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Volume 47, Issue 39

32 Pages

Thursday, July 18, 2024

\$1.50

Nederland, Colorado

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

Hundreds of competitors test their mettle



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



PHOTO BY SARA SANDSTROM



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

NedGravel racers hit the dirt

Top: Hundreds of eager competitors launched from the bottom of East 3rd Street and made their way through grueling courses. Center, right: Emcee Dave Towle checks his watch before the start of the next race. Bottom, right: The Matt Flaherty Band rocked the stage as racers and bike enthusiasts browsed the NedGravel Expo. Bottom, left: An Ultra racer comes down Gamble Gulch with a fan cheering him on.

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-QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

*There are four statements that lead to wisdom....
You need to learn to say: I don't know. I'm sorry.
I need help and I was wrong. – Louise Penny*

THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

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430 Lawrence Street, Unit C
Central City, CO 80427

office: 303-810-5409
website: www.themtnear.com
email: info@themountainear.com

(usps 548530) is publishing
weekly for \$75 per year by
Mountain Vale Media, llc,
P.O. Box 99, Nederland, CO 80466

Print ISSN: 1543-6071
Website ISSN: 2834-099X

Postmaster

Send address changes to:
The Mountain-Ear
P.O. Box 99, Nederland, CO 80466

Hours

Nederland: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Central City: By appointment Monday to
Friday. Call or text us at 303-810-5409 or
email info@themountainear.com.

Advertising

CLASSIFIEDS, DISPLAY and Public Notices
are due by Monday at 5 p.m. (Friday at 5
p.m. if design is required)
DISPLAY ADS can be placed by emailing
marketing@themountainear.com or online
at themtnear.com and click on advertise.
CLASSIFIEDS are placed online at
themtnear.com and click on classifieds.
ONLINE BUSINESS DIRECTORY ads are
placed online at themtnear.com and click
on Business Directory.
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\$50 per year: Online only
\$70 per year: Senior In-State
\$75 per year: Regular In-State
\$100 per year: Out of State
Back issues \$4.50 through US Mail.

Letters

We welcome thoughtful, local letters to the
editor. You can submit online on our website
or by email to info@themountainear.com.
Letters may be edited for length (less than
500 words) and content (rude, vulgar or ob-
scene). 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.

Ownership

The Mountain-Ear is the ONLY Independently
owned newspaper covering all of western
Boulder County and all of Gilpin County. We
also cover western Jefferson County and
north Clear Creek County.

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Mountain-Ear* is owned by Mountain Vale
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tain Vale Media, llc.

Staff

The Mountain-Ear is made up of 50 contrib-
utors 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.



Friday, July 19

Gilpin County Fair Parade:
Come out to enjoy the
Gilpin County Fair Parade
with floats driving down
Gregory Street from Cen-
tral City to the Z Casino
parking lot! Starts at 10 a.m.

Friday Storytime: Read books,
sing songs, learn some ASL, and
get the wiggles out in the first half
hour, followed by free play. The Ned-
erland 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.

Sunday, July 21

Gilpin County Fair Annual Pancake Breakfast:
Come enjoy some breakfast with the Gilpin
Community! Hosted by HCA (Hi Country Aux-
iliary) from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Big Top in the
Gilpin County Fair.

Monday, July 22

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 Li-
brary 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 Mon-
day evening at 6 p.m. for the last four years at
the Gilpin County Public Library. New partici-
pants are always welcome. New members will
need to provide their contact information prior
to attending their first meeting. Please email
Alisa Witt at witalisa@gmail.com or 847-890-
5262 to provide your contact information.

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

Tuesday, July 23

Philosophy Club: Love studying the inner
workings of reality? Love waxing philosophi-
cally? Love classical thinkers? This is the club
for you! Our next meeting will be held on Tues-
day, July 23 at 5:15 p.m. at the Nederland Com-

Cracker BARREL

Get involved in your community

munity Library, 200 N Highway
72. Snacks and refreshments
will be available. Email Asa,
asa@nedlib.org, with any
questions and don't forget
to register online at [https://
nederland.colibraries.org/
philosophy-club-july-23](https://nederland.colibraries.org/philosophy-club-july-23).

Wednesday, July 24

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 available
until they run out.

Friday, July 26

Build It! with LEGO: Drop in to create and
play! From 1 to 4 p.m. at the Gilpin County
Public Library, kids can let their imaginations
run free while they construct their own cre-
ations using LEGO bricks. Duplo and K'nex
kits are also included. Children under 8 years
old must be accompanied by an adult. All
materials are provided. LEGO bricks and
creations will remain in the library after each
program. Find out more online, [www.gilpinli-
brary.org](http://www.gilpinli-
brary.org).

Family Movie Matinee: Bring the kids for free
popcorn and a movie as we watch a fami-
ly-friendly film, "IF" in the meeting room at the
Gilpin County Public Library, 15131 Highway
119, Black Hawk, at 4:30 p.m. Visit us online for
more information, www.gilpinlibrary.org.
Caribou Village 4th Friday: 5 to 8 p.m. at 20 E.
Lakeview Drive, Nederland.

Saturday, July 27

Circus Foundry: A dazzling big top circus and
carnival day at Chipeta Park in Nederland to
benefit the Carousel of Happiness on Saturday,
July 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A family friendly
show, Circus Pirates! begins at 1 p.m. A sec-
ond afternoon show, Cirque Noir, begins at 4
p.m. Find more information online at [https://
carouselofhappiness.org/circus-fundraiser](https://carouselofhappiness.org/circus-fundraiser).

*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/](https://www.themtnear.com/events-submission/) to be included in
the next edition. Check us out online at [www.
themtnear.com/events](http://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](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, Neder-
land, and online via Zoom. For more information visit [https://
bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/nederland-group](https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/nederland-group).

Coal Creek Canyon AA 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.coal-
creekcanyon.org/calendar](https://www.coal-creekcanyon.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/](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/](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://boulder-
countyaa.com/meetings/](https://boulder-countyaa.com/meetings/) and for meetings in Gilpin, Black Hawk,
Central City, and nearby areas visit [https://findrecovery.com/aa_
meetings/co/black-hawk/](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: Print news is important to me



PHOTO BY BARBARA HARDT

TANYA UNGER
NEDERLAND

Know that I come from a background of work in the study and modeling of Earth systems and natural disasters. We are in a period of shift. We and our children are entering a world known for its climate refugees. Shifts are dramatic, and there is a chance that everyone will have had the opportunity at least once to be a climate or natural disaster refugee.

What happens when the power goes out? What happens when geomagnetic storms intensify – those beautiful auroras that are the Earth healing its own electromagnetic defense system. But they have affected our

communications, and that can happen again. As temperatures rise and tax our infrastructure. As we sit in homes hunkered down for more massive coastal storms and tornadoes. As we shovel snow. As we sweat. Our energy infrastructure, like all infrastructure in our country, is aging and failing. What is history if not etched somewhere more permanent than our digital world?

Did newspapers really begin in 59 BCE with the Romans? The first stone etching? Or the first painting on a cave wall? Why are newspapers important to me?

When the power goes out, the truth isn't found in the darkened messages of social media or YouTube or any website.

It is gone. But a physical newspaper can be found even decades after its printing – for instance, in the insulation of a recently demolished historic building.

I am a digital person, a software programmer, but I want my print. I've lost lifetimes of digital works in a simple motion, or by getting a virus. I do not want the safety and history of my community dependent on the whims of an iCloud. I want my stack of papers. I want the clippings of events – the Flood of 2013, the Cold Springs fire – to be in my CVEN 3000 Scrapbook of curriculum for modern-day civil engineering students and geologists so that when the power goes out for fear of a wind event, I can still share something of value with my students and community.

When I was poor and homeless, the digital world was a luxury I could not afford. The world I helped to build in computing was not accessible to me on a flip phone; not much was. (Though modern flip phones do try.) If I had another zero-earning COVID month – and I did – like that, my digital self was gone.

So this is a ramble of a woman from geospatial information technology development, in my prime and its bleeding edge. As a geoscientist with the perspective of a 4.6-billion-year timescale, digital has yet to prove it is sustainable and will help our rural mountain communities through natural disasters, while preserving accurate and vital history. I WANT MY PRINT NEWS more than “My MTV.”

FROM THE GILPIN COUNTY TREASURER

MARY LORENZ
GILPIN COUNTY TREASURER

Please Pay Your Unpaid Property Tax by September 10, 2024.

All Unpaid Real Estate Property Taxes for the Tax Year 2023 are now delinquent and notice of such delinquency was mailed to each taxpayer the week of July 1, 2024.

To avoid publication and additional penalties & fees, taxpayers should make payments before September 10, 2024. Mail to PO Box 368, Central City, CO

80427. They can also be paid online at www.gilpincounty.colorado.gov/elected-officials/treasurer – click on Pay Property Tax Online OR in person at the Historic Central City Courthouse Monday-Thursday 7:30-5:30.

September 3, 2024, is the last day personal checks will be accepted. Online payments will not be accepted after 5 pm, November 4, 2024. After those dates payments will need to be made by Certified Funds or Cash.

Taxes not paid will be published in *The Mountain-Ear* September

26th, October 3rd and 10th, 2024. The Property Tax Sale List will also be available on our website www.gilpincounty.colorado.gov elected officials – Treasurer.

The Tax Lien Sale will be held as an internet auction November 19, 20, & 21, 2024 at Zeusauction.com. No Tax payments will be accepted after 4pm, November 18th or during the auction.

If you have other questions please contact the Gilpin County Treasurer office – 303-582-5222.



Gilpin County Seniors

July 19 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Social Time

July 22 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

July 24 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

July 25 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

July 26 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Colorado Center for The Blind

July 29 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

July 31 - Free 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. We accept donations for the Senior Fit exercise classes. Call 303-515-4292 for information.

Nederland Area Seniors

July 24 - Eggplant parmesan, sausage, whole wheat spa-

ghetti, tossed salad with Italian dressing, pineapple

July 31 - Sweet and sour meatballs, rice noodles, broccoli, apricots

July 31 - July Birthday Celebrations! Delicious treats provided by Bright Heart Catering.

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.mountain-peaklife.org.

Meet our team!

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Doug Armitage
Denise Boehler
Richard Brandon
Mark Cohen
Lorena DeSanta
Rick Rudstrom
Amy Skinner
Frank Sanders

Music of the Mountains

Where to be and what to see

JAMIE LAMMERS
JAMESTOWN

Eli Lev promotes the vibe of his music and shows as sounding like “if Johnny Cash and Fleetwood Mac were on a road trip in the redwood forest with Jason Mraz and Jack Johnson in the back.”

He’s been writing “silly songs” for as long as he can remember, joining bands in middle school and high school and even joining a cover band while living in the European country of Andorra (he’s also lived in Israel). In 2017, he received his master’s degree in Indiana for English education (he once took a job as an eighth-grade teacher in Arizona), and then moved back home to Maryland to reset.

During this time, he took music more seriously as he started playing shows. These shows eventually spiraled into fans who asked about his next shows, which spiraled into recordings, which spiraled into more shows, which resulted in Lev’s decision to play full-time. He loves to travel, as evidenced by the many places he’s lived in and traveled to (including Australia and New Zealand).

While Lev often performs an even distribution of originals and covers, he will often also play songs based on the reception of his audience. Employing an open setlist, if the audience connects more with his originals, he’ll play more of those, but if they seem to enjoy the covers more, he’ll play more of those. He’ll often even take requests from the audience, including songs he’s never played before: of these songs, he says he has approximately an 88% chance of playing them successfully in his shows. He’s up for almost any challenge in these shows, willing to play anything from Merle Haggard to Lady Gaga.

For Lev, songwriting is incredibly cathartic. Writing allows him to process emotions and experiences in his life, and he loves playing instruments and “making weird sounds” that often result in lifting moods and healing those he plays for. He prefers writing songs with an uplifting and positive aspect to them, allowing his community (who he calls “Levigators” after his last name) to feel excited and have a sense of fun during his shows.



PHOTO BY ARI STRAUSS

He often prefers playing solo, although he will occasionally tour with others as part of a duo or a trio, even playing locally with a full band. With a band, he loves how everyone can contribute to a particular selective energy, but solo, he feels there is a lot more freedom to explore things at the moment, whether it’s trying new instruments or keys or switching the songs he wants to play. Regardless, he hopes that people leave with a smile on their faces or with a piece of the show, whether it’s a physical piece of merchandise or something they take away in their hearts.

You can see Eli Lev performing live at Jamestown Mercantile, 108 Main Street in Jamestown, on Sunday, August 11, 2024, starting at 12:15 p.m. Also be sure to stream his music wherever you get your music, including the first of his three-EP series (each with different producers), Present Journey, wherever you get your music, and learn more about him at his website at <https://eli-lev.com/>.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Coalcreekcanyontavern>

Website: <https://canyontavern.com/>

Location: 32138 Highway 72,
Coal Creek Canyon

Phone: 303-642-3180

Gold Hill Inn

Friday, July 19 at 8 p.m. -

Brandywine and the Mighty Fines

Saturday, July 20 at 5:30 p.m. -

Children of Divorce

Sunday, July 21 at noon -

KGNU Charles Sawtelle Memorial Mountain Jam 2024

Sunday, July 21 at 5:30 p.m. -

Laurie Dameron Duo

Wednesday, July 24 at 6 p.m. -

Off the Rails

Friday, July 26 at 8 p.m. -

Haymakers

Sunday, July 28 at 5:30 p.m. -

Patrick Dethlefs Duo

Wednesday, July 31 at 5:30 p.m. -

Micki Balder

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GoldHillInn/>

Website: goldhillinn.com

Location: 401 Main Street,
Gold Hill

Phone: 303-443-6461

Gold Hill Store

Friday, July 19 at 7 p.m. -

Ashlei Priest

Friday, July 26 at 7 p.m. - Queso Ra

Saturday, July 27 at noon -

Queso Ra

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gold-Hill-General-Store/>

Website: <https://www.goldhill-store.com/>

Location: 531 Main Street, Gold Hill

Continued on page 5

Business Spotlight

Forget Me Not Skin Care
A NATURAL BEAUTY BOUTIQUE
Gift Certificates available
Pattie Sabel, 720-899-8992
Licensed Esthetician
and Nail Technician
forgetmenotskincare.com

NEDERLAND
CHIROPRACTIC
&
WELLNESS CENTER
303-258-7730

VERY NICE
Brewing Company
LOCATED IN THE CARIBOU VILLAGE
SHOPPING CENTER IN NEDERLAND
303-258-3770

Will Hackett
Chimneys
303-440-0820

Kaleidoscope
Fine Arts Gallery
20 Lakeview Dr., Suite 210
Nederland, CO 80466
303-949-3590
k.gallery.ned@gmail.com
PRINTING SERVICES
copies, scans, printing
open Thurs. thru Mon. 11am-5pm

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
LUNCH BUFFET!
Every day from 11am to 4pm
Kathmandu Restaurant
Nepali and Indian Cuisine
110 N Jefferson St, Nederland, 303-258-1169
1964 28th St, Boulder, 303-442-6868
kathmandurestaurant.us

WEEKLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Help and encouragement after the death of
a spouse, child, family member, or friend
Saturdays, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm
Gilpin County Public Library
15131 SH 119, Black Hawk
Sign up: www.griefshare.org
Sponsored by St Paul's Episcopal Church, Central City

Music Events

Continued from page 4

Gregory Plaza

Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. - Duey Weibel

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/blackhawksharddistrict/

Website: https://blackhawkhard-district.com/

Location: 317 Gregory Street, Black Hawk (Mountain Poppy Boutique)

Phone: 720-669-0665 (Mountain Poppy Boutique)

Howlin Wind Brewing

Saturday, July 20 at 5 p.m. - Goldie and the Grindstones

Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. - Strangebyrds

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/howlinwindbrewing

Website: https://www.howlin-windbrewing.com/

Location: 51 A Main Street, Rollinsville

Phone: 309-825-5245

Jamestown Mercantile

Thursday, July 18 at 7 p.m. - Hunter James and the Titanic

Friday, July 19 at 7 p.m. - Chuck Sitero (of High Lonesome) and Friends

Sunday, July 21 at 12:15 p.m. - Annie and the Bang Bang

Wednesday, July 24 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic

Thursday, July 25 at 7 p.m. - Heavy Diamond Ring

Friday, July 26 at 7 p.m. - Janestown

Thursday, July 28 at 12:15 p.m. - Danny Shafer

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, July 19 at 6 p.m. - Jon Ridnell

Saturday, July 20 at 5 p.m. - Jon Ridnell

Friday, July 26 at 6 p.m. - Mark Hill

Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. - Mark Hill

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JkqBbq/

Location: 200 Gregory Street, Black Hawk

Phone: 720-316-1361

Knotted Root Brewing

Saturday, July 20 at 5 p.m. - Mickey Lenney

Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. - WHUMPF

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. - Open Mic

Fridays at 7 p.m. - DJ Night

Sundays at 5 p.m. - Jazz Sundays

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/knottedrootbrewing/

Website: https://www.knottedroot-brewing.com/home

Location: 250 N. Caribou Street, Nederland

Phone: 720-248-7129

Nederland Farmers Market

Sunday, July 21 at 10:30 a.m. - Built to Last/Al Capones

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NederlandFarmersMarket/

Website: https://www.nederland-farmersmarket.org/

Email: nederlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Location: 85 E. 1st Street, Nederland and 80 E. 2nd Street, Nederland

Old Gallery at Allenspark

Friday, July 19 at 6 p.m. - Open Mic with Tim Merkle

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TheAOldGallery

Website: https://www.theoldgallery.org/

Location: 14863 Highway 7, Allenspark

Phone: 303-747-2906

Very Nice Brewing Co. (Gilpin County)

Friday, July 19 at 6 p.m. - Eric Stone

Friday, July 26 at 6 p.m. - Windy Pines

Saturday, July 27 at 2 p.m. - The Tater Spliffs

Saturday, July 27 at 6 p.m. - Mountain ReVerb

Sunday, July 28 at 4 p.m. - Blue Moose Jazz

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/verynicebeer

Website: https://www.verynice-brewing.com/

Location: 180 Jankowski Drive, Black Hawk

Phone: 303-582-2015

Very Nice Brewing Co. (Nederland)

Thursday, July 18 at 6 p.m. - John Meerts

Friday, July 19 at 6 p.m. - Johnny Blueheart

Saturday, July 20 at 5 p.m. - Stone-Hall

Friday, July 26 at 6 p.m. - Daniel C. Jones

Saturday, July 27 at 5 p.m. - Andreas Boehmer

Sunday, July 28 at 4 p.m. - The CBDs

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/verynicebeer

Website: https://www.verynice-brewing.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.

Advertisement for THE BACKDOOR THEATRE featuring 'A Quiet Place: Day One' on July 19 and 20. Includes showtimes, a synopsis, and contact information for the Nederland Community Center.

Advertisement for GOOD PEOPLE TREE SERVICE, established in 2009. Lists services like tree removals, stump grinding, and fire mitigation. Contact: 303-847-5221.

Advertisement for Caribou Painting, offering interior and exterior residential and commercial services. Contact: Ray Restaino, 720-318-0317.

Real estate advertisement for Indian Peaks Real Estate Services, featuring Wendy Williams, Tegan Ryan, Emily Perry, Lynn Slinger, Pamela Fleming, and Mike Zakreski. Contact: 303.258.0656.

A win-win-win for Nederland

Dear Editor,

This letter is addressed to the residents of Nederland, regarding TEENS, Inc.'s proposal to lease the vacant Old Town Shop Site (750 W. 5th St.) for a \$1/year for 99 years to build a new infant, toddler, and preschool center. The town-wide mail-in vote will take place in late July. Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on July 30, 2024.

This proposal has generated numerous comments, pro and con, on various social media sites. In this letter, I want to address the financial aspect of the controversy. One of the primary objections to the proposal is that the town would be "giving away" a valuable asset, the land, when it "should" sell the lot and use the proceeds to help the cash-strapped municipality meet its operating budget.

From a financial standpoint, selling a capital asset (land) to finance ongoing "living" expenses is a bad idea. Imagine that your family owns the house in which it lives, but doesn't have enough income to buy groceries. One option would be to sell your house and buy food with the proceeds. That works great—your family can now eat! But once that money runs out, you can no longer eat—nor do you have the house. From the town's perspective, proceeds from selling this parcel might ease its

budget crunch for a short while, but when that money is gone, the town no longer has that asset.

Yes, the town of Nederland is offering to lease the land at a bargain rate to TEENS, Inc. It should be noted, first, that such leases between government entities and private organizations are common. The government (in this case, the town of Nederland) is doing so to attract a private partner (TEENS, Inc.) to provide a service desperately needed by the community. This act—providing a service needed by the community—is one of the primary purposes of a local government, and the mechanism of an advantageous land lease is a popular method. By doing so, the town is inducing its private partner to invest more money to build the facility. And, as a failsafe, if the childcare operation does not succeed, the town ends up with the land PLUS a high quality building. The town of Nederland never relinquishes its ownership of the land, and gets the improvements thereon. TEENS, Inc. estimates that the building will cost several million dollars to construct, none of which will come from the town or its residents.

Contrary to the objections raised by some, the town of Nederland and its residents will actually benefit financially from this proposal, not harmed. Not only will its residents, and

Referendum petitions: democratic process at work

Dear Editor,

Contrary to claims made by some residents, decisions made by the majority vote of the Board of Trustees do not represent a circumvention of

democratic process. Indeed, it is the role of elected officials to make such decisions, and it is the role of residents to either accept or challenge them through the mechanisms outlined by law. These might include regular

TEENS, Inc. rises to community challenges so we thrive

Hello Nederland and the Peak to Peak!

This month registered voters in the town of Nederland will have the opportunity to vote on a measure to support childcare in our community. Whether you are a parent of small children, older children, or fur babies, this is our chance to do the right thing and support one of the most fundamental needs of parents and children in our community – which ultimately impacts us all.

While my children are mostly grown, there was a time when our family of two working parents, scrambled to find the care we needed and our solution to the lack of childcare in our community ranged from quitting jobs, to bringing kids to Boulder, to relying rather heavily on friends. And we were lucky to have the support and resources to navigate what was a truly stressful and challenging time.

TEENS, Inc. has risen to our community's challenges time and time again. Their plan to provide accessible, high-quality childcare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers here in Nederland, is nothing short of a miracle. Nederland's elected officials agree and voted to unanimously support this project and approve the public/private partnership that makes projects for the common good possible.

Your ballot has likely arrived in the mail. It must be returned by July 30th, 2024. Please vote yes on TEENS, Inc.'s proposal to develop and operate a childcare center that will meet the needs of our community's children. By providing childcare close to home, our families, our businesses and our community will thrive.

Kristi Venditti and Will Hackett
Nederland

Letter to the Editor



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*.

those from surrounding areas, reap the advantages of high-quality, affordable early childhood care and education, it will do so at no cost to the town. The citizens of Nederland will gain a much-needed childcare facility, people from surrounding areas will come to Ned on a more regular basis and spend money

here, and we are more likely to attract and retain families in and around Ned. That seems like a win-win-win to me.

I urge you to vote "yes" for this proposal.

Craig V. VanSandt, Ph.D.
Nederland

Support for TEENS, Inc.

Dear Editor,

Voters in Nederland will soon vote on a proposal from TEENS, Inc. to develop a child care and early childhood education facility on Town property. Much has been said about the obvious social benefit of this project.

There is also a clear, timely, and substantial economic benefit to the Town and its citizens that will arise from the proposed project; here's why:

Per TEENS SRU application they will fund and construct a \$5 million facility on the Town's land. In exchange for this investment, TEENS, Inc. "shall have a leasehold interest in the land". In other words, the Town will retain ownership of both the land AND the building. So, the

value of the town owned property will have increased by \$5 million, without any cash investment from the Town. Because the Town of Nederland will continue to own the property, this benefit accrues equally to all of its citizens.

Opponents may argue that someone else will propose a similar deal for a different purpose, but, no one has; and TEENS, Inc. stands ready NOW with the funding, experience, and credibility to make this substantial social and economic benefit happen for Nederland.

Please vote to go ahead with this rare and generous opportunity!

Charles Wood
Former Nederland Trustee and Mayor
ProTem

elections, referendum petitions, or in rare cases, substantiated legal challenges.

The signatories on the referendum petition to reconsider Ordinance 859 granting special review use (SRU) for a private childcare center at 750 W. 5th Street for TEENS, Inc. did just that: they exercised their legal right to challenge a democratic decision by the Board of Trustees. As is the Board's legal right, they declined to reconsider, and chose instead to send the question to a special election. These procedures are outlined clearly in law and represent democratic processes at work. The signatories of the petition should be commended for their passion and engagement in local governance. It would be incorrect, however, to suggest that their actions are any more legitimate than those taken by elected decision-makers.

Furthermore, it is an ethical misstep to cast aspersions on members of our community based on erroneous understandings of how local government works. To suggest that this ordinance was passed hastily or that the Board abridged democratic process would ignore the fact that this issue has been, and continues to be, rigorously debated in the public eye with multiple opportunities for all to express their viewpoints.

Societies cannot be effectively governed on the whims of desire or preference. Instead, effective governance must operate by working together to identify our community's needs, propose potential solutions to

those needs, and decide whether and how to implement those solutions. No solution, regardless of how elegant or well-intentioned, will satisfy all stakeholders, and may even impact some negatively. Granted, the proposal by a community nonprofit to operate a much-needed childcare facility on publicly-owned land is unlikely to result in catastrophe for anyone. It might result in some discomfort, but elected officials have weighed that against the potential benefits and voted accordingly. That a petition to reconsider their decision was signed by the required percentage of Town voters is not a failure of democracy, but its triumph.

The question now is whether to allow TEENS, Inc. to operate a childcare facility on this Town-owned lot for \$1/year. Recent attempts to re-frame the special election as a defense of democracy are misinformed at best, and only deflect from the real benefits this proposal will provide. I implore the petitioners and their allies to consider that this is a real opportunity to meaningfully contribute to the betterment of our world. It is rare that such a relatively small sacrifice could produce such a significant impact for so many. Rather than watch Town assets continue to languish in disuse, let's take advantage of this moment and put them to work for the community. Vote yes.

Eric Coombs Esmail
Nederland

Registered voters and citizens of Nederland beware... of disinformation: Response to J. Allen

Dear Editor,

As a Nederland voter in favor of voting YES to provide needed affordable childcare to Nederland families, I've paid close attention to both sides of the debate regarding TEENS, Inc.'s generous proposal. Almost all of the claims in Jon Allen's July 11 letter to the editor are false, despite the repeated correction of many of his assertions in previous public discussions of the project.

A parcel of town land will be leased, with a massive long-term return on investment, since all the funding will be acquired from outside sources. It will not be "given away for free."

Highly effective nonprofits like TEENS, Inc. act as official conduits for outside money to pour into communities like Nederland – we just have to vote YES, and they'll do the rest!

The referendum's approval will increase public and private money for Nederland.

The value of the land in question is far below the \$640,000 figure asserted in this letter.

The land was last appraised at \$270,000.

The incorrect claim that the proposed building will be 14,000 sq. ft. is also of questionable origin.

This number hasn't appeared in any

plan or proposal that I've seen, in any meeting that I've attended or other public forum.

The proposed facility will be no larger than 10,000 sq. ft., although it will likely be smaller.

The Planning Commission approved combining the Old Town Shop site & 5th St. to make the lot ~ .75 acres - not .44 acres, as claimed in Mr. Allen's letter.

The fire station, about 200 feet away, is on a similarly sized lot.

The petitioners then received 70 valid signatures to try to block the daycare with this referendum - not "close to 100" signatures, as Mr. Allen states.

Our governmental system does provide for petitioning to force a referendum.

However, when we were asked to sign and had a conversation with the petitioners, they were dishonest. They made no mention of the daycare - despite being asked repeatedly – and made many misleading claims. Our neighbors had similar experiences.

The resolution's text is not misleading in any way.

As a result of the petition, the BOT had two options: kill the project or send it to a vote.

The BOT opted to send it to a vote – following the democratic process – the opposite of what Mr. Allen asserts.

As is the case with Mr. Allen's letter,

anti-daycare arguments often suggest an evil conspiracy to provide affordable daycare options to Nederland families. These suggestions are wildly absurd.

From the letter, e.g., "use your tax dollars to give away your public land for free to a corporate business", "didn't want you to know it", the BOT "deliberately chose this route rather than send it to a vote", "disfranchising voters", "bypassing the democratic process".

One of the primary purposes of the BOT is to "make decisions for us", particularly agreeing to, in essence, accepting a massive multi-year donation from a trustworthy nonprofit organization with an amazing track record. No one's "political agendas or personal career aspirations" are being promoted. It's just good governing.

It's a nonprofit daycare that will generate income for the town and support families, without costing the town anything - too easy a decision to waste money on a vote.

TEENS, Inc. has been one of the greatest community assets in the town of Nederland since their founding.

They're a private nonprofit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors, with the mission to support, educate, and empower youth and their families to thrive.

Unlike for-profit businesses, any profits they generate must be re-invested into their mission rather than given to shareholders like the "corporate business" Allen insinuates.

The process has been totally transparent, and the community has been involved in every step. TEENS, Inc. was involved in six public meetings on the matter. Additionally, they provided accurate information in letters to the editor and numerous social media posts.

Mr. Allen's disingenuous appeals to protecting democracy, and/or distrust of government and corporations - all to manipulate public opinion - are definitively anti-democratic.

Based on the disinformation throughout his letter, it appears that some who would block affordable childcare for Nederland families are comfortable undermining democracy with propaganda strategies employed by autocrats throughout history.

A YES vote will ensure that we maximize return - both socially and economically - on this small piece of town land that has sat unused for almost 10 years. This is the best way to use this land for everyone in Ned, present and future – it's an amazing opportunity. Please vote YES!

Shaw Ketels

Town of Nederland resident

Parent who needs daycare in Nederland

Additional information to a *Mountain-Ear* article

Dear Editor,

I would like to point out something missing from an article in The Mountain-Ear ("The beauty of a medical convergence," June 27, 2024) which mentioned the Clinica/Mental Health Partners merger. The article focused on Clinica's established presence in Nederland & mid-Gilpin County, but

skipped over Mental Health Partners existing presence and availability for our mountain residents.

Mental Health Partners has had an established clinic that operates within the Clinica location at 80 Big Springs Drive in Nederland for over two years now. They are offering therapy, case management, and peer support services to people with Medicaid (which may

expand to other insurance providers after the merger). They also help clients gain Medicaid benefits if they are eligible and in need, and they offer financial assistance to those who may not qualify for Medicaid. This is a very valuable resource to those in our community who are seeking immediate mental health and

life skills management services.

To get started with Mental Health Partners, readers can call 303-443-8500 or visit <https://mhpcolorado.org/get-started>.

Chelsey LaForge

Nederland

Support our 2nd Annual Circus!

Dear Friends of the Carousel of Happiness,

Summer at the Carousel of Happiness is in full swing as we are preparing for our 2nd Annual Circus event under the Big Top in beautiful Chipeta Park in Nederland, Colorado on July 27. We started the circus last summer as a way to provide the local community with a family fun event to show our appreciation and to promote our mission statement to inspire happiness, wellbeing, and service to others through stories and experiences.

Our goal for this year's circus is to provide an even bigger event that is more affordable for families to attend and helps to provide the Carousel of Happiness with a fundraiser to help the carousel manage its daily operation and ongoing maintenance costs. To help with this, I am writing to kindly request donor support to help us manage the costs of the event.

If you would like to graciously help support this fundraising event we are kindly asking for a donation of \$250.

If you would like to graciously help support this fundraising event we are

kindly asking for a donation of \$250. For your support we are including (2) tickets to either the 1 p.m. all ages performance or to the 4 p.m. 12 and over performance.

The 1 p.m. performance is 60 minutes in length and the 4 p.m. performance is 90 minutes in length. If you would like to support the Carousel of Happiness with this event but will not be able to join us, we will provide your tickets to a family who would otherwise financially not be able to attend.

For more information on how to donate please click on the link below. For additional information on the circus event and how to order additional tickets, please visit our website at www.carouselofhappiness.org/circus-fundraiser.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and love for the Carousel of Happiness and our mission of Joy!

With Warm Regards,

David Packer

*Board Member & Fundraising Director
Carousel of Happiness*

Rocky Mountain Outdoor Expo comes to Nederland

The Rocky Mountain Outdoor Expo is bringing together outdoor businesses, entrepreneurs, and consumers in the beautiful Rocky Mountain town of Nederland, Colorado, to learn about the outdoor industry from one another. Some amazing industry leaders plan on attending, such as: Adventure Tool Company, Born Outdoors, Grove Toyota, Red Noland's Ineos Grenadier, Scarpa, Dometic, Bliss Mobile and many more. The event will be held on Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Nederland Performance Space next to the Barker Reservoir. The event is free and designed to highlight area businesses, coffee shops, restaurants, breweries, local trails, sights, and camping. *For more information go to <https://www.rmoutdoorexpo.com/>.*

Vote yes for TEENS, Inc. Childhood Learning Center

Dear Editor,

Canyon Cares, a local nonprofit serving mountain residents in three counties, writes to support a YES vote on TEENS, Inc's proposed Early Childhood Learning Center. The center will be a critical asset to mountain families looking for quality and affordable child care while parents do the work that helps our communities remain viable.

Director LeFaiver, staff and board have shown the BOT and surrounding neighborhood that they are collaborative,

communicative, and concerned with the project's long-term success. Children from the Center enroll next at Nederland's elementary school, and then on to the middle and high schools. A YES vote is a step towards continuity for the town and surrounding communities.

Cast your YES vote for TEENS, Inc's Early Childhood Learning Center by 7 p.m. on July 30.

Christine Jacques

Board Member Canyon Cares

Support families, kids, and vote YES

Dear Editor,

It's democracy time again – please vote YES on the ballot you should already have in your hands - and support the families of Nederland and our P2P community.

I have standing to advocate for what our community overwhelmingly knows we so desperately need...

- I live in the Dyers subdivision and am a former Nederland Trustee,
- I chair the Peak to Peak Alliance and Nederland Food Pantry,
- I have founded and operated a successful BVSD middle school, and
- We raised two sons in the Boulder

Valley School District .. while suffering through a lack of early childhood educational options.

My Dyers neighbors have strong opinions. They have submitted letters to the editor implying that Nederland town government tried to pull a "fast one". Having been on the other side of the table as a Trustee, I can tell you that this is nonsense. Don't be fooled. This is a public-private partnership to support the families in our community. Families pleaded with the BoT last October for help – and we responded with thoughtfulness, public input, and purpose.

Town doesn't have much money, but we do have some land. TEENS, Inc. has the foresight to invest \$5M to \$6M

to get this project built. It's not for a financial return. It's because it's the right thing to do. And TEENS, Inc. is a first-rate community asset, advocate for our families, and top-ranked operator.

Others talk about "make your voice heard" as they steal yard signs. They want you to listen to their opinion while squelching more community-minded points of view. Talk about "bypassing the democratic process" (their words; see July 14 Letter to the Editor).

The vote before you was initiated by a referendum only passed by one signature – and many of those signatures should have been challenged and disqualified.

It seems ridiculous to even ask why Nederland needs early childhood education (ECE) options.

Kids supported by ECE programs are 30% more likely to graduate from high school and 50% more likely to hold a job with a livable wage when compared to those who did not have access (National Institute for Early Education Research).

For every dollar invested in building a stronger ECE system, the return on that investment to society is seven dollars (Center for Economics of Human Development).

Vote YES this week and get your ballot counted.

Say NO to narrow-minded NIMBY self-interest and do the right thing for our kids and for our community.

Tom Mahowald
Nederland

New daycare special election

Dear Editor,

If you are a Ned City registered voter, you have received your ballot for the special election to validate (or reject) the Nederland Board of Trustees' Special Review Use (SRU) approval to lease city-owned land at 750 West 5th Street to TEENS, Inc. to build and run a year-round infant to preschool aged preschool.

The same day I got my ballot, I also got a letter urging me to vote no. In it, I read so much misinformation, that I was motivated to write this letter in support of both the clear need for more affordable daycare capacity here in Ned, and TEENS, Inc. as a nonprofit organization that has been doing good work here since 1997.

In 2019, two preschools in town closed, leaving us without year-round reliable education and care options for young children. TEENS, Inc. stepped up to meld the staff from two preschools into the New Explorers Learning Center (NELC) at 391 West 1st Street. This besides running the alternative high school, multiple youth employment programs, parent education workshops, and the Teen Center by the skate park.

Today, there is no current licensed infant care, and NELC is the only licensed-care option for 2.5 to 5 year olds (in the 50-mile stretch of the P2P from Central City to Jamestown) which due to its current building size can only serve a maximum of 20 children.

There are now over 60 children

seeking enrollment immediately or in the near future. Of them, about 70% live in the 80466 zip code (basically from Cold Springs to Magnolia), and over 40% live within Ned city limits.

Studies clearly show that access to quality, affordable child care and early learning opportunities enables parents to work, strengthens the local economy as a whole, and supports children's overall development. Without these options, families are forced to move out of the area, seek care in other communities, or choose less safe or reliable care. This results in declining enrollment in our local K-12 school and workforce challenges for local employers.

With approval of the Nederland BOT's one dollar per year lease,

TEENS, Inc. will (continue to) raise \$6.2 million to build an early education center to care for 65+ children on the leased lot, and move the existing New Explorers Learning Center to the cite by the summer of 2026.

I hope you agree with me that TEENS, Inc. is a worthy organization to take on this critical need here in Nederland, and not only vote yes in this special election, but like me you will consider making a tax-deductible donation toward that \$6.2 million dollar building. (They are an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.)

Bret Nye
Nederland

An open letter to our elected leaders

Dear Governor Polis,
Senator Marchman and
Representative Amabile,

Elected officials love to tell stories about constituents who've fallen on hard times and how they've been able to help those people (e.g. maybe they can't afford their meds, and you reduced Rx prices). I have a gift-wrapped story for you, and I've taken liberty to draft a statement for the Governor's news conference on this issue.

Governor Polis: "Last week I was up in Nederland and ran into this old guy - not ancient - but well qualified for senior discounts. He told me life was pretty fair but he had a problem I might help with. Seems he retired after 36

years working hard and earned a good pension. He still works part-time to afford things he and his wife of 50 years hoped to enjoy in retirement. In 2019 he re-fied with a low interest VA loan and a manageable monthly payment. Since then, his mortgage payment increased over \$850/month due to increased property taxes and insurance costs.

"How the heck" he said, "are seniors supposed to keep their homes?" he said. "We can't help it if the market has driven up the values of our homes. Sure, Social Security provides COLAs, but they aren't keeping up with property taxes. There must be hundreds of folks around Ned who are as stunned as I am. Some seniors can weather this for a few years, but not indefinitely. If

you're 85, with no mortgage, and are out-living your savings, you still shell out dough for taxes and insurance. If this continues, people will have to sell and leave Colorado, or live in an RV."

I've much pondered that conversation. At home, we talked about it over the kitchen table. I realized I've been wrong about several things. State government and most local governments actually already have enough money to do the things they were created to do. We already collect more than we're allowed to keep. At least 3 times, we Democrats tried to get rid of TABOR - so we could keep and spend more. We failed. We wanted to fix stuff, except roads, and believed we knew better how to spend money than the people who earned it. I now know that TABOR is a Colorado blessing, and just as sacred as the rights of free speech and religion and to keep and bear arms.

I realized government cannot solve all problems for all people. We can't fix everything through tax and spend. We'll always provide a safety net for people who are down on their luck, have food insecurity, or lose a home through no fault of their own. But, we can't fix the lives of people who chronically make bad decisions.

I think schools have enough too. There is no amount of money that we can pour into schools that will make up for parents who don't read to their preschoolers, insist their kids show

up for class, respect their teachers, do their homework, and stay off their cell phones, or who buy beer, weed, or entertainment before they buy food. Sure, the teachers and janitors deserve a raise, but many of the big districts are top-heavy, bloated with administrators who have little impact on the classroom or teaching the 3 R's

As a recovering entrepreneur and businessman, I know I could never have made my millions in an environment of confiscatory federal and state taxes and over-regulation. Taxing the "rich" won't work - they'll just move to South Dakota, or run for office.

I can't fix the insurance issue, but I'm enlightened. I propose legislation that will forever limit property tax increases to no more than the COLA provided to Social Security recipients. No more raising taxes just because assessments rise. If working people and old people can live with it, so can the state, counties, cities and school districts.

I've discussed this proposal with Sen. Marchman and Rep. (future Sen.) Amabile. They are fully supportive and have agreed to sponsor this legislation. When I am termed out as Governor and am elected President, I'll continue with these values and policies at the federal level!"

Dean Rundle
Nederland

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Tom M. Miller: September 20, 1946 - July 3, 2024

Tom M. Miller died of natural causes at his home in Rollinsville, on July 3, 2024. He was reading, with his cat and dog nearby - doing what he loved.

He was born on September 20, 1946, in Beach, North Dakota to Roy Mac Miller and Lucille (Parker) Miller. Sister Nancy was born two years later. His parents worked in the U.S. foreign service. With their wanderlust, they traveled extensively and moved frequently. Tom went to school in Iran, Honduras, Ecuador, and Nigeria.

He graduated high school from The Judson School, Scottsdale, Arizona, where he was a boarding student and had his own horse. He loved the West and the cowboy life. His college days included college in Germany and Switzerland and the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he graduated with a BA in Political Science and International Relations.

After college, among other work, he co-owned and operated a leather shop in Boulder. In the 1980s, he escaped to the wild, elemental Rocky Mountains which he loved so much. He embraced the Colorado mountain life and left the flat land.

His passion for animals, love of nature, appreciation of deep silence, reflection, and the inner life nurtured



him. Tom valued loyalty, integrity, kindness, humility, and loved his cabin, his mountain friends and community in Gilpin County and Nederland. He held some contrarian views as many of his friends can attest. His values aligned more with

this mountain community and the love of nature.

In his quest for knowledge, Tom obtained certification as a paralegal and worked as a paralegal for more than two decades, practicing with his sister. His love of reading, research,

and attention to details served him well in this field.

Yoga was an important pursuit; he was a regular yoga student at the yoga studio in Nederland. He loved hiking, walking, birding, and contemplating the mystery of the mountains.

Tom is survived by Mickey, a Corgi, and Lucky, a Scottish-fold cat as well as his sister Nancy Miller (Andrea) of Boulder, Colorado; his aunt Jane Miller of Underwood, North Dakota; several cousins and their families in North Dakota, Arizona, and Alaska; and his friends and neighbors.

He was a voracious, eclectic reader, patron, and volunteer at the Nederland Community Library. A memorial will be held August 18, 2024, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Nederland Library. Light refreshments will be served. Please come and share any stories, memories, or jokes and read any favorite poetry or passages.

Tom, in his humility, his commitment to nonviolence, and with his quirky sense of humor, made the world a much better place.

In his memory and in lieu of flowers, plant a tree or make a donation to the Nederland Community Library Foundation; The Wild Animal Sanctuary, Keenesburg, Colorado, or The Wild Horse Refuge, Craig, Colorado.

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WALLEYE FISH FRY

**Fundraiser Fish Fry at the Canyon Tavern
Sunday July 28, 2024, from Noon to 4 p.m.**

***Walleye fillets, fries, slaw, & hush puppies. \$25
15% profit proceeds go to local AA programs
in Coal Creek Canyon in honor of Martina Cook's Brother
Jeff Broughton who passed away this past September.**

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PHOTO BY MARGIE YANSURA

Serving the community
 Nederland Community Presbyterian Church members who took time to clean up the cemetery were (left to right) Jim Reis, Debbie Stevens, Alisha Reis, B.G. Brooks, Bob Kochen, David Copeland, Mark Haynes, Frank Kelly, Paula Gipp, and Jeff Yansura.

Clean up and research at Nederland Cemetery

MARGIE YANSURA
 NEDERLAND

Things have been pretty “lively” at the Nederland Town Cemetery lately. Just a few days prior to the recent annual clean-up of the cemetery

by members of the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church, Dr. Lauren Hosek, assistant professor of Anthropology at the University of Colorado, Boulder, spoke to church members following Sunday services about the ongoing Nederland Cemetery Research and

Restoration Project she is leading. Funded in part by a History Colorado State Historical Fund Grant, the project brings together students from CU and local volunteers to further document and research Nederland Town Cemetery. The research team is building on previous records to create new ways for the public to interact with and learn about this historic site. They are conducting non-invasive surveys of the cemetery grounds, using metal detectors to reveal coffin nail locations which can


outline a buried casket, and ground penetrating radar to reveal possible unmarked graves. In addition, a survey by Colorado Forensic Canines trained to locate human remains, is being conducted. These efforts will help create an up-to-date and searchable map of the cemetery which can be accessed online. The information will also be used to update the online FindAGrave website with photos and grave coordinates. Partners in this team effort include board members and volunteers from the Nederland Area Historical Society, Historical Archaeologist Michelle Slaughter with Statistical Research, Inc., and Postgrad GIS Specialist Sean Kosman from CU Boulder, all coordinated by Dr. Hosek. The cemetery clean-up was organized by Nederland Community Presbyterian Church member Jim Reis. Joining him were church members Paula Gipp, B.G. Brooks, Debbie Stevens, Alisha Reis, David Copeland, Jeff and Margie Yansura, Bob Kochen, Frank Kelly, and Mark Haynes, along with Linda Glasser.

POETRY CORNER

Some words for the week

<p>despite what the weather says or how the blue sky lies there will often be rain in the afternoon a thin wetting down of the dust the clouds on the horizon like finger streaked glass smeared and grey and sucking up the light everyone in town says this week will be dry</p>	<p>but now after work the water falls and the colors pop and there is no sound but the rain</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>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</i></p>
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If you must look back, do so forgivingly. If you must look forward, do so prayerfully. However, the wisest thing you can do is be present in the present. Gratefully. - Maya Angelou



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

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

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IN PRINT AND ONLINE AT WWW.THEMTNEAR.COM

Lions Club sends donated glasses to those in need



PHOTO BY MARGIE YANSURA

Lions Club members help the world see

From left to right are; Jim Navratil, Karen Siefert, Mary Meyer-Scully, Eugene D'Alessandro, Fran Bauer, Ann Marie Morgan, and Kent Carter.

MARGIE YANSURA
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Lions Club sorted 1,378 pairs of used eyeglasses

at its July 2 meeting, held at the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church.

Seven members spread the glasses out on tables, sorting them

according to readers, prescription glasses, sunglasses and broken glasses. The reusable glasses are sent to the Colorado Lions Eyeglass Center where the prescriptions are

determined and marked, and then sent on to groups who distribute them to folks in need of glasses in poverty-stricken areas around the world. The unusable glasses are sent to a recycling center. Nederland Lions Club members also volunteer at the Lions Eyeglass Center to help process them.

The glasses are collected at various locations including the Nederland Community Library, Nederland Community Center, B&F Market, Nederland Community Presbyterian Church, and Columbine Medical Center, as well as locations in Boulder, Lafayette, and Westminster.

If you'd like to have a glasses collection box at your location, contact nederlandlionsclub@gmail.com or Ann Marie Morgan at 303-653-4327.

For more information or to join the Nederland Lions Club in their philanthropic efforts contact nederlandlionsclub@gmail.com or Mary Meyer-Scully 303-518-7290. Their meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month at the Nederland Community Library at 4 p.m. Please let a member know if you plan to attend.

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For Your Health: From shame to light

AMY SKINNER, MA, LPC, NCC,
ACS, RPT-S
PEAK TO PEAK

"I just want to make sure I'm doing everything right," Rex explained. Rex had just moved to the area, and was coming in to talk about some life changes.

"Doing it right?" I asked. "What do you mean?"

"I kind of left my last place in a hurry," Rex commented, looking at the floor.

It turned out Rex had left a long-term relationship, two young daughters, a job at a small

family business, and a community that supported him.

In his thirties, Rex turned his life around. After floating from town to town, picking up odd jobs where he could and living off peoples' generosity, a mechanic took a chance on him and began to teach him the trade. He'd spent the next six years learning the business, building his life, growing a family, and putting down roots.

"I didn't come from a bad family. Single mom, dad skipped out on us when we were younger. When I was in high school I started partying. Nothing major, just on the weekends. I wasn't going to do the college thing, so I graduated and got a job right out of high school," Rex looked out the window at the creek flowing by, lost in thought.

"My friends stopped partying. They were getting married, but I was still looking for my next high. I skipped town, looking forward to another group of friends, and then 'rinse and repeat.'

I've been evicted, fired, arrested, beaten up, and everything else in-between. I'm not proud of myself, but I did survive."

As Rex focused back into the counseling room, I commented, "You've survived so much. More than most people in a lifetime."

"But why did you leave? I questioned him. "Did she not know about your past? What you're going through?"

"Oh she knew," Rex said. "Everyone knew my story. Maybe not all the details, but broad strokes."

"And she loved you? Even after she knew everything?" I quietly asked.

"Oh yes. She loved me more than anyone has ever loved me in my whole life. I never knew someone could love like that. But I don't deserve it." Tears started sliding down Rex's face.

"Why don't you deserve her love?" I wondered out loud.

"Here's the thing. Really, deep down inside, I'm a terrible person. No matter how much good I do, I can't make up for all those people I hurt. She deserves so much better than me. My girls do too."

Guilt tells us we did something wrong, while shame says we are not worthy because of that.

Rex's past full of painful and harmful decisions created a life where he began to believe that he was a bad, broken person.

Then over the past six years he started making healthier decisions that supported himself, his family, his community, and his self-esteem rose.

But then he started to doubt—himself, his choices, the healthy life he'd built. When we're used to a hard, painful life,

it can be disorienting and confusing to live a positive, healthy life.

"I'm waiting for the other shoe to drop," Rex explained. "And I know it will. Because it always does."

Marianne Williamson writes, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us."

I find that when we are working to clear the final vestiges of the pain and trauma we've survived and sustain the deep and positive changes we've made in our lives, a period of intense self-doubt and questioning can arise. And for some, that's the moment when they return to their old patterns (for Rex, it's cut and run).

But if in that moment you can recognize what's happening and reach out to one other person to ask for help, then together you can clear out the darkness and stand even more solidly in the light.

Rex called his partner and, with gulping sobs, talked to her about what had happened. She and the girls were on the first bus to Colorado and he was there to meet them.

It turned out, although he was terrified that he would ruin his healthy, happy life, in fact he was ready to let go of his "terrible" past. We found him a local referral in his hometown, and he started working on clearing out the last of his shame.

Recently, he and his family stopped in to say hi while on a vacation to Colorado, celebrating one of his daughter's birthdays.



PHOTO BY RICHARD BRANDON

Do not let your light frighten you
A quick walk along Barker Meadow Reservoir is a concrete reminder of the interplay between light and dark, and the powerful impact light has on (and in) our lives.

Change and growth can be difficult and painful. And just when you think you're almost done, old habits, thoughts and feelings can rise to the surface. It can be easy to believe that in fact nothing has changed and you really are the worst version of yourself.

But that's the time to reach out because someone outside of yourself can see what you cannot in that moment; you are the light-filled human you were always meant to be, and it's time to believe and embrace it.

I'd love to hear about your experiences with finding your own light at amy@peaktopeakcounseling.com, 303-258-7454, and you can always find past articles at www.peaktopeakcounseling.com or find us at www.facebook.com/peaktopeakcounselingservices.

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DISCOVER COLORADO



Through the woods with my friend, Viggo

PHOTOS BY OMAIRA ACEVEDO

Relaxing moments

Left: Viggo demonstrates how to take a break and find relief from the heat. Right: The scenery offers a moment to capture beautiful memories as the sun shines on a piece of Golden Gate Canyon State Park.

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
GILPIN COUNTY

Allow me to introduce my newest pal, Viggo. He's become a trusted friend and someone I can talk to without feeling judged. Viggo, regardless of his age, loves to hike, making him the perfect companion.

He's a constant reminder of loyalty and friendship in its purest form. He also reminds me to stop every once in a while to enjoy the scenery. I've appreciated Viggo from the moment we first met.

However, I fell in love with him during our first hike together, and this is the story I'll share with you now. It was a hot and sunny morning in June when Viggo invited me to go hiking in Golden Gate Canyon State Park.

After parking at the Horseshoe Trail parking lot, I gathered my camera equipment and

Viggo grabbed his water and poop bags. In case you haven't guessed, Viggo is a dog. More specifically, a handsome German shepherd.

It was 9 a.m., and the temperature was quickly rising. We agreed to hike the 3.6-mile roundtrip and do our best to stay hydrated. The Horseshoe Trail is well-shaded and follows a seasonal stream.

Wildflowers edged along the aspen-covered path add to the beauty of the hike. You can also reach a trail to the Greenfield and Frazer Meadow backcountry camping areas a mile from the parking lot, and .3 miles further, a spur trail leads you to the Rim Meadow backcountry camping area.



Horseshoe Trail also connects to Mule Deer Trail, the longest trail in the park at nearly nine miles. Viggo and I stopped several times for a drink of water and a dip in the stream. Well, Viggo went for a dip, and I took photos.

After gaining 927 feet in elevation, we decided it was too hot and time to return to our vehicles. No, Viggo didn't drive, but he had a car. We made our way back down, grateful for the comforts of the Rocky Mountains summer breeze.

Canines are allowed on trails at Golden Gate Canyon State Park but must remain on a leash at all times, and droppings are to be picked up immediately. Leaving poop bags on trails puts other animals at risk. Find out more about this concern here:

<https://longhaultrekkers.com/dispose-of-dog-poop/>.

Back at the parking lot, I squeezed Viggo and kissed him goodbye. I watched him drive away with my other trusted friend, Amy Hager. Unfortunately, Viggo isn't my dog, but we have a special connection. Thanks for the hike, Viggo!

Golden Gate Canyon State Park is located at 92 Crawford Gulch Road off Highway 46. To learn more about hiking at the park, visit <https://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/GoldenGateCanyon/Pages/Trails.aspx> or find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CoParksWildlife/>.

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MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

Do you think about your own death and the necessary arrangements, or do you turn away from the thought, as if avoiding an inevitable shadow?

Were you aware that in Gilpin County, you have the option to be buried on your own land, amidst the familiar surroundings that have shaped your life?

On the evening of July 9, the Gilpin County Library hosted an informational event on home funerals that drew a decent crowd. At 6:30 p.m., Coroner Zane Laubhan presented a thought-provoking video segment focusing on the Carr family, part of the documentary *A Family Undertaking*, by PBS.

The film explores the burgeoning home funeral movement, revealing a deep, intimate look into how several families across America are reclaiming end-of-life rituals by forgoing traditional mortuary services.

Reviving Historical Practices

The documentary shows a striking shift back to practices common in pre-20th century America. Before the Civil War, families typically cared for and buried their deceased on their own properties or in local cemeteries.

This deeply personal approach to death and grieving was disrupted by the advent of the professional undertaker during the Civil War, which led to a more sanitized and institutionalized handling of death. The movement for home burials can also make funerals more personal, private, and meaningful.

Focus on the Carr Family

The Carr family of South Dakota is one of the key stories featured in the documentary. They prepared for the death of 90-year-old Bernard Carr with hands-on care by family members. Bernard even helped decorate his own casket with cattle brands from his ranch.

This approach not only helped in their grieving process but also brought a sense of fulfillment and a deeper connection to the reality of death. Such home funerals transform death into an intimate, meaningful, and even joyful experience.

Zane Laubhan's Commentary

During the presentation, Laubhan remarked that "death used to be a matter of course, just like when a baby was expected." He contrasted this with today's cookie-cutter funeral homes that strive to serve all backgrounds, often making the process impersonal. Laubhan noted that showing emotions in public can be difficult for many people, making the privacy of home funerals appealing.

The Cost of Modern Funerals

Laubhan also discussed the financial burden of modern funerals, which can cost between \$5,000 to \$6,000, with an additional \$2,000 to \$3,000 for cemetery expenses. This is often twice as much as what is paid in other countries.

The altered state of grief after losing a loved one can make consumers susceptible to making costly decisions under pressure, further driving up expenses. Laubhan said that Americans have become willing victims of this expensive industry.

Legal Aspects of Home Burials in Colorado

The presentation also delved into the legalities surrounding home burials in Colorado, a topic that spurred many questions from attendees. In Colorado, there are no laws prohibiting burials on private property. However, these burials must be recorded with the County Clerk within 30 days (Colorado Revised Statutes § 25-2-111).

Laubhan, who helped draft the Colorado legislation for home burials, stressed the importance of recording these burials for future reference when planting gardens or during property sales, for example. He shared that several unmarked graves have been accidentally disturbed in Central City because people have not properly recorded their locations. He encouraged residents to go through with this process for future reference.

"It's worth noting that graves do not need to be six feet deep," he shared, and can include open-air burials where bodies are possibly just covered with rocks. His comments later assuaged concerns about the difficulty of digging due to bedrock. Laubhan shared that some people create designs with the stones, adding a personal and artistic touch to the burial site.

Additionally, he mentioned that Gilpin County does not have the same zoning restrictions as cities, allowing for more flexibility in burial practices.

Practical Considerations and Alternatives

Attendees were curious about how to keep a body cold during a home funeral. Laubhan explained that placing dry ice on the body is an effective method. Alternatively, he offered to keep the body in the morgue indefinitely if needed.

He also introduced the concept of water cremation, which hydrolyzes the body instead of burning it, as a more environmentally friendly option. Laubhan noted that a casket is not required for burials, reducing potential costs significantly.

Exploring home funerals in Gilpin County



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

Exploring Final Resting Places

Gilpin County Coroner Zane Laubhan shares insights on the unique option of home burials in Gilpin County.

The Historical Role of Embalming

Laubhan provided historical context, explaining that embalming began as a means of preserving bodies for transportation during the Civil War to prevent them from rotting. This practice has since become a standard part of the funeral industry, although it is not legally required.

Green Cemeteries: An Eco-Friendly Alternative

An interesting point of discussion was the concept of green cemeteries, an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional burials. Laubhan said there are two green cemeteries located in Boulder.

Green cemeteries emphasize natural decomposition and the conservation of natural resources. They often do not use embalming fluids, metal caskets, or concrete vaults, making these burials a sustainable choice that aligns with the home funeral movement's values of simplicity and closeness to nature.

Community Engagement and Questions

The session concluded with a robust Q&A, where attendees sought clarity on various aspects, such as the affidavit required for private burials and potential

impacts on property values. Laubhan confirmed that the presence of a burial on a property must be disclosed during its sale. This transparency ensures that future property owners are aware of the burial sites.

When asked about the logistical process, he said that he, as Coroner, would come out to the property and submit the death certificate before a home burial takes place.

Conclusion

The event at the Gilpin County Library provided a comprehensive look at a growing movement that seeks to bring death back into the family fold. Through the powerful stories in *A Family Undertaking* and the insightful discussion led by Coroner Laubhan, attendees left with a deeper understanding of how they might reclaim and personalize their own end-of-life rituals. Laubhan's belief in the importance of allowing people to choose their method of interment resonated deeply, stressing the need for personal choice in these significant life moments.

Private Burial Affidavits are available online at https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/sites/gilpincounty/files/documents/HB10-1275_Private_Burial_Affidavit_Fillable.pdf.

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Mountain Spirit Astrology

Leo

The tawny, agile cat leading the carousel of the zodiac into the heart of summer is the sign of Leo. The lion pounces into the center of the stars, in charge of creativity, fun, children and parties. The new moon in Leo on August 14 is a grand starting point for artistic projects that will crown the season.

Are you getting the lion's share of fun this summer? We all have the opportunity to be regal funsters for one month. The first day of August is the goddess cross fire festival Lammas, celebrating the start of harvests for the season, baking loaves from the gathered grains, and fruit tarts, as well as congratulating ourselves on life accomplishments.

Aries - The Sun is a fiery fellow and the ancients said that in Leo he favors enthusiastic Aries. The destiny part continues in your sign as you enjoy all of us to celebrate the uniqueness of ourselves. Chiron the healer is also in Aries, stating you are perfect just the way that you are.

Taurus - Luxuriant Taurus revels in the cat like energy of Leo, reminding you how much you appreciate your home, the pleasure you find in gardening and the joy you have in redecorating. The planet of change, Uranus, is in your sign, so delight in completely redoing your home.

Gemini - Friends and relatives come to mind with the lion of summer leading the parade through the heavens. You appreciate lively Leo and cherish those close to you and get together and parties. Mars of energy and sports is in your sign, as well as lucky Jupiter for a one year stay!

Cancer - You have handed the crown of the season over to the lions of summer. The sign that follows yours, and you get the ruler of joie de vivre, Leo, in this role, allows you to plan your year ahead. You are a hard worker, but allow time for celebration as well in the month ahead.

Leo - Happy Royal Birthday! The Sun has entered its favorite sign, which is of course as you well know, is yours. Venus of love and romance is also with you, and Vesta who is dedicated to giving you the best birthday ever. These are great omens for the month ahead for the regal lions.

Virgo - The Sun is in Leo and all is well in the world, as the Sun prefers this sign. Clever Mercury has just entered Virgo for a month, and that is where the messenger of the gods prefers to be, delivering the packages to the correct addresses and stimulating the brain neurons.

Libra - The royal lions are holding court for a month. You have one eye on the present and another on the future because at this time of year you are interested in charting your future. As a gracious, social sign, you are also ready to expertly host parties for all of your friends.

Scorpio - Public prominence ahead for the Scorpions. The lions of summer lead you into career recognition. Dedication to work brings desired results. Remember to closely watch finances, as you could be inclined to overspend during the month ahead. Enjoy fun with your friends.

Sagittarius - The lions lead you into romantic moonlit adventures. Your planetary guide, lucky Jupiter, is now spending one year in your opposite sign of partnership, Gemini, and you are active, attractive and in demand. Consider where you might want to travel in the year ahead.

Capricorn - The mountain goats continue in a hard working phase, with certain results from your efforts. You have the ingenuity you need to face the day to day challenges that arise. The mystic realms continue to open for you as well as you apply yourself to the other worlds with diligence.

Aquarius - The regal lions represent your opposite sign in the world of astrology. Opposites attract and repel as well. You need to discern whether you want to develop certain relationships or avoid them. The power planet Pluto continues in your sign, allowing you to progress.

Pisces - The delights of summer inspire Pisces. This is a conscientious month for you, as you are inclined to dedicate yourself to anything that comes your way, whether it be your career, your home, or gardening. This dedication serves you well, as you are becoming more light hearted.

Karen Anderson is available for readings at 303-258-7258.

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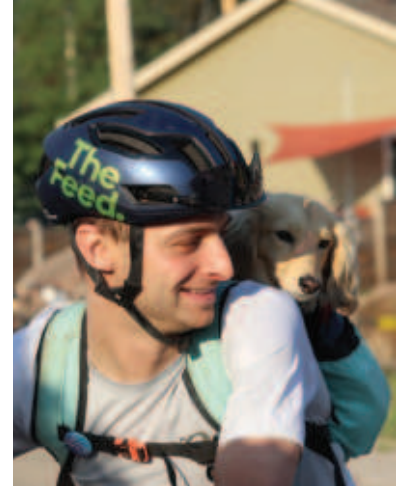
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Hundreds of competitors test their mettle



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Nederland's premier cycling event

Top, left: Cyclists sped by so fast the camera lens couldn't even keep up. Top, right: A rider and his very popular and charismatic companion (woof, woof). Bottom, right: Some spectators used motorized transportation to watch Ned Gravel this year. Bottom, left: The live music went on into the afternoon, echoing from Barker Meadow across the reservoir and up into the hills. Center: Racers started in tight conditions, but individual levels of endurance would soon separate them.

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY NEDERLAND

During the cool, blue hours of early dawn, vehicles came up the canyon with full bicycle racks. The quiet streets of Nederland were soon filled with the click-clacking of gears shifting and pedals idling, as bicyclists tested their rides, preparing for the first big race, the Ultra Course, set to launch at 5 a.m.

Racers from around the country, and the world, register for the Ultra Course, described as "not for the faint of heart," to put their abilities to the ultimate test. The Ultra Course is a 116 mile course with a big elevational gain, topping out at 14,219 feet, and is the headlining race for Peak to Peak Endurance's



NedGravel.

The fourth annual NedGravel began with the launch of the Ultra Course at 5 a.m. and continued all day on

Saturday, July 13, 2024, ending with an Expo and awards ceremony, featuring big name brands in bicycles and gear, food trucks, and live music.

Throughout the day, all along East Street, as the sweltering sun's reflection shimmered off the surface of the reservoir, racers geared up and stretched, then lined up at the base of East 3rd Street, where each of five different races launched.

The Tungsten Course, a 70-mile race through Switzerland Trail to Gold Hill and back down into Nederland, launched at 7 a.m., the 50-mile Gold Course launched at 7:30 a.m., and the 20-mile Silver Course at 8 a.m., as did the brand new Bronze Course, which is designed for those who are "gravel curious."

Dave Towle expertly emceed the event and would introduce race organizer, and owner of Peak to Peak Endurance, Gavin Coombs before each race to welcome racers to NedGravel and to give them a rundown of each course, since the longer courses contained aid stations

Continued on page 17





PHOTOS BY SARA SANDSTROM

Racing the NedGravel

Top, left: In the early hours of the morning the first Ultra racer appears at the intersection of Gamble and Lower Travis Gulch. Top, right: Katelyn Luther was the only woman to race in the Ultra Course this year. Center, right: Racers in Nederland. Bottom, right: It is great to have support during a race. Bottom, left: NedGravel is awesome! Center, left: An Ultra racer on Gamble Gulch.

Ned Gravel

Continued from page 16

with required time cutoffs.

The Expo, which was held in Barker Meadows Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., provided cyclists with demonstrations from Cat Eye, Dean, Deuter, and Mosaic, and with much needed sustenance offered by Enduro, with racer-tested protein bars.

The Matt Flaherty Band rocked the stage as racers and bike enthusiasts perused the NedGravel Expo and checked out one of the many food options, including Baus Burger, Mama Roos, and Bohemian Wurst Co.

Of the 38 total participants, Katelyn Luther was the only female racer to compete in the Ultra Course and completed the race with a time

of 11:15:21. Lachlan Morton won first place in the Ultra for the male category with a time of 6:56:38.

The Tungsten Course had a total of 203 participants, with Lauren DeCrescenzo winning first place in the female category with a time of 4:17:20, and Eric Brunner winning first place in the male category with a time of 3:52:55. Of the 287 participants for the Gold Course, Amelia Shea won first place in the female category with the time of 3:32:58, and Jeff Hartman won first place in the male category with the time of 3:01:30.

For more information on Peak to Peak Endurance please go to: <https://www.peaktopeakendurance.com>. For more information on Ned Gravel, as well as the complete race results for the 2024 event, please go to: <https://www.nedgravel.com>.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY





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Come to the Fair!



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

LYNN HIRSHMAN
GILPIN COUNTY

Every year, Gilpin County residents – and visitors from up and down the Front Range – look forward to Gilpin County's unique old-fashioned County Fair.

Unlike the commercial, professional fairs offered by the big counties, Gilpin's fair is small, locally produced and (mostly) provided by local people. And no admission fee – it's free! Yes, you get a 4-H Livestock Show and a Horse Show and Gymkhana – but you will also find a 4-H archery demonstration and a 4-H fashion show! There's a rodeo, but the local favorite features local kids hanging on to sheep for dear life in the Mutton Bustin' event. Not to mention everyone's favorite dog agility trials, fun for all (especially the not-so-eager pups that don't...

quite...manage agility).

You'll find Native Interpretive Dancers and lots of live music. Vendors from mountain communities and even from Down the Hill present all kinds of exciting wares, from knitted and leather goods to fine art to jewelry. They even get rewarded, when the Fiber & Fabric Arts judging takes place. Food booths and food trucks abound with terrific Fair fare!

Sunday begins with the delicious and legendary Pancake Breakfast, sponsored as it has been for years by the High Country Auxiliary. And then the Fair ends Sunday afternoon with rodeo and dancing – take your pick! In between, there's more fun and games, including a pickleball tournament (how trendy!)

There's something for everyone at the Gilpin County Fair! See the schedule on page 32 of this week's Mountain-Ear.

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things I've ever smelled in my life!" Lesson learned, though - if you try to drop off a freezer now, he'll make you open it for him first.

When he's not working, Billy snowboards, hikes, camps, and hangs out on Hessie Trail. He's got two dogs, whom you've probably seen at the Transfer Station - Big Chief Garcia ("if you look at him long enough, he looks like Jerry's beard") and Princess Leia.

Billy doesn't have a wife, or a girlfriend presently. In fact, he's never been married. I mention that because Billy told me to. "I'd like to eventually settle down and have a family, I'm a good catch." If you don't have a sense of that yet, consider this: "I'm an amazing cook. I make a lot of different things, a lot of Italian dishes. I like the challenge of cooking things I've never cooked before. It's a nice skill to mention when you're looking for

a date."

That overall vibe that struck Billy so long ago? He's watched that change. "I remember in 2009, when the Town put its first sidewalks in. They ran from Ace Hardware to the Blue Owl, and across the street. People went nuts! They were up in arms, complaining that sidewalks would take away from the rustic nature of the town, that Ned would lose its charm, that we didn't need them anyway. I was on the other side of that, sometimes things have to change."

We do tend to get ourselves worked up, often over the smallest of changes. It's Billy's hope that the town can handle those changes and grow responsibly. "While maintaining at least some of that old Ned vibe, of course. After all, Billy reminds us, "I do love this community, and I love living here in my new home town."

That old Ned vibe

JOHN MACKAY
NEDERLAND

"I'm getting goosebumps thinking about that day," says Billy Donovan, remembering the first time he saw our town. "It was May 1995, I was visiting in Boulder, and someone said I should see Ned."

He took the bus up and walked to First Street. "I was amazed that public transportation would even bring me way up here. I saw people playing music - the Dead, mostly - and it was magic. The view of the Divide, the overall vibe of the people. I knew immediately that this would be home."

Ned was nothing like Connecticut, where Billy grew up, 45 minutes from Manhattan. "We were in a small, tight-knit community called Fairfield. We played football, lacrosse, and pond hockey. We fished, hiked, and camped. Every once in a while we'd take the train into Manhattan, to check out the record shops and hang out in Central Park."

At 15 he got his first job, at Stew Leonard's Garden Shop. "The work came naturally to me, and the people there encouraged me to go to school for horticulture. I did, at the University of Maine, in Orono." In 1997 he was awarded his Associate Degree - the year after he was gifted with a baby daughter, Sierra.

Billy came to Colorado five years later, where he was hired as Landscape Manager for Naropa University. He found parts of it a challenge: "I had to prepare the grounds for graduation, and the university wanted everything nice and pretty. But it would snow in May, which made that pretty hard to do."

After three years the mountains called; Billy left Naropa and moved to Ned. He started his own landscaping business - Eclectic Elevations. It's still going strong today, by the way, mostly gardening, flagstone, and wall work.

"I wanted to be immersed in mountain life," Billy says, "and I wanted to master mountain landscaping." Horticulture, like many things, is different up here. "It was an interesting transition to learn

about the more drought-tolerant, high-altitude plants. Although you'd be surprised how many plants grow both up here and down below - coneflower, viburnums, spirea, and a lot of the evergreens, for example. The lack of color foliage here was hard to adjust to, as was the amount of water plants need here to thrive."

Then came COVID. There wasn't much demand for landscaping while the virus raged. "I needed to find some additional work, something stable, preferably with benefits." He found it, and on May 31, 2022, he became Lead Transfer Station Clerk of the Nederland Transfer Station.

He's been there for more than two years, and counting. It's a great job, although Billy worries people perceive him as too stern. "Sometimes I have to be, here at work, but I want people to know that I'm genuine and kind."

There can be other downsides. "Somebody came in and dropped off a chest freezer. I wanted to move it so I gave it a push. When it wouldn't budge, I opened it up. Four hooves popped out - there was an entire elk in there! This was in August, so it was absolutely disgusting - one of the most horrific



PHOTOS BY LORENA DE SANTA

Mountain folks

Above, left: Another beautiful day at the Transfer Station with Billy and his welcoming smile. Bottom, right: Billy, Big Chief Garcia, and Princess Leia

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Paid parking pilot delays Wayfinding

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Downtown Development Authority (NDDA) met on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, to discuss a Tourism Management Plan. The NDDA also heard an update on the Wayfinding project, which has been delayed due to several Town of Nederland initiatives.

Before the start of their meeting, the Authority first held a closed executive session for “a discussion of a personnel matter involving the evaluation of the Executive Director, who has consented to the executive session.”

After the Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) elected Everett Nielsen and Nathan Smallwood to fill seats on the NDDA left vacant by Ron Mitchell and Catherine Valen, Board members needed to choose new faces to fill the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer.

Board members Andrew Dewart and Barbara Hardt had both expressed interest in the position of Chair, with Hardt also expressing interest in the Vice Chair position. Steve Rowntree has expressed interest in remaining Treasurer.

A motion was made to appoint Dewart as Chair, which was

seconded; the Authority voted to approve the appointment. Hardt was approved as Vice Chair and Rowntree was approved as Treasurer.

The NDDA received an update from the Wayfinding Committee regarding the town-wide signage initiative that aims to promote accessibility for pedestrians and motorists. The project has been paused while the Town of Nederland completes its rebranding, with third party company Merje incorporating the Town’s new branding designs and colors into the wayfinding signs.

The question before the Authority was whether Merje and the Wayfinding Committee should wait to move forward with signage for parking until the Town has permanently implemented its paid parking plan.

The BOT recently approved a contract with Interstate Parking to manage paid parking at the Visitor’s Center and down East 1st Street for a trial run through the summer.

Board members discussed whether it was necessary to indicate on signs which parking lots are paid and which are not. Town Administrator Jonathan Cain noted that Interstate Parking will be providing their own signage for the trial period, and suggested that Merje focus on

directional signs pointing to all available parking, and to wait on informational signage once the Town has made a final decision regarding paid parking.

Cain, from his experience adopting paid parking for Idaho Springs, also suggested that the signs should inform tourists where they can access free parking in order to dissuade them from illegal and “creative” parking occurring in residential areas.

Dewart took the opportunity to express his opinion as to how paid parking should be managed, stating his support for the way it was being managed in the Canadian tourist town where he had stayed. The Canadian system featured parking spaces directly labeled for local businesses that were strictly enforced for 30 minute free parking; any vehicle in violation was fined \$150.

Rowntree, who serves on the Wayfinding Committee with Board member Steve Karowe, said that they had received enough feedback in order to reconvene with Merje on the next steps of the project.

Board members discussed the first draft of the 2025 NDDA Budget, which is expected to be completed and approved in September. All of the Authority’s 2024 projects, except for Wayfinding, are scheduled to be completed before the end of the year, with any joint capital projects between the Town and NDDA that involve matching funds to be carried over into 2025.

NDDA Executive Director

Kate Masingale expressed that the budget was being brought to Board members early in order to provide time to ascertain which projects should be moved forward and budgeted, with priority on local businesses. A more robust discussion regarding the 2025 NDDA Budget is expected in August.

Nederland’s Public Engagement Manager Peter Cacek presented a draft Tourism Management Plan (TMP), which aims to manage sustainable tourism for Nederland through collaborative work with other Town boards, and with the Colorado Tourism Office, as part of their Destination Blueprint program.

Cacek has presented the plan to, and gathered feedback from, the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board, the Sustainability Advisory Board, the Planning Commission, and the BOT.

The TMP has been drafted to align with the many different plans currently being drafted by third party entities contracted by the Town of Nederland, including the Multimodal Transportation Plan, the Comprehensive Plan update, and the NDDA Master Plan, though it is not yet being updated or redrafted.

Tourism strategies were provided to coincide with the original vision statements within the Envision 2030 town planning framework. For Arts, Culture, and Education, the Envision 2030 vision statement

Continued on page 21

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NEDERLAND FARMERS MARKET

Wayfinding

Continued from page 20

reads, "In 2030, Nederland celebrates our community's creativity and natural and cultural resources while empowering lifelong learning and engaging the community in opportunities through Town."

The tourism strategy within the TMP associated with Arts, Culture, and Education reads, "Through curated events, workshops, and immersive experiences, we attract visitors seeking lifelong learning opportunities and engagement with the arts and culture in our community."

Cacek's presentation listed Nederland's strengths in relation to tourism, as well as the challenges and opportunities of tourism.

Nederland's access to trails, open space, and outdoor recreation, its "quaint" downtown area, the residents' pride in the Town's character, its Visitor's Center, and its "new brand identity and visual assets developed from community values and input," were listed as strengths.

For its challenges, the TMP listed traffic congestion, lack of housing options for seasonal workers, few lodging options, limited resources, weak workforce retention, and lack of a dedicated budget for tourism management.

Tourist education, community engagement, promotion of local businesses, busier shoulder months,

conservation and sustainability initiatives, ADA-compliant sidewalks, beautification, and improvements to recreational facilities were listed as the possible opportunities that could arise from a focus on tourism in Nederland.

The NDDA did not offer any feedback at this time regarding Cacek's presentation and the latest draft of the TMP.

Tania Corvalan, Trustee Liaison to the NDDA, asked whether the Authority wanted to discuss at a later meeting the possibility of extending the size of the Board, which currently numbers nine. Corvalan stated that with more members the Authority could expand its number of projects.

Vice Chair Hardt noted that the Authority has had issues in the past with finding enough interested individuals to fill board positions when they open. Masingale noted that with Mitchell, landlord to many Nederland businesses, no longer serving on the NDDA, more business owners are now eligible to serve and have expressed interest in doing so.

The Nederland Downtown Development Authority meets the second Wednesday of every month. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 6 p.m. and will be held online as well as in person at the Nederland Community Center. For more information go to: <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/downtown-development-authority>.

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THE LAND ISSUE

<p>City permits approved</p> <p>71 Pinecliff Nederland, CO 0.39 Acres \$239,000</p>	<p>NEDERLAND SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS BARKER RESERVOIR 71 PINECLIFF TR</p>	<p>Mountain Horizons</p> <p>182 Rocky Knob Nederland, CO 2.18 Acres \$220,000</p>
<p>Majestic Rock Outcroppings</p> <p>815 Cougar Run Nederland, CO 1.74 Acres \$239,000</p>	<p>815 COUGAR RUN 1.74 ACRES PROPERTY LINES FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY</p>	<p>Minutes to Boulder</p> <p>485 E Kelly Boulder, CO 1.25 Acres \$199,000</p>

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-QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

*There are four statements that lead to wisdom....
You need to learn to say: I don't know. I'm sorry.
I need help and I was wrong. – Louise Penny*



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Nederland BOT meets

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) met on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7 p.m. to vote on the new Industrial Pretreatment Ordinance, which aims to further regulate restaurants and breweries. The BOT also revisited decisions regarding board appointments and paid parking.

The Board formally welcomed Nederland's new Town Administrator Jonathan Cain, whose position officially began on July 8. Cain has worked in local government since 2016, when he started as the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation for Gilpin County.

Cain has a Bachelor's degree in Politics and Government from Ripon College and a Masters in Political Science and Public Policy from the University of Colorado Denver. He has worked as the Director of Community Relations and Engagement for Clear Creek County from 2020 to 2022, and before accepting the position with Nederland he had been the Assistant City Administrator for Idaho Springs since 2018.

The BOT voted on Ordinance 864, which repeals and replaces several sections of Chapter 13, Article II of Nederland Municipal Code pertaining to the pretreatment of wastewater from restaurants, breweries, and industrial users. The code changes are intended to bring the Town into compliance with its wastewater effluent discharge permit, administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and in adherence with the Clean Water Act.

Utilities Manager Andrew Bliss detailed the changes made to the ordinance, including the removal of a requirement for industrial users to install a flow monitoring device, clarification that the Town Administrator or designee is authorized to enforce the ordinance, and clarification as to requirements that apply to food service establishments and those that apply to industrial users.

Bliss informed local businesses of

the ordinance through email on June 24. A second email was sent on July 2, clarifying what Bliss described as confusion and misinformation about the regulations within the ordinance.

The July 2 email specifies that most Nederland restaurants already have grease traps and that this ordinance does not require restaurants to have to replace them.

"I expect little impact to restaurants because I believe they all have grease traps and maintain them to some degree," the email reads. "Maintaining grease traps is in a restaurant's best interest because it prevents their own sewer pipes from clogging."

As for breweries, or "industrial users," Bliss explains that the Town's wastewater plant has a BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) limit of 488 milligrams per liter (mg/L). According to Bliss, beer has a BOD of 75,000 mg/L and wort has a BOD of 150,000 mg/L, meaning that breweries cannot pour their beer and wort directly down the drain.

Bliss suggests within the email that breweries water down the remaining liquid from their brewing process and "release it back to the wastewater plant slowly."

Mayor Pro Tem Nichole Sterling asked about the possible cost for breweries to come into compliance with the ordinance. Bliss answered that the majority of the changes breweries would need to make would be to their processes and would not require much expense for purchasing and installing new equipment.

Sterling reiterated that businesses may have no other option but to comply with the Town's ordinance, as the ordinance ensures Nederland's compliance with state regulations in order to maintain its wastewater effluent discharge permit.

She asked Bliss about how a delay in approving the ordinance would affect the Town's compliance, to which he answered that day-to-day the Town operates safely, but stated his worry that something might soon trigger the need for an expensive

Continued on page 23

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BOT revisits ordinances, appointments

Continued from page 22

plant expansion.

When asked how close the Town is to triggering a plant expansion, Bliss answered that he would need to look into that.

Bliss mentioned plans to conduct one-on-one meetings with business owners between the BOT's approval of the ordinance and the date of its implementation in June, 2025. Trustee Tania Corvalan suggested that the discussions with affected businesses should precede passing the ordinance, as feedback from the outreach may result in additional amendments to the ordinance.

Trustees asked Town staff how they would like to move forward, to which Bliss stated his preference to return within a month with an ordinance based on feedback from greater community outreach.

The BOT agreed with Bliss's suggestion and the matter of action on Ordinance 864 was tabled.

The Board revisited two topics on which they took action during their July 2 meeting, beginning with a discussion about the paid parking trial period to be administered and managed by Interstate Parking.

Representatives for Interstate Parking met with Town officials on July 9 and stated that the roll-out date of August 15 was too close for them to successfully implement "community engagement, website development, and kiosk installation." Concerns were also raised about reaching the expected revenue of \$57,500 due to the trial period having been shortened.

It was recommended either to delay the trial period until Spring 2025, which would give the Town time for more adequate community engagement and to resolve the issue of free parking for employees of local businesses, or to immediately implement community registration and education and expand into a full contract by leaf-peeping season.

Sterling also suggested that the paid parking trial period can begin at any time before next spring once the proper signage and equipment is prepared and resident registration has been completed. Trustees approved the looser timeline.

Cain specified the Town's next steps, stating his belief that Interstate Parking will be agreeable to such a timeline and that Town Attorney Jennifer Madsen will edit the language within the contract. The Town will begin planning a resident registration process.

The BOT also revisited their decision to appoint Everett Nielsen and Nathan Smallwood to the Nederland Downtown Development Authority (NDDA). Nielsen and Smallwood were voted onto the Authority by the BOT on July 2, though the NDDA had recommended Ron Mitchell and Smallwood for the positions, with Mitchell receiving seven votes of recommendation from the Authority.

According to the Agenda Information Memorandum (AIM) prepared by Corvalan and Sterling, this discussion was requested because "members of the NDDA, members of the BOT, and community members

didn't understand why the BOT chose to appoint a person who only received one vote to the NDDA board instead of the person who received seven votes."

On June 12, the NDDA voted to recommend Mitchell and Smallwood, though the BOT is in no way bound to those recommendations. Per the NDDA Bylaws, "The Town of Nederland Board of Trustees is not obligated to appoint DDA Board Members nominated by the Authority and may appoint DDA Board Members of their own selection."

There were no letters from the public or from NDDA members about this matter included in the July 16 agenda packet.

It was also stated within the AIM that the July 2 meeting was not recorded and therefore the Board's discussion regarding the reasons the decision was made to appoint Nielsen over other candidates could not be followed.

The AIM also notes that the motion to appoint Nielsen passed by a 3 - 2 vote, and poses the question to the Board whether anyone who voted for Nielsen wanted to reconsider their vote. Trustees Corvalan and Tierney Maris were absent for the July 2 vote.

Sterling made two motions during that meeting to appoint Mitchell; neither motion was seconded and therefore did not go to a vote.

According to the BOT's Rules of Procedure, a "vote of a majority of all members of the Board in office at the time" is all that is required when voting in new officers. Trustees also can protest any ordinance or resolution and submit their reasoning to record.

An official protest must be filed no later than "the next regular meeting following the date of passage of the objectionable ordinance or resolution." However, no such protest had been filed.

There has also been discussion of expanding the NDDA's roster, currently set at nine members. Corvalan had made two suggestions during the NDDA meeting on July 10: "[D]oes the Board wish to allow the NDDA to make other appointments to the board?" and "[D]oes the Board wish to appoint Mitchell to the board in addition to Everett?" These questions appeared again within the AIM.

Mayor Giblin, in an effort to explain the BOT's decision, restated his own critique of the NDDA, claiming "infighting and dysfunction" which impedes the Authority's ability to properly operate. Giblin also noted that Downtown Colorado Inc., during their analysis of the NDDA's impact on the business community, found that many business owners were unaware of the organization and its function.

Corvalan made her case for Mitchell, indicating that he had championed many projects for the NDDA that were successful. She stated her dissatisfaction with the BOT deciding to vote completely opposite to the recommendation of the members of the Authority.

Trustee Aaron Tye was asked to clarify his vote for Nielsen during the

July 2 meeting. Tye responded that when he asked Mitchell to give an example of a time on the NDDA where he had recused himself, Mitchell did not provide such an example and instead segued into an unrelated topic.

When Tye's reasoning was questioned by Sterling, he specified that he did not have any negative feelings about Mitchell and was not diminishing all Mitchell had done for the NDDA. Tye added that he believes Nielsen deserves the chance to prove himself, just as he was given the same opportunity.

Town Attorney Madsen clarified that the BOT had the power to decide if the NDDA were to be permitted to expand their board by two members. Madsen suggested that Trustees first receive feedback from the NDDA concerning the reasoning for needing the expansion. Even if Trustees were to approve expanding the NDDA board, the BOT still retains the right to approve who is then appointed.

Trustees voted on Ordinance 865, regarding the right-of-way vacation of West 5th Street. Upon approval of the ordinance, and pending a quitclaim for their portion of the right-of-way from the owner of the abutting property, the street would become part of the Town-owned parcel at 750 West 5th Street.

The request from the Town of Nederland is evaluated based on the value of the land; the current use of the land; any potential future use of the land, including the ability at some

future time to exchange or dispose of the land in a manner that might benefit the public; an evaluation of the public benefit of retaining the land, as well as the benefit in disposing of the land; and whether the manner of land disposition proposed is consistent with Nederland's Comprehensive Plan.

Ordinance 865 was approved unanimously.

Trustees also received an update from SE Group on the progress of the Comprehensive Plan and Subarea Plan. SE Group has held public open houses, online surveys, workshop meetings specific to downtown redevelopment; and focus groups on land use, housing, and sustainability.

SE Group will be shifting from the research and outreach phase to drafting the Comprehensive Plan update, with a plan outline to be presented to the Nederland Planning Commission on July 24. The draft is tentatively planned for presentation to the BOT in September, with a final draft to be delivered by October.

The Nederland Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 7 p.m. and can be attended either online or in person at the Nederland Community Center.

For more information go to: <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/board-of-trustees>.



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The Kalinski Team

SOB issue may be moved to popular vote



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

Central City government
Elected officials for Central City are always asking questions, and making recommendations and decisions for the town. From the mundane to the controversial they are ready to take it on.

MINDY LEARY
CENTRAL CITY

Mayor Jeremy Fey opened the Central City Council meeting on July 16, 2024, at 7 p.m.

During Council Comments, Alderman Todd Williams said he believes there has been misinformation and possibly disinformation regarding the actions, or inactions, attributed to the Council in respect to the Sexually-Oriented Business (SOB) issue.

“It’s my understanding that in the last two years, [regarding] the sale of 130 Main Street to RCI in October of 2022, the Planning Commission did not refer any recommendations to the City Council after that sale. Earlier this year, the only action regarding 130 Main Street was for us to approve liquor licenses associated with potential businesses that would be located at 130 Main Street.”

He said that the recusal of the Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem Kara Tinucci from the SOB issue has reduced the elective body to only three members. He suggested moving the issue to a vote of the people to allow them to decide whether to allow SOB operations within the gaming district. He recommended a ballot measure be drafted for the upcoming November election.

City Manager Daniel Miera said ballot language would have to be approved by September. The Council agreed to discuss this further at their next meeting.

Alderman Jeff Aiken encouraged everyone to attend the Gilpin County Fair this weekend on July 19-21 at the Gilpin County Fairgrounds.

Fey announced that the parade will commence at 9:30 a.m. from the Big-T lot. He also invited everyone to take a shot at dunking him in the dunk tank at 2:30 p.m. at the Fair.

Historic Preservation Grants were ratified: RWG 24-01 for 304 E. 4th High – rock wall grant; RG 24-08 for 102 Casey – roof grant; and WG 24-02 for 200 E 3rd High – window grant.

Alderman Jeff Aiken raised the question of the scope of the project and expressed concern regarding taking down walls needlessly. Miera said he could verify that information prior to the project commencement. Aiken volunteered to take a look at the properties in question.

2023 Audit Presentation. Finance and Human Resource Director Abigail Robbins presented the audit, noting a \$475,000 savings, primarily from commercial development and public works projects. The City Auditor confirmed compliance with regulations, and the Council thanked the staff for their budgeting efforts.

Resolution No. 24-22. This resolution updated the list of authorized check signatories among department heads and was approved.

Continued on page 25




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SOB issue

Continued from page 24

Resolution No. 24-23. This resolution awarded a bid for the 2024 City Hall Remodels Project to Restoration of the Rockies, Inc. The project, which includes workspace remodeling and making bathrooms ADA compliant, came in under budget at \$66,000. The resolution passed unanimously.

Appointments to the Belvidere Foundation Board. Kathy Walker and Corey Marshall were appointed, increasing the Board from four to six members. Marshall expressed enthusiasm for restoring the Belvidere.

Public Forum. Mary Ann Yuthas introduced herself as the new Marketing Manager for Main Street Central City, aiming to boost tourism and foot traffic.

A resident from Roworth Heights expressed dissatisfaction with a new development that obstructed her view and criticized the density, drainage, and high prices. She urged better communication about future developments.

Resident Zane Plsek praised the staff for their careful spending.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Central City Council is scheduled for August 6, 2024, and will be held at Central City Hall, 141 Nevada Street, second floor; or online via Zoom. Information can be found on the City website, centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings.

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- Stop by our Nederland Farmers Market booth (5/26, 6/23, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/6)
- Check out our website at nederlandlionsclub.org

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Pet of the week

*I hitched a ride with a vending machine repair man
He said he's been down this road more than twice
He was fond of mutts as I
I licked his hand, he said, You sure do look nice*

*Jump in, let's go
Sit down, enjoy the show
Everybody gets pets, everybody gets rubs
These are the days when anything goes*

*Every day is a wanting dream
I get a little bit closer
Every day is a faded sign
I get a little bit closer to feeling fine...*

Are you my vending machine repair man?

Lay back, let's enjoy the show together...I'm **Sheridan**, appearing exclusive at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley: <https://www.boulderhumane.org/animals/?animalid=56257327>

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Black Hawk City Council holds brief meeting

MINDY LEARY
BLACK HAWK

July 10 saw the briefest City Council meeting in known history, lasting all of four minutes.

Maintenance Services Manager Steve Jackson rang the old bell, signaling the beginning of the meeting.

The minutes from June 26, 2024, were approved with all in favor.

Resolutions 66 and 67, concerning temporary construction easements, were continued until the next meeting on July 24, leaving Resolution 65 as the only Action Item.

Resolution 65-2024, A Resolution Approving the Trade Contractor Agreement with Nunez Asphalt, Concrete & Trucking, Inc. for the Annual Curb and Gutter Concrete Repair Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$84,082.77 was presented to the Council.

Staff had solicited proposals from three contractors for the annual curb and gutter concrete repair

project. The work will include approximately 1,400 feet of curb and gutter, approximately 500 square feet of flatwork, and one storm sewer inlet top. The repairs are primarily along Main Street.

Proposals were received from: Nunez Asphalt, Concrete & Trucking Inc. \$84,082.77

Concrete & Asphalt 4 Colorado, Inc \$91,295

Andraos Construction, LLC \$111,808

The staff recommended Nunez Asphalt, Concrete & Trucking, Inc. With little discussion, the resolution was unanimously approved.

City Attorney Scott Hoffman announced there would be no Executive Session and Mayor David Spellman adjourned the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Black Hawk City Council is scheduled for July 24, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 211 Church Street, Black Hawk, Colorado.



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY


Paving the Future

Maintenance Services Manager Steve Jackson discusses Resolution 65-2024, which greenlights a contract with Nunez Asphalt for vital curb and gutter repairs.

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VOTE YES BY JULY 30TH



A VOTE FOR NED'S

- COMMUNITY
- ECONOMY
- FAMILY
- FUTURE











SPECIAL NEDERLAND ELECTION: Vote YES!

to allow a vacant lot owned by the Town of Nederland to be used for an Early Childhood Education Center.

VOTE BY MAIL BY 7/30

Learn more at teensinc.org/vote

This project is endorsed by these Local Organizations:

KNOW THE FACTS BEFORE YOU VOTE!

- **Proposed building size cannot exceed 10,000 sq ft. per the approved SRU** and TEENS, Inc. is hoping that the final design has a smaller footprint.
- **Land value is \$270,000 per a commercial property assessment** performed by a 3rd party assessor and submitted into the Town records.
- **TEENS, Inc. is a non-profit organization that is required by law to return any profits to use toward its mission** to support, educate and empower youth and their families to make healthy choices and thrive, which it has been doing since 1997 in service to the Nederland community.
- **Nederland already serves as a mountain hub** to unincorporated Boulder County residents on Ridge Rd, Magnolia, Caribou and families in North Gilpin who choose to send their children to Nederland schools and access activities, entertainment, and shopping in town, contributing to the local economy as locals.
- **The goal of this project is to meet current needs** and help young families already in residence stay in the community so Nederland continues to thrive as a community.
- **The lot at 750 W. 5th Street is located in a mixed use residential neighborhood**, which includes public uses such as the Fire Station. The Old Town Shop lot has stood vacant for about 10 years - unproductive, not generating revenue or providing services. Now, TEENS, Inc. is stepping up to provide a community service with the plan to build a childcare center to benefit the community.
- **A lease will put safeguards in place so the land will always serve a community need.** Included in the lease is language that transfers the ownership of the building to the Town of Nederland if for any reason TEENS, Inc. cannot operate the center.
- **Vote YES and join trusted organizations** who endorse this project that benefits families and the community today and into the future.

Mayor Fey announces candidacy for County Commissioner



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

MINDY LEARY
CENTRAL CITY

Gilpin County's political landscape is set for a shake-up as Mayor Jeremy Fey has officially submitted his petition to run for County Commissioner in District 1. With 71 valid signatures, surpassing the required 68, Fey's petition was deemed sufficient by Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick, securing his spot on the November ballot.

McCormick explained that unaffiliated candidates, like Fey, had the opportunity to obtain a petition from her office and gather the necessary signatures between May 16 and July 11. Unlike affiliated candidates, unaffiliated candidates can solicit signatures from any registered elector in Gilpin County, regardless of party affiliation.

Fey's name will appear on the ballot following the affiliated candidates, Marie Mornis (R) and Jeff Aiken (D), as unaffiliated candidates are traditionally listed last.

Fey, known for his bold ideas and community involvement, expressed his confidence in his candidacy despite the historical odds against unaffiliated candidates.

"I have a radical plan and think I can do a better job than the other two candidates. I'm the best man for the job," he told *The Mountain-Ear*. He plans to release a detailed manifesto in the coming weeks outlining his vision and strategies for the county.

Acknowledging the challenge ahead, he noted that over fifty percent of registered voters in Gilpin County are unaffiliated. However, he cannot recall any unaffiliated candidate ever winning an election in the county.

Reflecting on the timing of his decision, Fey mentioned he had been considering the run since February or March. Despite recent issues, such as the contentious SOB (Sexually Oriented Business) matter, which he said had initially "taken the wind out of my sails," a timely reminder from the County Clerk and his personal

meditation on the matter spurred him into action.

As the election approaches, Gilpin County residents will closely watch how Fey's entry into the race will influence the dynamics of the District 1

contest. With his commitment to change and a fresh perspective, the Mayor's candidacy promises to bring a new level of excitement and debate to the local political scene.

Business Spotlight

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JULY RECIPES



Easy Pasta Salad

Summer is definitely time for this seasonal, main dish pasta salad. Enjoy all that produce from the Farmers' Market!

Takes 35 minutes
6-8 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 medium red onion, thinly sliced
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 1 garlic clove, finely grated
- 1 lb. summer squash and/or zucchini (probably 2 medium squash), cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pickled peppers (optional)
- 3 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- kosher salt, to taste – about 1 tsp.
- 1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- 1 lb. small pasta – orecchiette, fusilli, penne, macaroni, etc.
- 2 pints cherry tomatoes, cut in half
- 1 cup pitted Kalamata olives or other briny black olives, cut in half
- 1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 8 oz. fresh mozzarella, torn into small pieces, or mozzarella pearls

- 1 cup packed coarsely chopped fresh basil or flat-leaf parsley, plus more for serving
- 1/2 cup finely chopped fresh oregano, plus more for serving

Preparation:

Toss the sliced red onion, zest and juice of the lemon, grated garlic clove, cubed summer squash or zucchini, 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pickled peppers (if you like), 3 Tbsp. red wine vinegar, salt and freshly ground black pepper in a large bowl to combine.

Gently stir the vegetables to soften them slightly. Let sit at room temperature, stirring occasionally, about 25 minutes.

Cook 1 lb. small pasta in a large pot of boiling heavily salted water, stirring occasionally, until al dente. Drain, shaking to remove excess water.

Add pasta, 2 pints split cherry tomatoes, 1 cup sliced pitted olives, 1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan, and 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil to vegetable mixture; toss well to combine.

Add 8 oz. torn mozzarella or pearls, 1 cup packed coarsely chopped fresh basil or flat-leaf parsley, and 1/2 cup finely chopped fresh oregano. Toss gently just to incorporate. Taste pasta salad and season with more salt and pepper and wine vinegar if needed.

Just before serving, top salad with more Parmesan, basil, and oregano.

Note: If you choose, you can add about 4 oz. of hard salami cut into narrow strips. Pasta salad (without toppings) can be made 5 hours ahead. Cover and chill.

Boulder County Sheriff's Office seeks help in arson investigation



VINCENT MONTEZ
BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

risk of a wildfire.

Firefighters from the Allenspark Fire Protection District, Lyons Fire Protection District, Lefthand Fire Protection District, and Boulder Emergency Squad responded and were able to extinguish the fire before it escalated.

The suspect is described as a white male, possibly with a tattoo on his inner right forearm, and was wearing a hat bearing the logo of the band Suicidal Tendencies. He appeared to be armed with a revolver and a knife.

We are releasing three photographs of the suspect and ask anyone with information related to this case to come forward. The case number is 24-03291.

We are asking the public to use caution and not attempt to contact this person. If you know this person or have information, please contact the Boulder County Sheriff's Office at our non-emergency number 303-441-4444 or call 911 if it's an emergency. Detective Arehart is assigned to the case. Your assistance is crucial in helping us resolve this case and ensuring the safety of our community. This press release may also be found at www.BoulderSheriff.gov.

The Boulder County Sheriff's Office is actively investigating an arson case and urgently needs the public's assistance with identifying the person responsible.

On the evening of July 4, at approximately 11:30 p.m., a burglary and arson incident occurred in the 24,000 block of Highway 7, between Lyons and Allenspark. The suspect, a male, ignited one structure and attempted to set another on fire. The blaze spread to the ground and neighboring trees, posing a

Public Notice

NOTICE CONCERNING BUDGET AMENDMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested parties that the necessity has arisen to amend the Timberline Fire Protection District's 2023 General Fund Budget; that a copy of the proposed Amended General Fund 2023 Budget has been filed at 19126 Highway 119, Black Hawk, CO 80422, where the same is open for public inspection; and that adoption of a Resolution to Amend the General Fund 2023 Budget will be considered

at a public meeting of the Board of Directors of the District to be held at Station 3, 19126 Highway 119, Black Hawk, Colorado 80422, on July 24, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. Any elector within the District may, at any time prior to the final adoption of the Resolution to Amend the General Fund 2023 Budget, inspect and file or register any objections thereto.

TIMBERLINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
By: Jennifer Hinderman
Secretary to the Board

Public Notice

County Court District Court Denver Juvenile Court
 Gilpin County, Colorado
 Court Address: _____

In the Matter of the Petition of:
 Adult: Angela Lea Zachman
 or
 Parent/Petitioner:
 for Minor Child: _____

For a Change of Name to: Angela Lea Fowler

▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲

Case Number: 24C10

Division _____ Courtroom _____

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Public Notice is given on June 17, 2024 (date) that a Petition for a Change of Name of a

Minor Child or Adult has been filed with the Gilpin Court.

The Petition requests that the name of
Angela Lea Zachman
 First Name Middle Name Last Name

be changed to
Angela Lea Fowler
 First Name Middle Name Last Name

By [Signature]
 Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk



Pancake Breakfast

FUNDRAISER

Join us at the Gilpin County Fair for the best annual breakfast fundraiser around. All funds raised by The High Country Auxiliary go to our First Responders!

SUNDAY, JULY 21st • 8 AM-11 AM

\$10.00
 PER ADULT
 \$5 AGES 6-12 & OVER 65
 UNDER 6 FREE

THE BEST!
 PANCAKES, EGGS
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Event Location
 GILPIN
 COUNTY
 FAIRGROUNDS



Legislative Recap: Senator Roberts and Rep. Amabile address Gilpin

MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

Senator Dylan Roberts and Representative Judy Amabile visited Gilpin County on July 10, 2024, to provide a recap of the 2024 Legislative Session. The event, held at the Historic Courthouse in Central City, was well attended. The presence of all three Gilpin County Commissioners was notable.

Senator Dylan Roberts' Foci

Roberts, elected in 2022 to represent Colorado's Eighth Senate District, discussed key legislative achievements. He emphasized his focus on cost of living and affordable housing, as well as significant investments in Colorado's water resources.

Roberts proudly announced that for the first time in 30 years, the school funding formula was modernized, providing additional funds for rural schools like those in Gilpin County.

Senate Bill 233, a bipartisan effort, aims to offer property tax relief to both residential and commercial property owners by lowering the assessment rate.

Additionally, the senior homestead exemption was made portable, allowing seniors to move and continue claiming the exemption without the previous 10-year ownership requirement.

Roberts also discussed Senate Bill 100, which enhances commercial vehicle safety on Interstate 70 and other mountain passes. The bill mandates tire chains for trucks over 16,000 pounds and increases speeding penalties, addressing safety concerns that cause significant economic losses when I-70 is closed.

The Senator expressed excitement about the Mountain Rail Coalition's plans to introduce passenger rail service from Denver to Craig, with a stop in Rollinsville. This initiative aims to reduce traffic on I-70 and promote business relocation to northwestern Colorado.

Representative Judy Amabile's Contributions

Amabile, who will transition to the Senate next year, shared her legislative priorities, including mental health treatment, climate crisis response, and housing affordability. As Chair of the Business Affairs and Labor Committee, she championed a bill that doubled the earned income tax credit and introduced a family tax credit, potentially lifting 40% of children out of poverty.

Amabile also discussed the establishment of statewide jail standards through a legislative oversight committee and advisory board, a unanimous decision ensuring better



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

Legislative Insights at Town Hall

Senator Dylan Roberts and Rep. Judy Amabile host a town hall meeting at the historic Gilpin County Courthouse to dissect recent Colorado legislation on July 10, 2024.

regulation of Colorado jails.

She worked on the Accessory Dwelling Unit bill (HB24-1152), which helps middle- and low-income households secure loans, with significant support from AARP.

Community Engagement and Future Goals

During the Q&A session, Public Health Director Alisa Witt suggested legislation to help seniors afford costly septic system replacements, which Roberts noted for future consideration.

Amabile expressed disappointment over the demise of a mental health bill for minors because of lack of funding, despite its high success rate.

Looking forward, she plans to focus on energy, environmental issues, and supporting liquor stores affected by grocery store wine sales.

Roberts aims to address affordable housing and workforce issues in what he anticipates will be a challenging budget year.

Senator Jeanne Nicholson inquired about healthcare access and the potential for a single-payer system. Roberts explained that a necessary study for a ballot measure on this issue had stalled in the Senate Appropriations Committee, suggesting that private funding could help advance it.

Several residents raised concerns about homeowners' insurance coverage being dropped with less than 60 days' notice. Coroner Zane Laubhan noted the lack of enforcement, to which Amabile

responded that a "Fair Plan" will be operational in January to assist those unable to secure insurance.

In closing, Roberts informed the audience about new waterwise landscaping regulations, aimed at conserving water, that prohibit non-functional turf on government and commercial properties.

The meeting with the Senator and the Representative was a productive and informative session for the Gilpin County residents. Both lawmakers highlighted

their legislative achievements and shared their vision for addressing critical issues such as education funding, property tax relief, mental health support, and environmental conservation.

The engagement and feedback from the community emphasized the importance of these discussions. The commitment of Roberts and Amabile to continue advocating for policies that enhance the well-being and prosperity of Colorado's rural and mountain communities was evident throughout.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF MAIL BALLOT SPECIAL ELECTION TOWN OF NEDERLAND, COLORADO

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, the Town of Nederland, Colorado, will conduct a mail ballot special election. Voting will take place by mail ballot, with ballots mailed by the Town Clerk to all registered electors between July 8 and July 12, 2024.

Ballots will be accepted at the following locations from July 8, 2024 through Election Day, July 30, 2024:

Town Hall – Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (excluding weekends and holidays)
45 West First Street
Nederland, Colorado 80466

Nederland Community Center Ballot Drop Box – Open 24 hours per day / 7 days per week
750 Highway 72
Nederland, Colorado 80468

By Mail
P.O. Box 396
Nederland, Colorado 80466

On Election Day, July 30, 2024, ballots will also be accepted at the following locations:

Town Hall – 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
45 West First Street
Nederland, Colorado 80466

Nederland Community Center Ballot Drop Box – Open until 7:00 p.m.
750 Highway 72
Nederland, Colorado 80468

Nederland Community Center Multipurpose Room - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
750 Highway 72
Nederland, Colorado 80468

Ballots must be returned in the official return envelope provided, the back of the envelope must be signed, and ballots must be received by the Town Clerk by 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2024 (Special Election Day) in order for your vote to be counted. Ballots may be mailed in the return envelope or deposited at the Office of the Town Clerk. Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day will not be counted. Postmarks do not count as a received date unless you are a registered UOCAVA voter.

At the election, the eligible electors of the Town will vote on the following referred measure ballot question:

REFERRED MEASURE BALLOT QUESTION #1:

DO YOU SUPPORT THE TOWN OF NEDERLAND PERMITTING TRENS, INCORPORATED TO OPERATE A PRIVATE CHILD CARE CENTRE ON 750 W. 5TH STREET, NEDERLAND, A LOT WHICH IS ZONED PUBLIC AND WHICH IS OWNED BY THE TOWN OF NEDERLAND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE NO. 859, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF NEDERLAND, COLORADO, APPROVING A SPECIAL REVIEW USE OF THE OPERATION OF A PRIVATE CHILD CARE CENTRE?

Yes

No

In witness thereof, the Town Clerk of the Town of Nederland, Colorado, has caused this Notice to be given as required by law this 3rd day of July, 2024.

Macy Caligaris

Macy Caligaris, Town Clerk
Published every Thursday between July 11, 2024 – July 25, 2024

Public Notice

At the July 16, 2024 meeting, the Board of Trustees passed Ordinance No. 865 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF NEDERLAND, COLORADO, VACATING THE W. 5th STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN BETWEEN COULSON

STREET AND GRIFFITH STREET IN BETWEEN BLOCK 5 AND BLOCK 6 OF THE DYERS SUBDIVISION NEDERLAND. The full text of the Ordinances are available online at https://library.municode.com/co/nederland/ordinances/code_of_ordinances

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FOR RENT: Commercial (mortgage, insurance, etc.) studio (massage, counseling, etc.) for rent in Downtown Nederland! Featuring its own private entrance, a private bathroom with shower, and private parking, this location offers convenience and an inviting atmosphere by the creek. Great public visibility and access right at the traffic circle in Nederland. \$675 per month (~200 SF). 1 year lease - 1st, last + security. Available now! Email jackie@homesbyjackiejones.com

For Sale

FOR SALE - Established Mountain Weed Whacking and Fire Mitigation Service. Perfect opportunity for any mountain dweller looking for a seasonal business to operate, flexible sale terms 720.422.8771

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Help Wanted

Gilpin County is Hiring!

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Emergency Communications Dispatcher I:
\$22.69 - \$31.78
Emergency Communication Supervisor:
\$55,100 - \$74,400
Facilities Maintenance:
Facilities Maintenance Tech I:
\$20.63 - \$28.89
Maintenance Worker - (Temporary):
\$19.13 - \$25.87

Community Center:
Child Camp Program Leader:
\$15.77 - \$21.30
Recreation Generalist II:
\$22.69 - \$31.78
Volunteer Athletic Coach:
unpaid volunteer position

Public Works:
Road and Bridge Worker (seasonal
culvert crew): \$17.36 - \$23.46
Senior Services & Transportation:
Volunteer - Meals on Wheels Program:
unpaid volunteer position

Sheriff's Office:
Deputy - Court Security:
\$30.77 - \$43.77
Deputy - Detentions - POST Certified:
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Deputy - Patrol - POST Certified:
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\$27.88 - \$39.66
Emergency Preparedness Specialist
(Part time): \$31.39 - \$43.99

Please go to our website to apply at
<https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers>

Senior Fleet Mechanic. City of Central FTE Salary range from \$53,364 - \$72,041 DOQ/E Requirements: Any combination of experience and training equivalent to graduation from High School, and four years of experience in automotive or related field. Must possess a valid Colorado driver's license with safe driving record, a Commercial B Driver's License or the ability to obtain one within three months of hire, and a CDL medical card. Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certification is preferred. Under general supervision, the position performs a wide variety of complex semi-skilled

and skilled mechanic work. Diagnoses, repairs, and performs preventive maintenance on all City vehicles and equipment. Works cooperatively with teammates to ensure City goals and objectives are fulfilled. The City provides a comprehensive benefit package that includes medical, dental and vision insurance coverage. 100% of the employee's premiums are paid by the City and approximately 98% of dependent premiums are paid by the City. Paid vacation and sick leave, 401(a) and 457b employer retirement contributions; fifteen paid holidays annually. City paid Long Term Disability and Life Insurance. Apply now: A detailed job description can be found on the City's website www.centralcity.colorado.gov. Qualified applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to the Finance/Human Resources Director at arobbins@cityofcentral.co or mail to P.O. Box 249 Central City, CO 80427. The position is open until 7/4/2024. EOE.

Services

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

Weed Whacking - Specializing in mountain properties in the Sugarloaf, 4 Mile, Ned, Eldora, Gold Hill, Lee Hill, Wonderland Lake and Lyons areas. Most properties take 3 to 6

hours with larger properties taking 10 to 15 hours. Local references are available and feel free to call for more details. Flexible rates are available on a case by case basis for those who need it. Call 720-515-7213

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!

Yard/Garage Sale

GIANT Garage Sale this weekend! Plants and plant accessories, books, clothes, furniture, horse tack, fencing, and more. Everything goes towards helping the kid raise money to head to college in 2 weeks. Stop by Friday, July 19, to Saturday, July 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 245 Apollo Drive Black Hawk. **Cash or Venmo only.**

NEDERLAND 150
AUGUST 2ND, 3RD, & 4TH
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF
NEDERLAND, COLORADO
NEDERDAYS.COM/NED150

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.



SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER, Salary Range: \$20.00 - \$22.00 / HOUR DOE. This is an unskilled or semi-skilled position involving horticulture work with specific responsibility for caring for and maintaining flowers, trees, and shrub beds at City properties. This is a temporary, part-time position; June - October 2024, 3 days a week (Mon - Wed or Thurs - Sat from 7 am - 4 pm). **Apply Now:** <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

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/>

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/>

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN I, Salary Range: \$58,581 - \$82,014/Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E. Provides a variety of skilled and semi-skilled work in the construction, maintenance, repair, inspection, restoration, and cleaning of both city-occupied and leased buildings and facilities. Works varied schedules to limit the disruption to City operations. Responds to calls for maintenance and repair services 24/7. Excellent Benefits package (See Benefits). **Apply Now:** 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: SUMMER OLYMPICS

ACROSS

1. Delhi dress
5. *Individual Neutral Athlete at 2024 Olympics, acr.
8. Mother in #48 Down
12. Joie de vivre
13. Fodder holder
14. External
15. ____ Grey tea
16. Gulf V.I.P.
17. Edible cannabis substance
18. *Famous Olympics basketball team (2 words)
20. 90 degrees on compass
21. Like Al Yankovic
22. Popular deciduous tree
23. College treasurer
26. Balaclava (2 words)
30. Compass point between E and NE
31. Nullify
34. Diva's delivery
35. Smart ones?
37. Two halves
38. That is, in Latin
39. First queen of Carthage
40. What ivy does
42. ____ chi
43. Hindered
45. Alternative form of a gene
47. Band aid
48. Diet inspired by prehistory
50. European erupter
52. *Michael Phelps predecessor
56. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard ____
57. Black and white killer?
58. U.S. lake
59. From then on
60. Bank claim
61. Decomposes
62. Against, prefix
63. a.k.a. acid
64. State of vexation

DOWN

1. Bird feeder morsel
2. a.k.a. Daminozide
3. Hard to find
4. Family addition, pl.
5. *Archer or shooter, e.g.
6. Homer's classic
7. Accepted behavior
8. *a.k.a. Cassius, 1960 gold medal winner
9. Greek H's
10. Landlord's due
11. Heat unit
13. Certain style of humor
14. Obelus, pl.
19. "The end justifies the ____"
22. ____ out, as in a win
23. Mardi Gras souvenir
24. Dark
25. Full of cattails
26. Petals holder
27. Rocky ridge
28. Like certain rug
29. *Swimmer Leducky
32. *Like 23 out of Michael Phelps' 28
33. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words)
36. *Nadia of perfect 10 fame
38. Archipelago
40. Large edible mushroom
41. *Like Bosnia and Herzegovina or Bulgaria
44. Mental portrait
46. Trotters
48. *2024 Olympics host city
49. Formed a curve
50. Sportscaster Andrews
51. Windshield option
52. Gangster's gal
53. *Xander Schauffele club option
54. South American monkey
55. Gusto
56. Geological Society of America

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19					20			
			21					22				
23	24	25					26			27	28	29
30				31		32	33			34		
35			36			37			38			
39				40				41			42	
43				44				45		46		
			47				48	49				
	50	51				52				53	54	55
56						57				58		
59						60				61		
62						63				64		



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Puzzle Solutions

S	L	A	V		P	R	O		M	R	S						
A	O	N	E		F	O	A	M		A	V	A	I	L			
G	O	N	G		A	I	D	E		M	A	N	G	Y			
					M	A	G	E	L	L	A	N		N	C	A	A
					I	N	C	U	R		H	I	C				
M	O	R	E	N	O		T	R	O	I	K	A	S				
A	L	E			U	N	D	O	E	S		N	I	G	H		
N	I	S	E	I		U	P	S		T	E	A	R	Y			
A	V	I	V		B	E	S	T	O	W		N	E	E			
S	E	N	E	G	A	L			Y	E	A	G	E	R			
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L	O	E	S			E	R	N	E		M	A	R	T			
E	D	I	T	H		T	O	U	R		A	Y	A	H			
T	O	R				I	M	P			L	O	N	E			

CROSSWORD: JULY 11

1	7	9	5	3	6	2	4	8
6	8	3	2	4	7	5	9	1
5	2	4	1	8	9	6	7	3
4	1	2	3	6	8	7	5	9
9	6	5	7	1	4	3	8	2
7	3	8	9	2	5	4	1	6
3	4	6	8	5	1	9	2	7
2	9	1	4	7	3	8	6	5
8	5	7	6	9	2	1	3	4

SUDOKU: JULY 11

SUDOKU



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FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
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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 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083446

		9						1	8
3							7		
					2	8			4
	2	9		8			5		
			9		5				
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5			2	9					
		2							6
8	6							3	

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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.

PLUMBIN' FREAKED?

Call the **PLUMBIN' GEEK!**

- Plumbing Repair & Replacement
- Drain Cleaning and Thawing
- Hydro-Jetting
- Water Heaters: Nat. Gas, Propane & Electric

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303-258-3439

Jerry French

Licensed & Insured
(#186250)



Matt Carhart

PRESENTED BY PARKS & RECREATION

GILPIN COUNTY FAIR SCHEDULE



FRIDAY JULY 19, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:00 A	PARADE	CC & BH
12:00 P	4-H OPEN HORSE SHOW	ARENA & BARN
3:00 P	4-H OPEN GYMKHANA	ARENA
3:00 P	4-H LIVESTOCK SHOW	BARN
5:00 P	3RD ANNUAL VBALL TOURNNEY	ARENA
5:00 P	S'MORES	GRANDSTANDS

SATURDAY JULY 20, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10:00 A	LOG SPLITTING TRIALS START	GRANDSTANDS
11:00 A	WESTERNAIRES INDIAN ITERP DANCE	ARENA
11:00 A	CURTIS BROTHERS BAND LIVE	BIG TOP
12:00 P	MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
12:30 P	4-H ARCHERY DEMONSTRATION	ARENA
1:00 P	MOUNTAIN WARRIORS	ARENA
1:00 P	DOG AGILITY	BARN
1:30 P	SHOCKWAVE TRICK RIDERS	ARENA
2:00 P	ROUGH STOCK RODEO & MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
3:30 P	DUSTIN DEVINE LIVE MUSIC	BIG TOP
4:00 P	LOG SPLITTING FINALS	GRANDSTANDS
4:30 P	4-H FASHION SHOW	BIG TOP
5:00 P	BACKYARD BAGS, MUSIC & DANCING	BIG TOP

SUNDAY JULY 21, 2024

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
8:00 A	COWBOY CHURCH	GRANDSTANDS
8:00 A	HCA PANCAKE BREAKFAST	BIG TOP
10:00 A	REDNECK RELAY	ARENA
10:30 A	PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT	COM. CENTER
10:30 A	DEREK HALL LIVE MUSIC	BIG TOP
11:00 A	DOG TALENT SHOW	BARN
12:45 P	RANGERETTES OF THE ROCKIES	ARENA
1:00 P	RANCH RODEO & MUTTON BUSTIN'	ARENA
1:00 P	BIG TOP DANCING	BIG TOP

Allen Memorial Fairgrounds | 250 Norton Dr. Black Hawk, CO 80422 | 303-582-1453

The Mountain-Ear is a proud sponsor of the Gilpin County Fair!