pennsylvania State College, and a Doctoral Degree in Public Administration from California Baptist University.

She left a job in health and human



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIRANDA FISHER

Town Administrator of five years leaves

Left: Fisher is proud to have served Nederland, her home town. Right: Fisher marches in the 4th of July parade.

services administration to pursue an interest in town management, but veering her career path into her home town came with unforeseen emotional challenges, from the risks of being villainized and isolated, to having to separate personal and professional relationships.

"The expectations here and the reality are so far from each other, and often people communicate in such a negative, challenging, and borderline abusive way with Town staff," Fisher said.

"It's unfortunate that you need to have such thick skin to do this job, but you cannot survive without it, and I learned that very quickly."

"You could really feel a rift and divide between departments," Fisher continued, describing her early days as the new Town Administrator. "We, as Town staff, had gotten a

little stale in our approaches and my leadership led to a staff transition. Some people left and went on their own way, and I know that was hard for the community to see."

"I remember getting criticized at that time about what was happening, but with those incredible employees who left us arose an opportunity to realize that we needed to go a different way as far as staff culture."

As Town Administrator, Fisher was determined to affect the culture of Nederland's municipal government in positive ways, such as avoiding stagnation by improving and expanding on the Town's collaborative relationships with neighboring entities, and by building a team of young, "green" talent.

Continued on page 37

Government Meetings

Black Hawk City Council meetings occur at 3 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Join us on Wednesday, June 12 and 26 in Council Chambers located upstairs at City Hall, 211 Church Street, Black Hawk. For more information check online at <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/calendar/upcoming>.

Central City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Join this month, meetings on Tuesday, June 4 and 18 at 7 p.m., in person at City Hall, 141 Nevada Street or online at <https://centrality.colorado.gov/meetings>.

Central City Historic Preservation Commission meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Join the next meeting on Wednesday, June 12, at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 141 Nevada Street, or online at <https://centrality.colorado.gov/meetings>.

Central City Planning Commission will meet at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, as needed. Join the next meeting on Wednesday, June 5, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 141 Nevada Street. Visit online, <https://centrality.colorado.gov/meetings> for the upcoming 2024 schedule.

Gilpin County Board of County Commissioner (BoCC) meetings are typically held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Attend in person at the Old Courthouse, 203 Eureka Street, Central City, or online via Zoom at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 11 and 25. <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/public-meetings/board-of-county-commissioners-bocc-meeting>.

Gilpin County Historic Preservation Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. online via Microsoft Teams. To listen on Thursday, June 20, visit <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/public-meetings/historical-preservation-commission-meetings>.

Gilpin County Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Old Gilpin Courthouse at 203 Eureka Street, Central City. To listen online, check out <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/public-meetings/planning-commission-meetings> on Tuesday, June 11.

Gilpin County Board of Health meets on Thursday, June 6, in person at the Commissioners' Meeting Hall, 203 Eureka Street, Central City, 2nd floor, and online via Microsoft Teams. Visit online at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/board-of-health-meetings>, for the 2024 schedule.

Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 7 to 11 p.m. Attend on Tuesday, June 4 and 18, in person at the Nederland Community Center, 750 Highway 72, or virtually via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/board-of-trustees>.

Nederland Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Attend in person at the Nederland Community Center or online via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/downtown-development-authority/>, on Wednesday, June 12, at 6 p.m.

Nederland Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) meets as needed on the second Thursday of the quarter (January, April, July, October). Join in person at the Nederland Community Center or online via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/board-of-zoning-adjustment>, on Thursday, July 11, at 7 p.m.

Nederland Parks, Recreation & Open Space Advisory Board (PROS-AB) meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Join in person at the Nederland Community Center or online via WebEx, on Thursday, June 20, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/parks-recreation-open-space-advisory-board>.

Nederland Planning Commission (PC) meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Join in person on June 26 at 7 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center or via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/planning-commission>.

Nederland Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, June 27, in person at the Nederland Community Center or via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/sustainability-advisory-board>.

Stay updated with our *The Mountain-Ear* online government events calendar at <https://www.themtnear.com/events/category/government>.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIRANDA FISHER

Understand

Continued from page 36

“We all start from somewhere. Nederland hasn’t always had the luxury of having a huge candidate pool, and there were opportunities where I realized that there was a person in a certain position who was meant to be in another position,” Fisher explained.

“I don’t ever want their greenness to be looked at as a negative thing; it gives space for creativity and to look at things differently. It’s how we come up with alternative revenue streams and the ability to do certain things.”

“Everyone who works with me doesn’t believe in the status quo. The sentiment of ‘that’s how we’ve always done it’ doesn’t mean anything to me, and for better or worse, however the community feels, I’m leaving here knowing that I’ve pushed the boundary of what we can do as a town in all the best ways.”

When asked about the ebbs and flows of her time as Town Administrator, Fisher admits that there were difficult moments to navigate, including the COVID-19 pandemic. She unapologetically addresses the hard decisions that were made under her administration.

“There have been times where the Board was really questioning my leadership, like when we lost the whole Utilities department and the police department. Those are probably the two biggest defining moments where we had to make some tough decisions,” Fisher said.

“And recently, having to decide to make the community center a warming hut instead of an emergency shelter, I got criticized for it and had to defend that decision before the Board.”

In her final Town Administrator Staff Report delivered to the Board of Trustees on May 21, Fisher highlighted what she believed to be the milestones that have been achieved during her tenure.

Fisher noted the strides Nederland has taken to tackle its affordable housing problem head on, from code changes to partnering with neighboring communities and committing to state programs. She also put a spotlight on the work being done for health and human services,

including funding a volunteer driver program and mental health training.

The Town’s Water and Wastewater management was also mentioned by Fisher as having improved over the years, with over 150 water meters replaced, all of Nederland’s hydrants inspected and repaired where necessary, and improvements made to the infrastructure and facilities.

Fisher admits that success in municipal government is difficult to gauge, noting that much of what she considers a success isn’t highly publicized. But of all the plans, proposals, and projects that Fisher has championed over the years, she views the change in compensation for Town staff as a great accomplishment for the Town.

“They’re getting paid better than they were, so it’s generally just a really happy culture and I’m not sure we were there five years ago,” Fisher said.

In 2023, Nederland’s municipal employees received pay raises to bring their salaries up to the minimum of the state average, which Fisher and others believe has helped the Town to be a competitive force in the employment market.

When Fisher’s position of Town Administrator was announced open, the Town received a much higher number of applicants than ever before. Of the multiplicity of applicants, four were short-listed.

Nederland officials, from Trustees to Commissioners and Board members, commented on the quality of applicants, stating that they were originally worried about finding a proper replacement for Fisher until they interviewed the four candidates for the position.

“The 19 candidates were incredible, and getting them down to four was difficult,” Fisher noted, adding that there was half that number of candidates when she ran for the position, and that the choice was narrowed down to a final two.

“When I went for the position the salary was \$70,000 to \$80,000. It’s \$127,000 to \$147,000 now, and our neighbor counterparts are making \$160,000, so we’re paying people equitably, though technically still on the lower end.”

Fisher resigned as Town Administrator on April 16, having accepted a position of Town Manager for Camp Verde, Arizona. Her last day with Nederland was Friday, May 24; her first day with Camp Verde was Tuesday, May 28.

Building a better culture to work in

Left: Fisher directs traffic during the Town Clean Up event. Right: Fisher collaborates with Parks Manager Nicki Dunn to organize the parade.

“It’s a fully staffed team of 130 staff members, with almost a \$60 million budget. I love that I have the opportunity to work with a community of 13,000, in a place that I’ve loved since I started my bachelors degree there,” Fisher said.

“What attracts me to Camp Verde is their desire to invest in economic development. I think there’s a stalemate here – and that’s okay that Nederland is not there yet – but for me, professionally, I want to be in a community that wants economic development.

“They’re going through everything Nederland is going through, just on

a larger scale, so I want to take my skill set to see if I can do it. And that’s authentically me, I’m going for myself and for no other reason,” Fisher admitted.

“I have a career I’m looking to develop and unfortunately the only way you grow in town management is to go to another community.”

Unfortunately, Fisher’s exit from town has been met with an amount of community ire and perceived controversy, which she classifies as more of the misinformation and perpetuated distrust that have

Continued on page 43

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Golden Gate Fire Protection Board hires engineer for Station 83

JOHN SCARFFE
GOLDEN GATE CANYON

The Golden Gate Fire Protection District Board met on May 23, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Grange. All Board members were present: Deb Curlee, President; Niffy Ovuworie, Vice-President and Treasurer; Marith Reheis, Secretary; Dave Primmer; and Steve Green.

Steve Green asked that Board transparency and legal transactions be added to the agenda. Ovuworie responded that the dollar amounts for transactions are published on the internet.

Green said he also had a personal matter to discuss, and the Board said he can do that during public comment.

The Auxiliary will meet on June 6 and is planning the annual pig roast for September. They did canyon cleanup last week.

Regarding Station 83 drainage repair authorization, Chief Kyle Benson asked what is required to fix the drainage problem. One possibility is constructing a concrete wall, but he doesn't have a cost yet.

Primmer suggested that they should cut the entire hill way back behind the station. Green said that several years ago he offered a solution which would benefit both the station and his property. By placing two culverts, at \$200, between the gate and the back of the building, water would drain into the ditch. They would need a four-foot culvert. He said he didn't ever see a drawing. Ovuworie moved to hire an engineer for the station and the



PHOTOS BY JOHN SCARFFE

Protecting Golden Gate Canyon

Golden Gate Fire Protection District Board met May 23. Above, Deb Curlee, President, and Marith Reheis, Secretary, prepare for the meeting.

Board approved the motion.

The Board discussed slash collection. Chief Benson said they need to move ahead getting slash collection done. This could be done later, in the fall. The other option would be to do the collection themselves.

Coal Creek Canyon at Blue Hill is the closest slash yard, which would be a long drive. The County won't do it. Curlee suggested they wait a year. Benson said they can start now by getting donations. However, the Board agreed to put off slash collection until next year.

Primmer brought up expenses for the radios the District just received. He said the price for the radios quoted in the meeting and in the minutes was way out of line. Green said it is stated that the radios are worth \$200,000. Radios are available on a

regular basis for \$800 and come with batteries and chargers.

Benson said the radios were donated to the district. Reheis suggested a wording change in the minutes, to add that the value shown is compared to new radios.

Primmer asked what the bookkeeper does, while avoiding a conflict of interest.

Green said that the bookkeeper, Mr. Creech, has additional responsibilities including preparing the budget. Curlee said that he is a volunteer.

Primmer said at the last meeting the Board formed an Executive Committee of five persons. Reheis said the Executive Committee can't communicate to the fire chief except as authorized by the Board. The Executive Committee shall cease to exist every year. It can't spend

money.

Reheis said financial matters must be presented at one Board meeting and voted on at the next meeting. Ovuworie said he wants to pursue grants, and the chief applied for one.

Regarding digital communication and TAK integration, Assistant Chief Chris Enright reported that the District can join the Wildland fire server system with the state of Colorado at no cost. They have been able to collect and bring those messages to their regular phone system.

The District can get tablets that are agency-specific. Firefighters can communicate via the tablet and get real time communication. It is a federally mandated program for first responders nationwide.

Theoretically, FirstNet can order a cell tower on wheels at no cost. Not every firefighter would have a tablet, but the tablets would have mobile hotspots, and everyone in the area can hear the information.

Benson said the system was built by the military, and they can obtain data, like feeds from air traffic control. In the next 12 months this will be the main communication device. Jefferson County Communications is supportive of implementing this system. The District can start communication immediately, which will also involve the ambulance authority.

The District will need nine tablets. At this point, FirstNet is offering to comp the tablets. Green said there is a cost buried in there somewhere. Enright said \$36 per month. They get the tablet for free and pay to maintain it.

According to their website, "FirstNet, built with AT&T, is the only network built with and for first

(Continued on page 39)

News with Altitude

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PHOTOS BY JOHN SCARFFE

Station 83

(Continued from page 38)

responders and those who support them, according to the website. That’s why the First Responder Network Authority ... will keep first responder communications at the forefront of innovation....

“The FirstNet Authority plans to invest \$6.3 billion through its network contract with AT&T These strategic investments will expand and evolve FirstNet so public safety stays at the forefront of innovative, lifesaving technologies.”

Green said it may be the latest and greatest, but he would like to see it first. The Board agreed that they would like to look at it, and they put it on the agenda for next month. Ovuworie said the District has discretionary funds and could add it to the communications budget.

Ovuworie gave the treasurer’s report. For the period covering April 2024, the District’s total expenditures

were \$32,672.70. For the same period, the District collected revenue of \$29,003.

Chief Benson reported that the regional All Hazards and Wildland agreement he was hoping to have for board review this month is still in final legal review at Jefferson County. As soon as it is available for board review, it will be submitted.

On the state level, the District continues to monitor several bills that may have an impact.

ESO implementation is nearing completion. The District is scheduled on June 28 for a full system change over from Emergency Reporting to ESO.

The gym construction at station 82 is almost complete. Again, Benson stated, “great job to FF McDaniel and all of the FFs that have donated time to complete this important project to integrate fitness into GGFPD culture.

“Our seasonal uptick in calls is as expected, with 32 calls to date. We have had several significant motor vehicle accidents occur in the last several weeks that have coincided with the increase of traffic in the

canyon.” Benson added, “Thank you for everyone who has been patient waiting in traffic and cognizant of our firefighter’s safety when traveling past these accident scenes.”

He continued, “We currently have 23 operational members and four support services members on the roster. We continue to have one firefighter on leave of absence. The GGFPD FFI academy continues to progress smoothly! The recruits have completed all of the didactic and practical portions of the hazmat academy with Pleasant View FD. The recruits will be testing for their state hazmat operations and awareness certifications this week.

“After the completion of hazmat academy, we will be re-engaging with the final hands-on portions of Fire Academy. We are anticipating graduating the academy class in September.”

Benson went on, “All active GGFPD firefighters passed their physical testing and have had their red cards renewed. Station 81 continues to progress quickly. The flooring is now installed and electrical and lighting updates have

Members of the board
Golden Fire Protection District Board met May 23. Left to right are Nifty Ovuworie, Vice-President and Treasurer, Dave Primmer, Steve Green, and Fire Chief Kyle Benson.

been finished.

“We are moving into the final stages of this project with the final finishes, kitchen installation, installation of AV components, and placement of furniture. Another thank you to all of our incredible skilled volunteers who have donated countless hours to make this station remodel a success, and on budget.”

The District is planning an open house BBQ celebration to “re-open” station 81’s living quarters the last week in June.

The next regular board meeting will be on June 27 at 7 p.m. at the Grange, 25231 Golden Gate Canyon Rd. Golden and online. For more information, go to <https://MAIN - Golden Gate Fire Protection District>.

Sexually Oriented Business – Impact Study in Gilpin County

MELANIE BLEYLER
GILPIN COUNTY

Gilpin County is inviting proposals from qualified consulting firms to provide a Sexually Oriented Business (SOB) impact study. This is in response to the Central City Council discussing permitting greatly lowering SOB distance buffers while also adding Adult Arcade, Adult Cabaret, Adult Motel, Adult Motion Picture, Adult Theater, Nude Model Studio and Sexual Encounter Center into their code on May 21, 2024.

The Request for Proposal (RFP), released on May 21st, is for the selection of a qualified consultant or consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and analysis on the economic and regulatory impact of SOBs in Gilpin County.

Specific focus of this study shall be targeted toward possible County budgetary impacts as to a loss of revenue and/or increase in expenses associated with SOBs, with a specific focus on the 2016 Law Enforcement IGA between the County and Central City.

View the RFP at <https://buff.ly/3Vd9laF>



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESS IMPACT STUDY

Commissioners claim tourism plan undercooked

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Town of Nederland Planning Commission met on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 7 p.m. to receive updates regarding the Multimodal Transportation Plan being drafted by Fehr & Peers, and the Tourism Management Strategy being created by the Town with guidance from the Colorado Tourism Office.

Commissioners heard a presentation from Carly Sieff of Fehr & Peers regarding the work the firm is doing on the Multimodal Transportation Plan. The plan aims to guide Nederland in creating convenient, accessible, safe, and sustainable transportation.

Fehr & Peers' plan is currently in the development phase, during which their recommendations on policies, projects, and programs are drafted and prioritized.

Sieff highlighted those recommendations that pertained to the Commission's interests, including redesign of the Town's roundabout, traffic congestion at key areas, parking management

Mayor Pro Tem Nichole Sterling expressed that the strategy felt more like listed topics for brainstorming as opposed to an implementable strategy.

and creation, and implementing a pedestrian-actuated traffic signal at the Highway 119 crosswalk in front of the Visitor's Center.

For more information regarding all aspects of the current draft of the Multimodal Transportation Plan, please refer to the full coverage in this edition of *The Mountain-Ear* or online at <https://www.themtnear.com>.

Commissioners offered Sieff their feedback on the plan, focused mostly on the recommendation for a traffic signal in the center of the Town. The traffic signal would only turn red when a pedestrian presses a button at either end of the crosswalk; there would be a delay to allow vehicle traffic time to move comfortably through instead of being forced to

instantly stop at the red light for crossing pedestrians.

The recommendations from Fehr & Peers for a traffic signal at the Visitor's Center crosswalk, for speed cameras at the major entrances to Town, and the recommendation to institute neighborhood parking permits were all challenged by Commissioners and labeled as hot-button topics that would draw ire from the community.

Fehr & Peers will be continuing with more broad community engagement throughout the summer, and expect to have a fully drafted plan for the Board of Trustees to review by the end of the year.

The Commission also received a presentation from Nederland's Public Engagement Manager Peter Cacek regarding the development of a Tourism Management Strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to create sustainable tourism initiatives through collaborative work with other Town boards, and with the Colorado Tourism Office, as part of their Destination Blueprint program.

Cacek presented the proposed actions that directly affect the Commission in order to receive feedback and suggestions from Commissioners regarding the listed goals and the recommended strategies to achieve them.

These goals include engaging the community and business stakeholders; educating and managing tourists; promoting businesses and local experiences; improving the tourist/community experience; and instituting tourism governance and partnerships.

Commissioners were asked to give feedback on the listed strategies to create communication platforms for both tourists and local businesses to distribute informational material; build awareness and engagement for tourism and marketing initiatives; manage tourism while protecting the Town's culture through collaborative efforts; and to establish and utilize a system to monitor the impacts of tourism.

"To break it down into a single action, it's to have tourism have a more viable economic impact on the Town without changing the Town," Cacek answered, when asked by Commissioner Jim Reis to clarify what the Town's tourism management strategy was. "It's to utilize the traffic that we already see to better the community."

Cacek also explained how social media, a distinct tourism-based website, and local resources and organizations like *The Mountain-Ear*, The Peak to Peak Chamber of Commerce, and the Nederland

Downtown Development Authority (NDDA), can help to spread the proposed informational material for tourists, as well as to build awareness and engagement on matters involving tourism.

Cacek explained that one of the major goals of the Tourism Management Strategy is to have the Nederland Visitor's Center become a tourism hub that is self-sustainable and no longer a Town-budgeted resource. Commissioners were in support of this goal, and to the prospect of the Visitor's Center falling under the purview of the NDDA.

The Commission was overall critical of the Tourism Management Strategy, stating that the ideas presented in the strategy were too complex and therefore too daunting. Commissioner Reis said that the strategy might be more fitting for a Town like Estes Park, as their infrastructure and economy is prepared for such endeavors.

"I think the presentation prior to yours opened our eyes to a lot of the problems that we're facing right now," Commissioner Linda Glasser said. "To be asked to focus on tourism ahead of those problems is making us think twice about what we need to do for the people that are here right now."

Mayor Pro Tem Nichole Sterling expressed that the strategy felt more like listed topics for brainstorming as opposed to an implementable strategy. Commissioner Mike Dye agreed and stated that the goals listed within the strategy should have a process for being measured for success.

Sterling added that tourism initiatives can be aimed to satisfy both tourists' and locals' needs simultaneously, such as sidewalk and crosswalk improvements, additional parking creation, and wayfinding.

"If it's good for locals, it's great for tourism," Cornell said in agreement.

Miranda Fisher led Commissioners in a presentation of her final Town Staff Report as Town Administrator. The May 22 meeting was Fisher's last government meeting with the Town of Nederland.

Fisher began by explaining that Community Planner Britt DeMinck would be taking on some of Fisher's responsibilities and would continue to lead the Planning Commission's meetings.

"She's an amazing asset to you and I know that she's going to do a tremendous job," Fisher said about DeMinck.

Commissioners used the discussion to thank Fisher for her service to the Town and to wish her luck in her future endeavors.

"I don't think I would last three months before I lost my temper," Commissioner Reis said about Fisher's position. "The fact that you deal with the contentiousness and the stress...I just want to thank you for always bringing a positive attitude to things; it has provided a great example for the rest of us."

The Nederland Planning Commission meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26 at 7 p.m. Meetings can be attended online via WebEx.

For more information: <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/planning-commission>.

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PHOTOS BY BARBARA HARDT

Honoring heroes

The annual Carousel event is held each year to honor military that gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives, as well as those currently or previously serving.

Carousel spins silently for Memorial Day

BARBARA HARDT
NEDERLAND

On Monday, May 27, 2024, a silent spin of the Carousel took place during the Memorial Day event at the Carousel of Happiness. The annual silent ride honors our fallen heroes as well as those who serve, past and present.

Flower girls handed out red roses as people shared a story, a name, or a memory of a loved one or friend. Scott Applebee played "Taps" on his trumpet, in memory of his grandfather Dennis Applebee and great grandfather Peter Applebee.

After the silent spin took place, veterans and flower girls climbed onto Carousel animals and had a memorial ride.

Thank you to all of our men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice. This day of remembrance is for each of you. Special thanks to Scott Harrison for this beautiful event every year.

The Carousel of Happiness is located at 20 Lakeview Drive, Nederland. To find out more, check out their website at <https://carouselofhappiness.org/>.

Nederland, get ready to clean up!

JAMIE LAMMERS
NEDERLAND

The town of Nederland is once again hosting Town Clean Up Day, "a town-driven event where residents from the Nederland area will be able to recycle items for free," as described on the town website. Trash dumpsters will be provided to residents on a first-come, first-served basis at the Nederland Transfer Station to let them clean up everything they need to, and different stations will be open for different needs.

The Boulder County Transfer Station will accept appliances, cardboard compost, and more. Bedder World will accept mattresses. Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management will accept antifreeze, oil, paint, and batteries. I.T. Refresh will accept electronics. Nederland Community Sort Yard will accept natural waste such as logs, pine cones and needles, and slash. ReSource Central will accept reusable building materials and furniture, such as sinks, light fixtures, and cabinets. Rocky Mountain Recycling will accept scrap metal. Shred It will offer secure paper shredding. Finally, Western Disposal will accept unpainted scrap wood.

In order to move quickly through the event, the town of Nederland asks that you load your vehicles in a particular way: bicycles at the front

of your vehicle, followed by scrap metal and/or unpainted scrap wood (if you have any of these materials), then trash, then electronics, then building materials, then shredding, then hazardous materials, and finally mattresses. Home by Jackie Jones will collect items for the Nederland Food Pantry, as well as provide donuts and coffee. Most recycling is free, but utilizing the dumpsters requires a flat \$20 fee per car.

Nederland Fire Department, Nederland Sustainability Advisory Board, TEENS Inc., Wild Bear Nature Center, and Wildfire Partners are the 2024 community agency partners in attendance, and they will have informational booths at the event.

The Nederland Transfer Station is located at 286 Ridge Road in Nederland. If you are interested in volunteering for the event (and receiving Nederland goodies, free food, and the opportunity to dump a free carload of trash), email Parks Manager Nicki Dunn at nickid@nederlandco.org. For more specific information, including a complete list of accepted items, a map of the event, and a diagram of how to load your car, please head online to <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/town-clean-up-day>. Clean-Up Day will occur on Saturday, June 1, 2024, from 8 a.m. until the dumpsters are filled.



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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given for a Public Hearing before the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners acting as the Board of Adjustment to receive public input regarding a petition for a variance from the Gilpin County Zoning Regulations. Petitioner and owner of the subject property, Clifford Cutter, is seeking to vary from Section 2.3 of the Gilpin County Zoning Regulations, to allow for a setback of twenty feet from the east property line from the required thirty feet in the RS, Residential Subdivision zoning district for the construction of a detached garage upon an existing foundation. Any and all documents pertaining to this matter may be viewed between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday at the Old Gilpin County Court House; second floor; 203 Eureka Street; Central City, Colorado. Docket #: BOA-24-3; Date: June 25, 2024; Time: 9:30 a.m. or later; Subject Property: 53 Winks Way Black Hawk, CO 80422; Location: Old Gilpin County Court House; 203 Eureka Street; Commissioners Meeting Room, Second Floor; Central City, Colorado.

The meeting will be held in person and broadcast live via Zoom. Members of the public will be able to participate virtually. A link to the live broadcast can be found on the Gilpin County website under the public meetings tab. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to said public meeting. Written comments or questions can be emailed to: rgutierrez@gilpincounty.org. The meeting may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary. Those individuals requiring special accommodation to participate please contact Rob Gutierrez at (303)582-5831.

Mayor Fey

(Continued from page 1)

zoning restrictions currently prohibit them.

One proposal at the meeting was to rewrite the code to permit SOBs in the industrial zone along the parkway near the Young Ranch Quarry. He noted that this would comply with the law by allowing a potential location, though it is unlikely that an SOB would choose to develop there.

Eric Langan, the CEO, president, and chairman of RCI Hospitality Holdings, Inc., spoke at the last Council meeting. RCI Hospitality, a publicly traded company primarily involved in adult entertainment, has been a significant point of discussion.

Fey stressed Langan's investment in Central City, including owning a house in the area and changing his voter registration to Central City. He praised Langan as a straightforward communicator.

When asked about the potential impact of SOBs on local crime, Fey acknowledged that while any predictions are speculative, he trusts Sheriff Armstrong and his team to maintain order. He said that he doesn't believe SOBs would lead to rampant lawlessness in Central City.

Fey pointed out that crime is generally correlated with population density and admitted that certain businesses can attract more crime.

"We already have those businesses that lead to crime. I thought Todd Williams did a good job at the

last meeting of explaining that to people. I don't know if explaining anything right now matters. It's such an emotionally charged issue," shared Fey.

Fey acknowledged that most residents are strongly opposed to SOBs but suggested that people are typically more passionate about opposing things than supporting them.

Fey will host four public meetings at the Elks Lodge in Central on May 28, 29, June 2 and 3, inviting residents to discuss the issue. He has extended invitations through social media and direct outreach to businesses and residents.

Discussing the intersection of commerce and culture in Central City, Fey noted that the commerce on Main Street funds the cultural activities on Eureka Street.

He has been involved with the Gilpin Arts Association since moving to the area and emphasized the importance of the City's support for the association.

He came to Central City for the culture, arts, and entertainment and soon realized that the casino tax revenue was the only path to sustaining the arts.

His goals include furthering the infrastructure and municipal services through economic growth; and his main objective: a state-of-the-art firehouse and department.

Fey shared his personal experiences with strip clubs, stating that he does not particularly enjoy them but acknowledged visiting them occasionally as a young man in the 90s.

RCI also owns PT's Showclub in Denver, a venue with historical ties to Fey's family, as his parents once

owned PT's and transformed it into the Family Dog, a short-lived but iconic concert venue that hosted acts like Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, and the Doors.

Langan is currently renovating a property at 130 Main Street and awaiting approval for a gaming license.

The Planning Commission suggested in 2022 to allow SOBs in the area and adjust the 500-foot restriction to 150 feet, making 130 Main Street the only viable location.

Fey shared that he has faced accusations, attacks, and threats from residents and supposed friends over this issue.

He has questioned his motivations and sought guidance from his rabbi, reflecting on whether his desire for economic development was influencing his stance. Despite the backlash, Fey believes this experience will make him a better leader and politician.

He aimed to dispel the notion that Central City is a family friendly-only destination, pointing out its numerous 21-and-up establishments like casinos, liquor stores, and dispensaries. He referenced the town's history, including "Whore's Bridge," the Gilpin History Society's risqué logo, and Madam Lou Bunch Days, an event honoring the town's last madam.

Fey also mentioned that Langan is negotiating a multi-million dollar investment in the opera, which includes five commercial buildings and 22 homes in town that are vacant for most of the year.

The issue will next be discussed at the June 18 City Council meeting, as legal guidance could not be obtained before the June 4 meeting.

Public Notice

Gilpin County School District RE-1
Board of Education
Education Enhancement Tax Statement
May 7, 2024

The Board of Education and the school community are grateful to the voters of the City of Black Hawk for the 1.5% sales tax on lodging, food, and beverage revenue that has been dedicated to the District. **The Education Enhancement Tax (EET) revenue for the school is commonly referred to as the Black Hawk money.**

● 2007-The Great Recession: Gilpin County School District (GCSD) had already been experiencing years of expenditures that exceeded the revenue provided by the state.

• Maintaining the operations of the school and keeping the doors open for Gilpin children was in financial jeopardy.

• Board of Education members at that time approached the City of Black Hawk to enter into discussions that evolved into a collaboration to generate needed revenue, keep local control of the community's school, and keep the school property tax mill levy low.

● 2008-The City of Black Hawk taxpayers voted for and passed the Educational Enhancement Tax (EET).

• The EET dedicated 1.5% sales tax revenue for lodging, food, and beverage for Gilpin school students.

• Black Hawk taxpayers kept the school open for Gilpin children; saved local control of the school; and saved GCSD from being potentially absorbed into another school district.

● 2009-The Colorado Legislature created a new budget stabilization factor in the Public School Finance Act formula due to the Great Recession and economic downturn that put pressure on the state's budget.

• The factor is a state budget tool

that proportionally reduces the amount of total funding for each school district below the level otherwise authorized to keep up with inflation as approved by voters in Amendment 23.

• The factor reduces state revenue share to districts. For the last fifteen years (2009-2024) the Budget Stabilization, as well as additional recessions, has reduced GCSD state share revenue a total of \$5,882,208.

● 2024-The EET tax, the Black Hawk money, has generated \$15,402,749 for Gilpin County School children.

EET Ensures Reduced Local School Property Taxes

GCSD has one of the lowest total program mill levies in Colorado at 6.651 mills. Of the 178 school districts in Colorado, the GCSD mill levy is the eighth lowest.

● The Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) total program mill levy is 27 mills and with overrides and bond redemption the total levy is 48.024 mills.

● The Jefferson County School District (Jeffco) total program mill levy is 27 mills, and with overrides and bond redemption the total levy is 44.526 mills.

● The GCSD total levy with overrides is 9.477 mills, thanks to the City of Black Hawk and its voters.

The EET agreement between the City of Black Hawk and GCSD is to keep the school mill levy low and use EET revenue to:

● Use for school operations and not ask voters for a mill levy override, increasing property taxes.

● Use for capital improvements and not ask voters for a bond issue, increasing property taxes.

EET Revenue Uses

● Increased the teacher starting base salary over the past 10 years from \$33,000

to \$50,000.

● Among program expenditures, the EET supplements and provides:

• preschool tuition, extracurricular activities, and provides a Chromebook computer to every student.

• Safer and more reliable transportation fleet of new, upgraded buses, adding an activity bus and a handicap accessible bus for student use.

• Upgraded activity field and added a 6-lane track.

• Provided a new and enhanced preschool and elementary playground and increased safety by paving the south parking lot, lining, and creating a one way traffic flow.

• Supported a long list of capital improvements to enhance student and staff safety at school.

• All of these achievements are at risk if Gilpin County voters approve a county-wide sales and use tax.

Borrowing \$4.2 Million

The State of Colorado requires GCSD to resolve the non-compliant groundwater discharge from the on-site wastewater treatment facility.

● The best, cost-effective solution is to construct a sewer pipe for \$8.1 million from GCSD to the Black Hawk Central City Sanitation District.

● The Board pursued certificates of participation to borrow \$4.2 million to mitigate cash flow concerns and maintain the financial reserves required by CDE.

● The revenue from the Black Hawk money goes into the General Fund, freeing up other revenue for capital projects.

Potential EET Revenue Loss

There are a number of actions in the EET Intergovernmental Agreement (see agreement) that will end the school Black Hawk money, for example, the creation of a Regional Transportation District that includes part or all of Gilpin County; GCSD

increasing the school mill levy; or, a sales tax, use tax, or lodging tax imposed by Gilpin County voters.

The loss of the EET revenue ...

● Would result in teacher position cuts, elimination of school curricular and extracurricular programs, jeopardize student and staff safety, and put GCSD into a financial survival existence.

● May result in the loss of local community control of the school; and GCSD may be dissolved and absorbed into another school district, for example BVSD, with a 48 mills school total tax levy, or Jeffco, with a 45 mills school total tax levy.

● May force the Board of Education to ask District voters to pass mill levy override questions just to maintain operations and pass bond issue questions for capital improvements to address deferred facility maintenance, transportation, safety, and technology student needs. Either and both would unnecessarily increase the local property owners' tax liabilities.

Thank You

Thank you for considering and evaluating this significant financial risk to our school if we lost the Black Hawk money. The GCSD Board of Education is extremely grateful to the City of Black Hawk and its residents for ongoing support of our school and students.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 7th day of May, 2024 by the Gilpin County School District RE-1 Board of Education.

Sarah Swanson, President

Joe Marr, Vice President

Kirsten Goodlett, Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Stranly, Member-at-Large

Tami Velasquez, Member-at-Large

Understand

Continued from page 3

permeated Nederland government and politics for quite some time.

Fisher addressed the rumors circulating her compensation from Town upon separation, and her capped hourly compensation for consulting services.

“I’m not leaving with this massive severance, I’m not getting a huge payout. I’ll get my PTO pay, like every paid employee does, and that’s it. So the rumor that I renegotiated to get a six months severance is ludicrous,” Fisher stated.

“I know some people are concerned about the consulting, but we have a lot of land use stuff going on and I have the knowledge. My intention is not to bill the town like crazy; I’m here if you need me, and if not, great.”

She was sure to mention that Camp Verde’s social media was strangely supportive and positive, which was a bit of a shock to her.

After she made her resignation public, Fisher immediately began preparing informational binders for the team she helped build, to guide them through all the different plans and projects that are still progressing, such as the Multimodal Transportation Plan, the Safer Main Streets project, the Comprehensive Plan update, and the regional

broadband initiative.

Though Fisher defines her move to Camp Verde as another step in her career plan, her pragmatism doesn’t erase the strong emotions she has for the town and for the municipal staff that she has worked with and alongside over the years.

“I’ve cried every day, and I’m not a crier. It’s very hard,” Fisher said.

“The hardest thing to leave, honestly, are these incredible people. I’ve been there to celebrate their milestones, their accomplishments, every step of the way, and I can only hope the next administrator is like that.

“Staff said, when asked what they’re looking for in the next town administrator, that they wanted someone to take the bullets for them,” Fisher continued. “With all the negativity that we see, I hope for the future that people are more mindful in how they speak to Town staff.

“On behalf of the team that I support, please don’t forget how incredible they’ve been, how much they’ve done. Be more cordial in our communication and seek to understand instead of jumping to assumptions of ill will or wrongdoing.

“The hardest thing about government work is how easily what we’ve done and where we’ve come from are forgotten.”

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE: COMMUNITY MEETING ABOUT CENTRAL-CITY CLEAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency will be hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, June 11 at 6PM at the Clear Creek County Courthouse to provide an update on the status of the Central City-Clear Creek Superfund Site. The meeting will also provide a forum for community members to ask questions about the Site.

There are several ways to participate: Join community members in-person at the Clear Creek County Courthouse (405 Argentine St, Georgetown 80444). Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88639942552?pwd=MFhVdEdjbXFGUVVPMzJaZk1VYk5Ldz09> (password: 984739)

To participate by phone (no video): 1-719-359-4580, pin 88639942552#, password 719458#

General information about the Site and access to resources related to health safety can be found at: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/central-city-clear-creek>.

To sign up for email notifications about the Site, including public notices and upcoming public meetings, go to <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/sign-up-hm-updates> and select “Remediation - Superfund - Clear Creek” at the bottom of the page.

If you have technical issues connecting to Zoom or prefer not to ask your questions publicly, please contact Branden Ingersoll at 720.810.7912 or branden.ingersoll@state.co.us.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF ELECTION (C.R.S. 1-5-205) Gilpin County Primary Election, June 25, 2024

Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder, Sahari McCormick, will be conducting a Mail Ballot Primary Election on June 25, 2024. The Clerk will begin mailing ballots on June 3, 2024. Ballots must be returned on or before Election Day by mail to the Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder, Sahari McCormick, PO Box 429, Central City, CO 80427-0429 or dropped off at the following 24-hour drop box locations starting June 5, 2024:

OLD COURTHOUSE, 203 Eureka St., Central City

GILPIN COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER, 250 Norton Dr., Black Hawk

GILPIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS SHOP, 135 Tolland Rd., Rollinsville

This is a Primary Election. Affiliation Rules are:

- Voters affiliated with the Democratic Party will receive a Democratic Party ballot in the mail.
- Voters affiliated with the Republican Party will receive a Republican Party ballot in the mail.
- Unaffiliated voters will receive a ballot packet in the mail.
- The packet will include both the Democratic and Republican ballots.
- VOTE ONLY ONE PARTY’S BALLOT and return to the Clerk via mail or drop box.
- IF BOTH PARTY BALLOTS ARE MARKED AND RETURNED, NEITHER BALLOT WILL COUNT.
- Last day to affiliate or change your affiliation is June 3, 2024.

A new voter can register to vote at GoVoteColorado.gov. Except for affiliation, a voter can make changes to their registration online until June 17, 2024. From June 18 to June 25, 2024, a voter must appear at the VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER for these services.

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER (VSPC):

Old Courthouse, 203 Eureka St., Central City, CO 80427

VSPC HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday – Friday, June 17 to June 25, 2024, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, June 22, 2024 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Closed Sunday

ELECTION DAY, June 25, 2024, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

FUNCTIONS OF THE VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER:

- A voter can surrender their mail ballot and vote in person either electronically or by paper.
- A new voter can register to vote and may vote the same day. (Must live in Colorado at least 22 days before the election).
- Drop-off location for Mail Ballots.
- Update your name or address on the voter rolls.

Ballots MUST be received by the Clerk and Recorder’s Office by 7:00 PM on Election Day, June 25, 2024 to be counted. If you have any questions, please call the Clerk and Recorder’s office at 303-582-5321 or e-mail elections@gilpincounty.org

Sample ballots can be found on the Gilpin County website: gilpincounty.colorado.gov



MAY RECIPES



Sesame Cucumbers

LAURAN KNIGHT
NEDERLAND

If you’re craving a bit of Chinese food in your diet, try these sesame cucumbers. They make a great snack or side dish to any meal.

Ingredients:

- Cucumber
- 2 Tbsp Rice wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp Sesame oil
- 1 Tbsp Soy sauce
- Black sesame seeds
- Wasabi paste
- Scallions or red onions

Directions:

Slice or cut the cucumber into cubes.

Toss cucumber with rice wine vinegar, sesame oil, soy sauce, black sesame seeds, wasabi paste, and sliced scallions (or red onion), in a pan.

Cook to your liking, or leave cool, serve, and enjoy!

Lauran Knight is part of the team at the Nederland Farmers Market. The Nederland Farmers Market is held in downtown Nederland during the summer and fall. The first market of 2024 was May 12. Find out more on their website at www.nederland-farmersmarket.org/.



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Black Hawk City Council welcomes two new police officers

MINDY LEARY
BLACK HAWK

Two new police officers enthusiastically rang the old bell in the Council Chambers, marking the start of the Black Hawk City Council meeting on May 22 at 3 p.m. The officers, Kailey Crawford-Barrett, Police Officer I; and Levi Martson, Police Sergeant, were warmly introduced to the City of Black Hawk's team.

Officer Crawford-Barrett shared her journey in the meeting agenda packet:

"I was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada, before joining the United States Army in August of 2016. Since then, I have lived in five states and was stationed at Buckley Air Force Base for my first duty station.

"In September of 2017, I gave birth to my son in Parker, Colorado, over the course of three days. Afterwards, I moved to Fort Carson to be with my current unit, 1st Space Brigade. The government decided... I mean, I decided that a summer camp in Iraq would be a fun adventure. While overseas, I earned my associate degree in Intelligence Operations Studies and have been accepted into the continuing bachelor's program.

"I currently serve as the reserve intelligence section Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge." Crawford-Barrett was also introduced as a former member of the Special Response Team at Caesars Entertainment Casino.

Sergeant Martson joins Black Hawk from the Arvada Police Department, where he also held the rank of Sergeant. He brings specialized training that will be beneficial to the Black Hawk Police Force. He is married with a two-year-old daughter and enjoys going to the gym and spending time outdoors.

The meeting agenda packet noted:

"Martson joined the Arvada Police Department in 2017 and was active in instructing, a member of the Traffic Unit, and a field training officer."

The two officers were invited to shake hands with the Council members and were warmly greeted with smiles and accolades.

The Council also unanimously approved several items, including:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Local Liquor License Authority Consideration of Approval for a New Tavern Liquor License for Pinnacle MLS, LLC dba Ameristar Beer Garden Located at 100 Richman Street, Black Hawk

ACTION ITEMS:

B. Resolution 47-2024, Approving an On-Call Service Agreement with Terracon Consultants, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$25,000 for Calendar Year 2024.

C. Resolution 48-2024, Approving the Temporary Easement Agreement Between the City of Black Hawk and Smithrock, LLC for the Use of the Briggs Lot Located at 562 Gregory Street.

D. Resolution 49-2024, Awarding the Bid and Approving the Contract Between the City of Black Hawk and Black Fox Mining, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,520,634.62 for Construction of the Bobtail Mine Improvements Project.

The plan is to remediate the tunnel with the goal of public tours. Structural improvements will begin next month and will be finished by next March.

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Black Hawk City Council is scheduled for June 5, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 211 Church Street, Black Hawk, Colorado.

NEDERLAND FARMERS MARKET

UPCOMING MARKETS

June 9 85 E. Second St 10am-2pm
music ▶ Alphonso

June 23
music ▶ Kylie and Friends

BROUGHT TO YOU WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

New law enforcement
Officers Kailey Crawford-Barrett and Levi Martson ring the bell to commence Black Hawk's City Council meeting on May 22.



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

Heavy equipment rollover
 Jeremy Meyers (right) of Meyers Services discusses with another excavation company the event that caused a forklift to roll off a trailer and close the highway on May 23.

call about the incident involving a flatbed trailer transporting a forklift on Highway 119 at Lump Gulch Road.

A Gilpin deputy arrived at the scene at 11:36 a.m. to find the forklift upside down on the shoulder of the highway. It appeared that as the vehicle navigated a left curve, the trailer and its load turned over to the right, though the pickup truck remained upright.

The Colorado State Patrol was notified but declined to respond, advising the driver to file a counter-report instead. Timberline Fire was alerted to a hydraulic fluid leak from the forklift and promptly responded to mitigate the spill. The highway was closed for approximately 30 minutes during the cleanup operation. The Gilpin deputy assisted with traffic control until the scene was clear and the forklift was removed by its owner.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of the Gilpin County Sheriff's Office, Timberline Fire Department, and local excavation companies, the roadway was cleared and safe for travel in under an hour. This incident highlights the strong sense of community and cooperation among local businesses and emergency responders in Gilpin County.

Forklift incident briefly closes Highway 119

MINDY LEARY
 GILPIN COUNTY

On May 23, traffic on Highway 119 came to a halt in both directions at Lump Gulch after a forklift rolled off a trailer while navigating a tight curve. The incident occurred around 11:22 a.m., prompting a swift response from local authorities and the community.

Jeremy Meyers of Meyers Services was among the first on the scene, working diligently to remove the machinery from the roadway.

Despite being competitors, Meyers and Earthworks, another excavation company, joined forces, volunteering their time and resources to assist local law enforcement in clearing the obstruction.

"We just came to help a company in need," said Meyers. "There were actually three excavating companies there, and even though we are all in competition with each other, it did not matter." Meyers was referring to High Performance Excavating (hauling the trailer that rolled over), Earthworks,

and his own team, who collaboratively worked on the extrication.

According to Meyers, the accident was not due to recklessness; rather, the chains securing the forklift to the trailer broke, causing it to roll onto the highway on its side. Meyers was called to assist because of his large front-end loader, a crucial tool in the safe removal of the forklift.

Timberline Volunteer Fire Department played a vital role in the operation, with firefighter Alex Hinojosa reporting no injuries. Timberline also managed traffic, ensuring the safety of all involved.

The Gilpin County Sheriff's Office provided an official report to The Mountain-Ear. At 11:22 a.m., the Sheriff's Office dispatch received a



Celeste Hale, CMAS, GRI
 Realtor/Associate Broker
 Homesmart
 celestehale@gmail.com
 cell-804-704-0485
 celestehalegroup.com



Mountain Modern Masterpiece with divide views on 5 acre corner lot in Paradise Valley Estates. 6281 square feet, 4 Beds, 6 Baths, 2 kitchens, 2 laundry rooms, 2 large decks, 3 car garage, Media room with large bar, Multi-zone Sonos and Commercial grade internet throughout house, garage and decks. Whole house generator. Primary bedroom suite has 2 separate baths, closets and 2 TVs behind the vanity mirrors. All furniture including the patio, outdoor kitchen and art decor included. Call for more information.



2 Dill Pickle Place, Black Hawk, CO 80422, MLS# 9950255, \$2,750,000

Classifieds

Firewood

HIGH TIMBER FIREWOOD
Pine, Hardwood or Mix
Immediate Delivery
303-258-7942

For Rent

ROLLINSVILLE MINI-STORAGE
www.rollinsvilleministorage.com
Ask us about our move-in special!
303-258-0648

AVAILABLE JUNE 1ST
SPACIOUS BASEMENT APARTMENT
Rollinsville area, 1400 Sq. Ft.
Completely Remodeled,
Raised basement apartment,
garage space, no pets,
One person, Utilities Included,
Ref, Dep, \$2200.
303-258-7258

For Rent

SPACIOUS BASEMENT APARTMENT.
Towering trees, a flowing stream, aspens
in the meadow, Rollinsville area, 1400
Sq. Ft, completely remodeled, Raised
basement apt, garage space, pets
negotiable, One person, Utilities Included,
Ref, Dep, \$2200, 303-258-7258

BEAUTIFUL, NEWER, 1,100 SQ. FT.
walkout apartment with views on splendid
wildlife and wildflower-filled acreage near
Nederland in a quiet subdivision. Gentle
summer breezes. Antique potbelly stove
adds ambiance. \$1,725 per mo. First, last,
and security. 6 mo. lease. Sorry, no dogs.
Available on June 15. Call 303-258-9322
landline (no texts).

For Sale

WOODWORKING TOOLS AND equipment
sale. Various drills, bits, saws, blades, routers,
miter saw, drill press, band saw, Delta Unisaw,
planner, plate joiner, roto hammer drill, hole
shooter drills, clamps, dust collector system,
vacuum, Shopsmith, 28 foot aluminum
extension ladder, and much more. Email me
at 1407JSale.24@gmail.com for a detailed list
and pricing of sale items. Nederland address.
Cash and PayPal only. By appointment only.

LOST ME LEASE AND SO I GOTTS TO
EMPTY my place. Custom made Bed Frame
with Headboard and 6 underneath Drawers.
Old Upright Piano w/ busted keyboard cover
but fantastic sound! Regulation slate Pocket
Billiard Table with all accessories. Metal
Bedframe with Headboard. Visit online for
pictures: <https://indamtns.com/forsale/>
720-810-1904

Help Wanted

GILPIN COUNTY IS HIRING!

- Child Camp Leader: \$16.69 - \$22.53
 - Deputy – Court Security: \$30.77 - \$43.77
 - Deputy - Detentions - POST Certified:
\$30.77 - \$43.77
 - Deputy – Patrol: \$30.77 - \$43.77
 - Detentions Officer - Non-Certified:
\$27.88 - \$39.66
 - Emergency Communications Dispatcher I:
\$22.69 - \$31.78
 - Emergency Preparedness Specialist
(Part-Time): \$31.39 - \$43.99
 - Facilities Maintenance Tech I:
\$20.63 - \$28.89
 - Financial Analyst: \$65,300 - \$91,500
 - Guest Services Representative-
Substitute Position: \$17.36 - \$23.46
 - IT Specialist: \$79,000 - \$110,600
 - Office Assistant – Public Works:
\$17.36 - \$23.46
 - Records Specialist: \$17.36 - \$23.46
 - Recreation Generalist II: \$22.69 - \$31.78
 - Road & Bridge Worker: \$17.36 - \$23.46
 - Senior Services & Transportation Driver:
\$15.77 - \$21.30
 - Sports Official: \$ 20.63 - \$28.89
 - Volunteer - Athletic Coach:
Unpaid volunteer position
 - Volunteer - Meals on Wheels Program:
Unpaid volunteer position
- Please go to our website to apply at
<https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers>

WE ARE HIRING FOR SUMMER YOUTH
CAMP LEADERS! Pay is \$16.69-22.53/hr,
dependent on qualifications and experience.
Summer camp runs 6/10-8/16. Apply
at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers> or
contact Jake Rippey with questions at jrippy@gilpincounty.org

NOW HIRING FULL TIME RECREATION
GENERALIST II - \$22.69 – \$27.26/hr
depending on qualifications. The Recreation
Generalist II provides overall team support
and general expertise in all functions of
the Parks & Recreation Department. Apply
at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers> or
contact Joline Logan with questions jlogan@gilpincounty.org

SEASONAL GARDENER. The City of Central
is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time
semi-skilled position involving horticulture
work with specific responsibility for the care
and maintenance of flowers, trees and shrub
beds located on City properties and along
rights-of-way. The main emphasis of this
position will be made on the maintenance of
floral displays. This position is required to
work during special events and on occasional
weekends. This position works under the
direct supervision of the Public Works
Supervisor. Hiring Range: \$20.05 - \$23.55 Per
Hour - DOQ/DOE. Requirements: High School
diploma or GED. Must possess and maintain
a valid Colorado Driver's License. Deadline:
The position is open until 05/31/2024.

Real Estate

FOR SALE

1507 Lazy Z Rd, Nederland
4BR/3BA, 3453 sqft/1.06 acres
Easy access to National Forest
\$1,097,000

Timmy Duggan
RE/MAX Elevate
303 441 5611

Services

BRIGHTWOOD MUSIC OFFERS
INSTRUMENT REPAIRS. Brightwood
Music is located at 20 E Lakeview Dr.,
Unit 109 Nederland. Need to fix up that
instrument you found in your grandpas
attic? Found a bargain at the local thrift
store, on that violin you always wanted?
We offer regular luthier services. From
restringing your instrument to detailed
refret jobs and complete reconstruction!
We are open Wednesday through Sunday
and can normally get started on your repair
the day you bring it in. Call 303.258.8863
for info!

BRIGHTWOOD MUSIC OFFERS MUSIC
LESSONS 7 DAYS A WEEK! Brightwood
Music lessons are available for all ages
and abilities. Now offering socially distant,
in-person lessons, Skype and Zoom
lessons. To find out more about individual
instructors, music lessons, or Brightwood
Music in general, please call 303.258.8863.

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE OF BIRTH

On Thursday, the 4th of January, at
5:15 am in Gilpin county, Colorado,
proud parents Madison Kaleward and
Yuri Kimball welcomed a healthy baby
girl who's name is held on special
deposit in trust.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF CORRECTION

Notice was previously published
for a public hearing before the
Gilpin County Board of County Works
Commissioners acting as the Board
of Adjustment for a variance for 53
Winks Way Black Hawk, CO 80422
on June 11th, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. or
later. The docket number published
was BOA-24-1 and that is incorrect.
The correct docket number for the
case is: BOA-24-2. All other details
of the published notice are accurate
and the date, time, and location of
the public hearing remain the same.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the proposed
budget has been submitted to the Board
of Education of the Boulder Valley
School District Re-2 for the fiscal year
beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30,
2025, and has been filed in the office of
the Chief Financial Officer where it is
available for public inspection, or it can
be viewed on the district website at www.bvsvd.org. Such proposed budget will be
considered for adoption at the regular
meeting of the Board of Education of
said district at the Education Center,
6500 East Arapahoe, Boulder, CO on
June 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Any person paying school taxes in said
district may at any time prior to the final
adoption of the budget file or register
objections thereto.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Dated May 28, 2024
Boulder Valley School District RE-2

Laura Shafer
Board Secretary

Current Job Openings for the City of Black Hawk

Go to www.cityofblackhawk.org and click on Job Openings
for full Job Descriptions, Requirements, and to apply online.



**POLICE OFFICER (LATERAL OR
POST-CERTIFIED ONLY), Salary
Range: \$78,981 - \$128,003 / Annual
(paid hourly), DOQ/E.** The City of
Black Hawk is currently accepting
applications for the position of Police
Officer (POST certified or laterals).
The position is responsible for
performing public safety functions
and for providing for the enforcement
of federal, state, and municipal law.
Excellent Benefits package (See
Benefits). **Apply Now:** <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, Salary
Range: \$60,674 - \$84,944 / Annual (paid
hourly) DOQ/E.** As a Communications
Officer (Emergency 911 Dispatcher), the
employee is responsible for the operation
of the emergency communications
console, including the receipt of calls and
proper dispatch of appropriate equipment
and personnel to provide assistance to
the citizens of Black Hawk in the areas
of Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical
Services. **Apply Now:** <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

**MAINTENANCE WORKER I, Salary
Range: \$52,902 - \$74,063 / Annual
(paid hourly), DOQ/E.** Operates both
light and heavy equipment and performs
routine, semi-skilled to skilled work in
the maintenance and construction of
streets, open space, summer flowers,
parks, storm drainage systems, traffic
control, signage, striping, landscaping,
snow plowing, and City trash operations.
Excellent Benefits package (See
Benefits). **Apply Now:** <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

**WATER UTILITY OPERATOR I, II, III or
IV, Salary Range: \$55,518 - \$89,977 /
Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E.** **Operator
I:** Colorado Class "D" Water Plant
Operator and Class 1 Distribution Systems
Certifications required within one (1) year
of employment. **Operator II:** Colorado
Class "C" Water Plant Operator and Class
2 Distribution Systems Certifications
required. **Operator III:** Colorado Class
"B" Water Plant Operator and Class
3 Distribution Systems Certifications
required. **Operator IV:** Colorado Class
"A" Water Plant Operator and Class
4 Distribution Systems Certifications
required. A Water Utility Operator III will
operate and maintain the water treatment
plants, distribution system, raw water
system, maintain and repair water mains,
service lines, valves, pumps, and water-
related appurtenances. This is the journey-
level class in the Utility Operator series
and is expected to perform a full range
of all duties with minimal instruction and
assistance. Excellent Benefits package
(See Benefits). **Apply Now:** <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

City of Black Hawk Benefits:
The City pays 90% of the medical
premium and 100% coverage for
dental, vision, group life, and
short/long-term disability. The
City offers an excellent retirement
package with a guaranteed 8%
match of base earnings and up to
a 12% match based on employees'
retirement election. Newly hired
employees enjoy over seven weeks
of combined annual leave (PTO
and Sick), which increases with
tenure. Additional benefits include
an annual Health and Wellness
Reimbursement allowance, an
annual Uniform Allowance, a cell
phone stipend, and membership to
the Gilpin County Recreation Center.
The City of Black Hawk conducts
post-offer drug/alcohol testing as
a condition of employment per the
City's Drug and Alcohol Use policy.
In addition, post-offer background
investigations and physical exams
are also required.

Statepoint Crossword and Sudoku Puzzles

THEME: FICTIONAL FATHERS

ACROSS

1. Ice cream treat, pl.
6. Albanian money
9. Desertlike
13. Like Bananas Foster
14. Paleozoic ____
15. O. Henry's specialty
16. Printer brand
17. Always, to a poet
18. Extended family member
19. *"Breaking Bad" father
21. *"The Lion King" father
23. Unit of length of yarn
24. "____ Me Maybe"
25. *____ Anderson, he knew best?
28. The Supremes, e.g.
30. Subject matter, pl.
35. Same as ayah
37. Plural of #14 Across
39. Like less processed grain
40. Kind of shark
41. U.S. Airline
43. Short for "and elsewhere"
44. Opposite of digest
46. Flabbergast
47. Like Gulf Stream
48. Most achy
50. Not much (2 words)
52. Reggae's cousin
53. Rapunzel's abundance
55. Maintenance closet staple
57. *____ Rock of "Everybody Hates Chris"
60. *"Finding Nemo" father
63. Golfer's sun protection
64. Aloha prop
66. Only daughter of Michael Jackson
68. Not active
69. Emergency Medical Services
70. In the cooler (2 words)
71. *Opie's father
72. Egyptian boy king, for short
73. Button on electrical outlet

DOWN

1. Nth degree
2. Not many
3. Turkish money
4. Online troublemaker
5. Mike Brady's children, e.g.
6. Malicious look
7. Before, in the olden days
8. Culture Club 1983 hit "____ Chameleon"
9. Solo at LaScala
10. Fish eggs, pl.
11. Cuzco valley empire
12. Yellow #5, e.g.
15. Stream of revenue
20. Dog-____ pages
22. Final, abbr.
24. Medicated shampoo ingredient (2 words)
25. *____ Evans Sr. of "Good Times"
26. Idealized image
27. "Prepare to meet your ____!"
29. Wraths
31. Exclamation in a stinky room
32. Smidgins
33. *"National Lampoon" father
34. 1965 march site
36. Garden staple
38. Half a ticket
42. Carl Jung's inner self
45. Casual top
49. T, in Greek
51. Lethargy
54. Speck in the ocean
56. Heathrow craft
57. Same as genie
58. Pre-owned
59. Type of parrot
60. Atomizer output
61. Van Gogh's famous flower
62. On Santa's gift list
63. Roman road
65. Down Under runner
67. Group of dishes

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
16					17			18					
	19			20		21	22						
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	57	58	59					60				61	62
63						64	65			66			67
68						69				70			
71						72				73			



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Puzzle Solutions

A	B	Y	S	S	B	A	G			M	A	R	T			
B	O	O	T	H	O	B	I			P	I	K	E	R		
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CROSSWORD: MAY 23

1	4	8	6	5	3	2	7	9
7	9	2	1	4	8	6	3	5
6	5	3	7	2	9	4	8	1
3	8	1	9	7	2	5	6	4
2	7	4	5	8	6	9	1	3
9	6	5	3	1	4	7	2	8
5	1	6	4	3	7	8	9	2
8	3	7	2	9	5	1	4	6
4	2	9	8	6	1	3	5	7

SUDOKU: MAY 23

SUDOKU



Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082163 NSCB 0082898 D083440

SPECIAL OFFER

6				4		9		5
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Self Defense
Nederland Community Center
Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30pm
Beginners and walk-ins welcome
For men, women, and teens age 14 and up

NEDERLAND DEFENSIVE ARTS

Karl Zaunbrecher, 518-637-3106, karlzaunbrecher@gmail.com





Emblems and logos

Left: The restaurant sign spreads excitement to Allenspark locals and tourists alike. Right: A sneak peek inside Allenspark's new restaurant reveals one of its newest and coolest features.



PHOTOS BY OMAIRA ACEVEDO

Allenspark gets a new restaurant

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
ALLENSPARK

Josh Henderson is no stranger to the Estes Park and Allenspark communities. For eight years, he owned The Redstone Restaurant in Estes Park, which led to the very first approved food truck in the town.

His experiences in the restaurant industry have inspired him to open a

new restaurant in Ferncliff. The Grill Guy: A Burger Bar and More... is setting up shop where Allenspark's Cliff Side Tacos used to be.

The Grill Guy will offer hot sandwiches and soups and salads. Aside from beef or elk burgers, a black bean burger will also be on the menu. Other items include pulled pork, roasted turkey, and a kids' menu.

Most of the food will be made fresh in-house. Burgers and steaks will be cooked on an outdoor grill, made to order. A topping bar will also be available for those selective eaters, so they can pick and choose how to build their own burger.

A new seating bar and outdoor seating will be part of the charm at the new burger joint, but you'll have to wait a couple

more weeks before venturing into Ferncliff for some mouth-watering homemade burgers.

Henderson hopes for an opening sometime around Father's Day.

The Grill Guy: A Burger Bar and More... is located at 30 Main Street, Suite C, Allenspark.

N E D E R L A N D

TOWN CLEAN UP

JOIN YOUR COMMUNITY IN CLEANING UP NEDERLAND AND KEEPING OUR MOUNTAINS BEAUTIFUL!

JUNE 1, 2024



Nederland Transfer Station
286 Ridge Rd, Nederland
8:00am - all dumpsters are full

townofnederland.colorado.gov/town-clean-up-day

