

Celebrating the past for a prosperous future



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Nederland royalty honored

Grand Marshal of the Nederland 150th parade Jeanette Smith waves to the crowd after receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nederland Area Historical Society. See story page 16.

Local Olympian Grant Koontz

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

On August 8, at 9 a.m., be sure to tune into the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics to catch a local competing as a first-time Olympian. Professional cyclist and Nederland resident Grant Koontz will be competing alongside some of the world's greatest athletes in the Men's Omnium event.

The Omnium is a track cycling event made up of six individual races, starting with a scratch race, then an individual pursuit, an elimination race, a time trial, a lap against the clock, and a points race.

30 year old Koontz has plenty of experience in the Omnium event and in the professional cycling world, having competed internationally and ranked 6th place in the 2022 UCI World Championships.

He took home two bronze medals and four gold medals in the 2023 PanAmerican Games in Santiago, Chile, a bronze medal in the 2024 UCI Track Nations Cup, and five

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PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT KOONTZ

Olympians are made here

Grant has been traveling across the world, representing Nederland and Team USA in training camps prior to the big games in Paris.

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-QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

It is foolish to be convinced without evidence, but is equally foolish to refuse to be convinced by real evidence.
- Upton Sinclair

THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

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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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Staff

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



Thursday, August 8

Gilpin Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Public Open House: Gilpin County has taken proactive measures to protect its communities and infrastructure from wildfire hazards by contracting SWCA Environmental Consultants to develop an updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for 2024. The CWPP will serve as a guiding document that will assist the County and landowners in making informed decisions with respect to wildfire preparation and management. 6 p.m. at 203 Eureka Street, Central City.

Saturday, August 10

Reading Garden Ribbon Cutting: Help us celebrate the opening of our newly renovated Reading Garden! Music, games, activities, a book sale and more! 5 - 7 p.m. in the Library Open Areas at Nederland Community Public Library.

Mountain Fest: This event is full of fun with mountain games, karaoke, live music, Hybre Thorne's Soap Whittlin' Contest, Frozen Flannel and more! Show your strength and speed with Mountain Olympics! We'll be adding more event details over on our Coal Creek Canyon Parks and Rec Facebook and Instagram pages - so swing on over and follow us for more details. 12 - 4 p.m. at the CCCIA Hall located at 31528 Highway 72, Golden.

Sunday, August 11

PRT and Chronic Pain Management: Pain Re-processing Therapy (PRT) is a cutting-edge, evidence-based therapy for chronic pain and other physical symptoms. Learn about advancements in current pain neuroscience and techniques for rewiring the neural pathways in the brain to deactivate pain with Zoe Lewis, LCSW. 4 - 5:30 p.m. in the community room at the Nederland Community Public Library. Register for this free event at <https://nederland.colibraries.org>.

Monday, August 12

Nederland Writers: Bring something you are working on to share and get feedback or join the group to listen

in and hone your skills. Area writers gather at Nederland Community Library every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. For details visit <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

The Mountain Meditation Circle is a free and open group that has been meeting every Monday evening at 6 p.m. for the last four years at the Gilpin County Public Library. New participants are always welcome.

New members will need to provide their contact information prior to attending their first meeting. Please email Alisa Witt at wittalisa@gmail.com or 847-890-5262 to provide your contact information.

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

Tuesday, August 13

Sci Fi Book Club: For readers 17 and up. You can participate in person or online. Register for this free event at <https://nederland.colibraries.org>. Starts at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 14

Faerie Storytime: Creative movement & music storytime with Gala the Flower Faerie. Faerie wear is encouraged. Best for ages 2 and up. 10 to 11 a.m. at the Gilpin Public Library in the Library Meeting Room.

Sunday, August 18

Nederland Farmers Market: Enjoy a multitude of artisan food and craft vendors accompanied by live music right in town. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 80 E. Second Street, Nederland.

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

Stream. Surf. Advertise. Inquire.



Contact us

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



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If your business wants to reach the MOST readers in the entire Peak to Peak region, EVERY WEEK, advertise in *The Mountain-Ear*. Find out more here!



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Self Help Meetings

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

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

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

Coal Creek Canyon 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.coalcreekcanyon.org/calendar>.

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

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

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

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

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

PEAK PERSPECTIVES: Thank you Prairie Mountain Media



PHOTO BY BARBARA HARDT

BARBARA HARDT
BLACK HAWK

This week marks a very sad week for us. It is our last week printing with Prairie Mountain Media. We've had an amazing partnership with them for over a decade and they have been absolutely amazing to work with. We are blessed to know every person there (40 people are losing their jobs because of this press closure), but wanted to say a very special thank you to Chris Klein and Randolph Catton. So to

both of them (and the entire Prairie Mountain crew), I say, thank you for always helping us, for having my back when I needed an extra hour, for telling me what I needed to know and for sharing your incredible work with us at *The Mountain-Ear*. We will truly miss working with you.

So, what's next? We are thankful to have found a printing press that is working with us to continue our publication. They are located a bit farther away, in Aurora, and we are figuring out details of pickup next week. The page size is different, so

a new template is being created. Things will look different for a few weeks as we work into this new template.

In the midst of all of this, we are creating our Studio Tour guide (with another printer we have worked with before). It will hit stands before the end of August (if you haven't signed up, email marketing@themountaineear.com for info).

We are also switching web providers and preparing for that transition, among many others.

And, then we have had a few staff leave and brought a few new staff on, to be introduced in an upcoming edition. We can't wait to tell you about each of them (they're all in our community of course).

Regardless, I want to say a personal thanks to a few staff members that have really been rising above and beyond in the last few weeks. While on deadline with all of the chaos that is part of life these days, Sara Sandstrom, Lynn Hirshman, Christopher Kelley and Jamie Lammers have been working extra hard to make this paper happen. I want to recognize each for their weekly contributions and say a HUGE thank you for being part of the TEAM. Special thanks to Omayra Acevedo for her hard work on the Studio Tour as well.

And for me, personally, I am heading out for just a few short days to take my son to college. As you can imagine it is a super busy time for all of us.

We thank you for your patience during this transition and can't wait to share what's happening next!

As always, The Mountain-Ear is YOUR community source for news, created by locals, FOR locals. If you have any questions, email info@themountaineear.com or call 303-810-5409.

Meet our team!

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John Scarffe

Interns
The Mountain-Ear is hiring fall high school interns. We hire up to 5 interns per year from Gilpin, Nederland, Chinook and Coal Creek school (or home schools). To apply, send letter of interest to info@themountaineear.com

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



Gilpin County Seniors

August 8 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

August 9 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Bingo

August 12 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

August 14 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo, Senior Living update

August 15 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park King Soopers

August 16 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m. Six week caregiver class, 1:30 - 3 p.m. Call for details.

August 19 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

August 21 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m. Birthday Party!

August 22 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

August 23 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m. Six week caregiver class, 1:30-3 p.m. Call for details.

August 26 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

August 28 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m. Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

August 29 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

August 30 - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m. Lunch at 12:15 p.m. Six week caregiver class, 1:30-3 p.m. Call for details.

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

August 14 - Sit and Stretch Yoga, 11 - 11:30 a.m. in Senior Lounge.

August 14 - Lunch, Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, California veggie blend, and pineapple

August 21 - Sit and Stretch Yoga, 11 - 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Lounge.

August 21 - Lunch, Pulled pork sliders, black beans, pico de gallo, creamy coleslaw, and fresh peaches.

August 21 - Purple Art- Art Class for Seniors! 1 - 2:30 p.m. in the Senior Lounge located at the Nederland Community Center. Suggested donation is \$5. Email info@mountainpeaklife.org for more information and to RSVP!

August 24 - Ned Jazz Wine Festival 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. in Chipeta Park. Visit nedjazzwine.com for tickets and more information.

August 28 - Sit and Stretch Yoga. 11 - 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Lounge.

August 28 - Lunch, BBQ chicken, macaroni salad, spinach salad with pine nuts & strawberries, and peaches

August 28 - August Birthday Celebrations! Delicious treats provided by Bright Heart Catering!

Lunch is served from 12 - 1 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center. Suggested donation for senior lunch is \$5 for guests 60+ and \$12 for all other guests (Sliding scale available!). RSVP by calling 303-258-0799 or at info@mountainpeaklife.org. Check out our website calendar for the latest activities and updates www.mountainpeaklife.org.

Music of the Mountains

Where to be and what to see

JAMIE LAMMERS
ALLENSPARK

Tim Merkel only performs under the name “Timothy” because when he initially set up his website, the domain timmerkel.com had already been taken (as of this writing, that URL now pulls up a 404 Not Found error). Outside of his performances, though, everyone who knows him personally calls him Tim.

Merkel started playing guitar and writing songs around twelve or thirteen years old while living in Chicago. He performed at local open mics in Old Town where various folk heroes of his also performed. Coming out of college, he became a professional salesperson but would always take his guitar on work trips to find open mics across the United States, including Oregon, Washington, Ohio, Wisconsin, California, and New Jersey. To this day, he still plays wherever he can in venues ranging from breweries to coffee shops.

Merkel remembers bringing his guitar to family reunions every year in Rochester, New York, where he wrote many songs. One of these songs, titled after that city, is included in his 2022 album *All Boats Rise*. He was primarily influenced by the music of Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, and James Taylor, but he also loves artists like Joni Mitchell, Shawn Colvin, and Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Initially studying as a guitar major at Roosevelt University’s Chicago Musical College (which would merge with the Theater Program to become the Chicago College of Performing Arts in 1997), he learned many jazz chords and much theory from jazz guitarist Robert Becker. His early songwriting started by creating a chord progression, but more recent songs of his start with the lyrics. His favorite parts of songwriting are those miraculous moments where a song flows out from him as if he is a “cosmic conduit” for that song. When this happens, he feels part of something bigger than himself.

Merkel agrees with the sentiment that there’s a certain brightness in



Tim “Timothy” Merkel

somebody’s eyes when they’re truly connecting with his performances. When they tell him directly after the show that they connected to his performance, or when they sing or harmonize with him during his shows, it reinforces to him that the connection was serious. He also loves the specific connection of an older person subtly communicating that they enjoy the music, especially if they’re typically quiet to others.

He tries not to be preachy in his songwriting, but he does weave serious statements about his love for the environment throughout his work. He also hopes that people recognize how much joy he gets out of playing and singing.

The Old Gallery in Allenspark started open mics in 2023 after Merkel suggested the idea during a marketing brainstorm. The Old Gallery loved the idea and suggested he host the events, and once he jumped in, he didn’t look back. He has hosted many open mics across the country throughout his career, including another he currently hosts

in Lafayette.

He has always loved seeing the wide range of experience of those who go on stage, whether they’ve been playing for years or he can sense a spark of talent in a newcomer. He wants to encourage newcomers that ability is not judged and that the open mic is simply meant for everyone to enjoy themselves. He loves giving new performers the chance to come out of their shells, and he hopes to continue inspiring and championing new songwriters for years to come.

Tim Merkel will host the open mic again at The Old Gallery, 14863 Highway 7 in Allenspark, on Friday, August 16, 2024, at 6:30 a.m. It will be his final Allenspark open mic in 2024, so be sure to come and you might see him perform a short set! If you’re curious about Merkel’s musicianship, you can go to his website at timothymerkel.com and stream his albums Orion’s Expedition and All Boats Rise wherever you get your music.

Music Events

Busey Brews

- Sunday, August 11 at 2 p.m. - Brandywine Duo
- Sunday, August 18 at 2 p.m. - Chris Myth
- Sunday, August 25 at 2 p.m. - Melt Family’s Darin and Ryan

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

Gold Hill Inn

- Friday, August 9 at 8 p.m. - Jake Leg
- Sunday, August 11 at 5:30 p.m. - Thunder and Rain
- Friday, August 16 at 8 p.m. - Blue Canyon Boys
- Saturday, August 17 at 6 p.m. - Johnny Blueheart Band
- Sunday, August 18 at 5:30 p.m. - Benjamin Sproul Duo
- Wednesday, August 21 at 5:30 p.m. - David Miner Trio
- Sunday, August 25 at 5:30 p.m. - Ojo de Luna

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

Gold Hill Store

- Saturday, August 10 at 7 p.m. - Goldie and the Grindstones
- Saturday, August 17 at 6:30 p.m. - Hundred Pound Housecat

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

Continued on page 5

Business Spotlight

Forget Me Not Skin Care
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 and Nail Technician
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 303-258-7730

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 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
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 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, August 17 at 5 p.m. - The Kind Mountain Band

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/blackhawksharddistrict/ Website: https://blackhawksharddistrict.com/ Location: 317 Gregory Street, Black Hawk (Mountain Poppy Boutique) Phone: 720-669-0665

Howlin Wind Brewing

Saturday, August 10 at 5 p.m. - Violet Breeze Saturday, August 17 at 5 p.m. - Moonstone Quill Saturday, August 24 at 5 p.m. - Solvera Saturday, August 31 at 5 p.m. - Stone-Hall

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

Jamestown Mercantile

Thursday, August 8 at 7 p.m. - Wind-Up Birds Friday, August 9 at 7 p.m. - Poorfree Sunday, August 11 at 12:15 p.m. - Eli Lev Thursday, August 15 at 7 p.m. - Ryan Dart Friday, August 16 at 7 p.m. - Sturtz Sunday, August 18 at 12:15 p.m. - David Tilmon Thursday, August 22 at 7 p.m. - Mighty Holler Friday, August 23 at 7 p.m. - Gas Pops Duo Sunday, August 25 at 12:15 p.m. - Lost Penny Thursday, August 29 at 7 p.m. - Lost Bobcat Wednesday's at 5 p.m. - Open Mic

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

JKQ BBQ

Friday, August 9 at 6 p.m. - Boys of the Town Saturday, August 10 at 5 p.m. - Boys of the Town

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

Knotted Root Brewing

Saturday, August 17 at 1 p.m. - Melt and the Family Band Saturday, August 31 at 2 p.m. - Tober and the Sound Ideal

Fridays at 7 p.m. - DJ Night Every Second Friday at 7:30 p.m. - Reggae DJ Night Sundays at 5 p.m. - Jazz Sundays

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/knottedrootbrewing/ Website: https://www.knottedrootbrewing.com/home Location: 250 N. Caribou Street, Nederland Phone: 720-248-7129

Nederland Farmers Market

Sunday, August 18 at 10:30 a.m. - Robby Wicks

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NederlandFarmersMarket/ Website: https://www.nederlandfarmersmarket.org/ Email: nederlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com Location: 85 E. 1st Street, Nederland and 80 E. 2nd Street, Nederland

Nederland Summer Concert Series

Saturday, August 17 at 4 p.m. - Atomga and Selassee/Fafa Family Saturday, August 31 at 4 p.m. - The River Arkansas/Silas Herman and Jack Cloonan (both at Chipeta Park)

Website: https://www.timeservedproductiongroup.com/

Old Gallery at Allenspark

Saturday, August 10 at 6 p.m. - Shanna in a Dress

Friday, August 16 at 6:30 p.m. - Open Mic with Tim Merkel Saturday, August 24 at 6 p.m. - Beth Gadbar Trio

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TheAPOldGallery Website: https://www.theoldgallery.org/ Location: 14863 Highway 7, Allenspark Phone: 303-747-2906

Very Nice Brewing Co. (Gilpin County)

Friday, August 9 at 6 p.m. - Ravin' Wolf Saturday, August 10 at 5 p.m. - Blue Moose Jazz Saturday, August 17 at 5 p.m. - Aaron Mitchell Friday, August 23 at 6 p.m. - Eric Stone Saturday, August 24 at 5 p.m. - Reservoir Fog Friday, August 30 at 5 p.m. - Andreas Boehmer

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

Website: https://www.verynicebrewing.com/ Location: 180 Jankowski Drive, Black Hawk Phone: 303-582-2015

Very Nice Brewing Co. (Nederland)

Friday, August 9 at 6 p.m. - Windy Pines Saturday, August 10 at 5 p.m. - FastFloyd Friday, August 16 at 6 p.m. - Ravin' Wolf Saturday, August 17 at 5 p.m. - Steepland String Band Saturday, August 24 at 5 p.m. - Strangebyrds Sunday, August 25 at 5 p.m. - Ella Wren Friday, August 30 at 6 p.m. - Mountain ReVerb

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

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

Advertisement for Timberline Fire. Text: WELCOME TO THE BEST JOB IN THE WORLD. Timberline Fire is now accepting applications for the position of Volunteer Firefighter. For more information visit our website via the QR code or call 303-582-5768. No experience needed. All training provided. Includes QR code and logo.

Real Estate advertisement for Indian Peaks Real Estate Services. Text: Your Real Estate, Property Management & Vacation Rental Specialists. 303.258.0656. Serving Nederland, Gilpin & Surrounding Areas. Indianpeaksre.com. Includes photos of Wendy Williams, Tegan Ryan, Emily Perry, Lynn Slinger, Pamela Fleming, and Mike Zakreski.

Thank you for voting

Dear Nederland Community,

Thank you for showing up at the ballot box and voting in the recent special election. The outcome of this election coupled with all the conversations we have had with the community reinforces the notion that bringing expanded Early Childhood Education to Nederland was the right

decision by TEENS, Inc.'s Board of Directors.

We look forward to working with the entire community to bring this project to fruition.

Sincerely,

Stephen LeFaiver
TEENS, Inc. Executive Director

Vote for Steve Ferrante for District 49 House

Dear Editor,

As a father of four and grandfather of nine, education is a high priority. I am not an "insider," so I have no allegiance to public or private schools. Society benefits from a well-educated populace who exercise critical and analytical thinking skills while civilly engaging with others. Our children and grandchildren must have a prosperous, safe, free, and hopeful future. They don't need oppressive systems where diverse opinions are crushed.

Many schools in Colorado are underperforming. US News and World Report has a link in their education section allowing readers to research schools throughout the country. A high graduation rate does not mean the "system" is serving its students well.

Estes Park High School has an 83% graduation rate, but a 30% proficiency in mathematics, 63% reading proficiency, and 42% of students passing at least one AP examination.

Boulder High School has a 95% graduation rate, yet demonstrates 62% mathematics proficiency, 82% reading proficiency, and 53% of students passing at least one AP exam.

This is not meant to trash teachers or any other group. It's a call to look at systemic educational failures. Some schools have been underperforming for more than ten years, yet little is done to address this critically important issue. The system protects itself, hiding behind "five-year plans."

Our children need a solid educational foundation. Social justice classes are not the answer. Students must be taught

Let's think about what we are doing

Dear Editor,

When it comes to wildfires and fire mitigation, trees are not the culprits here. Nine out of ten wildfires are human caused. We need to regulate human use of forests when fire danger is high. Fines for intentional or accidental ignition of wildfires are so small that they do not deter those who disregard fire bans and contribute to the destruction of thousands of acres of forests, peoples' homes and wildlife habitat, as well as putting peoples' lives at risk.

Removing trees in massive logging operations opens the land to intense solar radiation, contributing to global warming. Birds and wildlife lose their homes. Trees along streams are essential to protecting water resources from evaporation and keep the stream cool so that aquatic species can survive. Forests store carbon from our use of fossil fuels. They absorb CO2 and give off oxygen for us to breathe.

Diane Brown
Eldora

"Denial" ain't just a river in Egypt

Dear Readers,

While listening to "Fresh Air" on NPR a few days back, I caught an interview with an expert on refrigeration. While the interview was mostly about what should and should not be put in your fridge, the commentator made a few salient points. Remember from your high school physics class that "energy can neither be created nor destroyed." When we cool our inside world through refrigeration, and also through air conditioning, we are heating the world outside.

The multiple wildfires that have popped up around us are showing us the consequences of this. Our world

is heating up. The heat domes and droughts are bigger, and more long lasting. 2023 was the hottest year on record for the earth, with 2024 expected to top that. The millions of migrants globally who have left their homes because they are un-livable is a very turbulent effect of this.

The commentator made the point that a new proposed federal regulation would eliminate some of the most harmful chemicals that we put into our refrigerants to create this artificial cooling. She listed some of these at many thousands of times more heat trapping than CO2. The regulation would still permit refrigerants that were only several hundred times more heat trapping

how to develop solutions benefitting all people regardless of race, sex, religious background, politics, etc. They need skills to work for the greater good of all while individuality, personal freedoms, and mutual respect are championed. Reading, math, science, etc. are essential to a successful future for individuals and our society.

The education monopoly must change lest our children and grandchildren be denied academic excellence. Schools should serve families, not lie to them. Families don't exist to donate their children to the education system.

Schools should promote mutual respect and understanding, not foster an intolerant and hostile outlook. College campuses have shut down free speech, allowed disruptive advocacy of genocide toward an ethnic and religious minority, and suffered an overall breakdown of civility. Colorado is on a similar course and must change.

If a school has five, ten, or more years of educational decline, parents

should have the freedom to remove their child. We can take the funds allotted to students attending failing schools and allow parents, free from governmental intrusion, to provide for their child's education. Periodic testing will provide accountability as students must demonstrate proficiency in reading, mathematics, science, etc. that is at least equivalent to the rates of their respective public school.

It's about the children, not the system or big money donors. Children deserve a safe, free, prosperous, civil, and hopeful future. Parents must have the capacity to make educational choices. Our future will be brighter when we tackle the tough issues in significant ways. The time for making excuses is over.

Vote for me and I will advocate for our children like no other.

Steve Ferrante
electstevecolorado.com
Estes Park

Letter to the Editor



Submit your letter to the editor by emailing the newspaper at info@themountainear.com, scanning the QR code here, or on our website at <https://www.themtnear.com/submit-letter-or-guest-opinion/>. Letters are the opinion of the author and do not reflect the opinion of *The Mountain-Ear*.

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regulations if they would contribute ONE BILLION DOLLARS to his 3rd presidential bid.

It seems to me that if you care about this earth, your children's and your grandchildren's future, it would be hard to vote for any Republican who ignores these basic facts. And yes, there are facts that are indisputable. You can turn up the AC at Mar a Lago, but who are you blasting with your discharge?

Vote Democrat to begin to chip away at this denial.

We have a long way to go.

Bill Thibedeau
Gilpin County

Contribute to help those in need

Greetings Peak to Peak readers,

In celebration of National Food Bank Day the Gilpin County Food Pantry, P2P Rotary, and Ermel's Emporium Thrift Shop are teaming up to make it easy to reach out a helping hand to your neighbors needing a boost during difficult times.

We will be collecting gently used clothes and non-perishable food on September 7 at 101 Norton

Drive from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. We will unload your car to make it convenient to stop by with your donations on the way to the annual HCA flea market.

Pantry items that are appreciated are: Peanut butter, jelly, tuna, canned meat, chili, and soup, boxed dinners, taco shells, and Knorr sides. At this time we do have plenty of canned vegetables.

So clean out your closets and pick up a few items to share when

shopping. Show what a caring united community looks like!

I want to express great appreciation to Rudy's Bakery for delivering bread to the pantry weekly, the Colorado Pet Pantry for providing pet food, and to Sandy Hollingsworth for picking up 600 lbs. of pet food up monthly since the beginning of the Covid pandemic. Also to all of the faithful volunteers that show up weekly to make the pantry and Ermel's possible. It takes a community to make a community thrive.

Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Roxy Goss
Black Hawk

Nederland / Gilpin food pantries upgrade to meet a growing need

TOM MAHOWALD
NEDERLAND

Hats off to Roxy Goss for organizing such an effective grassroots response to stresses on our Gilpin/Ned community safety net, as job growth slows and possible recession looms. The Nederland Food Pantry (NFP) served 4468 individuals and families through June, up sharply from a year ago. Nederland's OTF fund for emergency support, funded by Ned's lodging occupation tax, is similarly being stretched thin, especially to prevent homelessness, hunger and despair.

One of our national VP candidates said today "Show generosity towards your neighbors and devote yourself to building the common good." Both GFP and NFP are experiencing this in real-time, as we deal with post-COVID safety net cutbacks.

To cope with increased demand, NFP will be occupying their new campus on First Street this month - watch for announcements on that. GFP is working on a new home near the Gilpin Community Center - watch for news on that too. Both agencies are in discussions on how they might work more closely together on their similar missions to feed, clothe and care for those in need - on average, one in 5 of us each year.

Roxy's "thank you" is focused on the backbone of or respective organizations... our devoted volunteer staff. Coming from a business career, the non-profit world is new to me, and deeply affirming of who we are as a "people" and a resilient mountain community. Our volunteers, donors and sponsors understand this at a deep level.

National Food Bank Day is observed the first Friday in September (9/6), and this year especially, we really are SO thankful for community support. The USDA says that about 10.5% of U.S. households are food insecure at some point during the year. This is especially true among kids in summer months. We're so lucky here in the P2P to have such excellent organizations keeping our families housed, fed and cared for. Count your blessings, and if so inclined, come see for yourself - and help as you can.

Marshall for Commissioner

Dear Editor,

The time to elect our next Commissioners is quickly approaching. This decision will determine the direction of Gilpin County for the next four years.

Corey Marshall has been a long time resident and business owner in Gilpin County for nearly 40 years. He has invested heavily in our community and our western way of life. Debbie and Corey have developed Rudolph Ranch, in Mid-Gilpin, into a horse boarding and

stable facility for all front range residents.

Not only have the Marshall's strived to maintain our western way of life, but Corey has extensive experience in financial and strategic investments for Molson/Coors, Ford and Tivoli Brewing Company, making him uniquely qualified for Commissioner of District 3.

This decision will determine the direction of Gilpin County for a better future. Having a novel approach to County budgets and financial responsibility are areas

that he excels in and areas that have been neglected by our current Commissioner of District 3.

If you are looking for an honest, hardworking family-oriented candidate, then Corey Marshall is your man! Having known Corey for 35 years, his integrity and grit set him apart from any other candidate and I'm honored to support and endorse Corey Marshall for Commissioner in District 3. Marshall 4 Gilpin.

Hal Midcap
Black Hawk, Alderman

State Senator Marchman to host Town Hall in Nederland

State Senator Janice Marchman is excited to invite the town of Nederland to an interactive town hall event on August 27, from 5 to 6 p.m., at the Nederland Community Library, located at 200 Highway 72 N, Nederland, CO 80466.

This town hall is a unique opportunity for residents to connect directly with Senator Marchman, who will provide an insightful recap of the recent legislative session. Attendees will hear about the state's achievements, challenges, and plans for the future and have the chance to voice their opinions and suggestions.

"I am thrilled to host this town hall and engage in meaningful conversations with the people I

serve," said Senator Marchman. "Your feedback is crucial as we build on our successes and address the areas where we can improve. Direct dialogue with constituents is fundamental to my work and the cornerstone of a healthy democracy."

Senator Marchman encourages everyone to join the conversation, share their perspectives, and help identify the paths forward for our community and state.

Don't miss this chance to make your voice heard and contribute to the dialogue on our state's future. Mark your calendars and join us at the Nederland Community Library for an evening of community and collaboration.

For more information, please contact the Office of State Senator Marchman at sam@janiceforcolorado.com.



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Time to start new journeys

SARA SANDSTROM
NEDERLAND

When students return to Nederland Elementary School (NES) in a few days they will miss two teachers who are not returning after being at NES for many years.

Mary Waddell and Rebecca Vosteen have retired. They have taught hundreds of children through the years and each decided it was time to start a new journey.

It may surprise you that Miss Mary, the quintessential kindergarten and first grade teacher, did not start her career teaching. When she began her studies at college she took education courses, but her love of the outdoors grew. She earned degrees in botany and biological aspects of conservation.

Miss Mary said, "I went on to be an educational specialist and director at a nature center in Racine, Wisconsin." When she and her husband moved to Colorado, Miss Mary worked in tech support at a software company. When their daughters were young she stayed home with them.

As their children entered elementary school Miss Mary decided to take on a paraprofessional position at Nederland Elementary School (NES). While working there she saw a flyer from the BUENO Center indicating that CU had a program that helped people just like her obtain their teaching degrees. She applied, was accepted, and in two years had her teaching license and Master's degree. Miss Mary excitedly said, "I had finally finished the teaching degree that I started many, many years before as an undergraduate!"

Miss Mary taught for 19 years.

For six years she was at Lafayette Elementary School teaching kindergarten, English language development, and first grade. Miss Mary taught at NES for 13 years. There she taught first grade, kindergarten, English language development, and literacy. She was also the teacher librarian.

Miss Mary had always felt fortunate that the Boulder Valley School District valued the art of teaching and she feels that gave her room to be creative with her teaching lessons. "For me, that creativity was what made teaching fun. I found my passion in teaching reading after participating in an intensive reading intervention program BVSD offered. Watching young readers not only learn the fundamentals of literacy but also help them build a true love of reading kept things exciting."

She said that some of her favorite moments in the classroom were when she would look around and see every child reading or discussing a book with a classmate. It also warmed her heart when a student would accidentally call her "mom." That would let her know that her students felt that their classroom was a safe and comfortable place.

Miss Mary says that she will miss laughing with the kids. "A day didn't go by when there wasn't something to laugh at!"

Retirement will give Miss Mary more time to spend with friends and family, be outside, reading during the day, and drinking chai on her deck.

As someone who worked closely with Miss Mary as another teacher in her classroom for a few years, I can say that she was a joy to work with. She will be missed.

Teaching has been Rebecca

Vosteen's career. Her entire teaching career of 28 years has been in Boulder Valley School District. Miss Rebecca taught four years at Flatiron Elementary and 24 years at NES. All of those years have been in third grade, fourth grade and multi-age third/fourth classrooms.

Miss Rebecca says that teaching feels natural. This is not surprising when you hear that her mother was a teacher, too. She has loved teaching all these years. Miss Rebecca says, "My clients were the best part, those 9 to 10 year olds. Every year was different. It keeps it new and exciting."

It was clear from Miss Rebecca's teaching that she was in tune to her students' strengths and their challenges. She could work with a student and see where they needed some extra assistance, and she knew how to help. Her years of teaching experience was invaluable.

She also taught with a passion for project-based learning. She worked with students making mystery math packets, colorful detailed Colorado maps, and Colorado government board games. During the unit on Colorado government, she led field trips to the Colorado capitol building in Denver.

Her fourth grade students made roller coasters while learning basic aspects of physics, such as gravity and friction. This project also included problem-solving skills, critical thinking skills, and teamwork.

Then, there was the very popular bird box project. I will admit, as a parent of two of Miss Rebecca's students, this project, along with the Colorado government unit, was my and my kids' favorite activity.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA VOSTEEN

Loving teaching

Rebecca Vosteen retires from teaching after 28 years. She was at Nederland Elementary for 24 years and known as the fourth grade teacher. Now she is off to new adventures.

Each student chose from a list of Colorado birds to research. The students learned to research with great detail with Miss Rebecca's guidance. They made the bird's wingspan, the bird's nest with

Continued on page 9

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NES teacher retirements



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY WADDELL

She was meant to teach
Mary Waddell retired after 19 years of teaching. She was at Nederland Elementary for 13 years. She inspired and brought much joy to many kindergarteners and first graders in their early years of elementary school.

Continued from page 8

eggs, a book of their research, and the replica of the bird with Model Magic. They then had to present their projects to other classes. It was a project that kids will remember about their elementary years.

Miss Rebecca has also been an ardent supporter of outdoor education with programs like NED SHRED (ski and bike), and taking her class each year to Cal-Wood

Education Center.

She also brought in a special storyteller, Granny Janny, into her classroom every month for years. The art of storytelling and connecting the generations was important to Miss Rebecca.

When looking back on her teaching career she will always smile when she remembers the times she made a positive difference in a student's life. She will miss the students, the families, the NES staff, and most of all, making a difference with students.

In retirement Miss Rebecca looks forward to less multi-tasking, and slowing down the daily pace. She does plan to keep riding her bike, skiing, camping, traveling, and seeing friends and family more often. She has also taken on a part-time job.

Miss Rebecca's years of experience and knowledge of teaching will be missed. She could really see her students as she prepared them well for their next level of education.

It is always with sadness to say good-bye to staff members who have had such a huge impact over the years on a school and on so many students and families. We thank Miss Mary and Miss Rebecca for all their years of dedication to the students and families at Nederland Elementary. We wish them well and hope they have many wonderful years ahead.

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Is Mom suddenly a narcissist?

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

“I looked up the diagnosis online, and I think my mother’s a narcissist. She knows everything, endlessly talks about how important she used to be in her job (she’s retired), believes she’s SO special, and takes advantage of people around her.”

Sue sat upright in her chair, chin jutting out, staring at me as if daring me to argue with her.

“What made you look up narcissism?” I asked.

“Since COVID-19, my mother has become a different person. She was always a bit grandiose (her dinner parties were five course gourmet affairs with the house decorated to the extreme), but 2020 seemed to usher in a new era of Mom.

“All of a sudden she knew everything about everything, talked in this commanding no-nonsense voice, and stopped asking anything about her children and grandchildren’s lives. She’s always been a generous person but all of a sudden her ‘generosity’ became connected to attention; the more attention she’d receive from a cause, the more money she’d give.”

Sue’s face began to crumple and her chin started to wobble.

“I miss my mom,” she whispered, in-between tears.

Personality Disorders, of which Narcissistic Personality Disorder is one of them, begin in adolescence or early adulthood. Psychiatry (and the DSM-5-TR) uses language like “enduring patterns,” “behaviors deviating markedly from norms of the culture,” “pervasive and inflexible.”

Treatment often looks like a lifetime of mental health support, learning to cope with (not change) the disorder.

Sue’s mother, although seeming to check all the Narcissistic Personality Disorder boxes, was a normal, generous, empathetic, thoughtful person before 2020.

Plus Narcissistic Personality Disorder ranges from 0%-6.2% in community samples and 50%-75% of those diagnosed are male. So it’s a pretty rare diagnosis, especially for women.

What could have brought such an extreme change to Sue’s mother’s behaviors?

“What was COVID-19 like for your mother?” I asked.

“Oh, it was brutal. She moved my grandmother (her mother) out of her childhood home, then in with my parents, then into a home, and then she died. Mom didn’t even get a chance to say goodbye because the facility was closed to non-residents during that time.”

Sue continued, “Then my dad got cancer. He’s fine, but they had to do all the chemo treatments and stuff during COVID-19. I don’t know if you remember, but hospitals were crazy during that time. Plus my sister had



PHOTO BY RICHARD BRANDON

Reflection of the soul

Mud Lake, on a sunny summer day, offers a reflection of the shoreline in the water, much like the original Greek myth of Narcissus.

two miscarriages, and my mom was her main support.”

What current research shows is that people who have survived trauma can exhibit changes in their personality traits. However, if the changes come from traumatic experiences, there is the possibility that the person can work through their trauma with counseling and return to their previously healthy traits.

For some people diagnoses are life-changing. It can be the answer to the question they’ve been asking for years—“What’s wrong with me?”—and provide specific resources for healing.

For others, a diagnosis can feel like a prison sentence, locking them into a medical model they disagree with from

the start.

Sue found it comforting that there was a chance her mom wasn’t a narcissist, and it gave her the courage to sit down and talk to her mom about the changes she’d seen.

Her mom was grateful for the conversation, and together they started looking for mental health support (and assessment) for her mom.

I’d love to hear about your experiences with diagnoses, 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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Jean Ann Fischer

December 17, 1935 - July 30, 2024



Jean Ann Fischer was born to Albert and Rosalie (Erickson) Fischer on December 17, 1935, in Chicago, Illinois, and passed away on July 30, 2024, in Estes Park, Colorado. Jean was preceded in death by her parents Albert and Rosalie Fischer, her sisters Thelmae and Dorothy, her mentor & special friend

Elizabeth Clark, and her best friend Katie Gater.

Jean is survived by special extended family members who have stayed in touch with her over the years. These friends include the entire Brannen Family: Larry & Donna, Terri, Greg & Debi, Mark & Kim, and Kevin; Susan

& Terry Mickow; Patricia Getchius; Jeannie & Jerry Williams; Maggie Lopez; Marla Pellish; John & Debbie Christopher; Ricky Rojas; Ande Merritt; Gail VanSickle; the entire Bob Maitland Family: Bob & Krislen, Kendra, and Garrett; Shirley McLaren; Sally & Tom Grahn; Marsha Yelick; Barb Kamlet; Anne Slack; Margaret Spector; Carol Saunders; and Carole Cameron. Jean is survived by nephews Mark Arevian and Scott Arevian, and niece Debra (Hal) Wederath.

Jean's family moved to Denver, Colorado, when she was 4 1/2 years old and they moved to Grand Junction, Colorado, when she started high school. Jean came back to Denver for college at the University of Denver where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in Mathematics and Education followed by a Master's Degree in Guidance & Counseling. Jean graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She was very involved in many aspects of campus life and leadership roles during college and post-graduate studies. Jean was an active member of the Sigma Kappa Sorority, President of the Associated Women Students group, was tapped for Mortar Board, served in several Honorary groups and was a member of the Pep Club as well as other campus groups.

Jean's successful teaching and counseling career was in Denver, Colorado, at the high school level. Then she transitioned to work in the private sector and moved to Nederland,

Colorado, and later moved to Estes Park, Colorado, where she resided for 35 years.

As for religious background, Jean had experience as a church youth group leader and taught Vacation Bible School. She was a faithful Sunday churchgoer until Sunday services became more of a social event than faith-based service.

Hobbies included snow skiing & water skiing. Jean said that it was a joy to live next door to and enjoy the Rocky Mountain National Park for 35 years of her life.

Memorial donations or "Memory of Jean Fischer" can be made to the Lustgarten Foundation - Pancreatic Cancer Research, PO Box 5035, Boone, IA, 50950-0035, or a charity of the donor's choice.

Special message to share with everyone: Experiences with extensive project involvement during Jean's college years influenced the development of her lifelong values. Jean said "the only thing that really means anything, and gives you joy, is to surround yourself with people you like, people you admire, and people you love. Choose people rather than projects." Jean would like to share a big THANK YOU with all the folks who contributed so much joy and pleasure to her life.


Jean's ashes will be interred in the Fischer Family plot in Elmhurst, Illinois, at a later date. To share a memory of Jean please visit www.allnutttestespark.com.



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Grant Koontz

Continued from page 1

gold medals in the USA Cycling Track National Championships.

But even with all the wins under his belt, competing in the Olympics presents an entirely different challenge, a higher level which Koontz has been striving to achieve.

“In the last six months our training started to get increasingly more difficult as Grant’s level just kept going up and up,” Cyclist Daphne Karagianis told *The Mountain-Ear*, speaking about her husband’s regimen and attitude leading up to the big event.

“He is an incredibly calm person; he does have stresses and anxieties like the rest of us, but he has really good ways of managing that,” Karagianis said. “He’s really ready to just get after it, because at this point he’s been training for so long he’s ready to compete and unleash.”

Koontz has ridden for many legendary cycling teams over the years, including Texas A&M University from 2012 to 2016, DNA Racing in 2019, Rodeo Labs Pro Gravel from 2020 to 2021, Star Track UCI from 2021 to today, as well as the USA National Track Team from 2022 to today.

His biography on the official website for the 2024 Olympics notes that he began cycling professionally when his parents gave him a bike

instead of a car for his 16th birthday. Koontz’s father was also a cyclist and introduced him to the sport.

During his formative years, from 16 to 22, Koontz fell in love with cycling and with competing as an athlete. For four years he competed in the professional road circuit, until he was introduced to track cycling in 2019. It was then that his sights became focused on working his way to the Olympics; a dream that is days away from becoming a reality.

“I’m actually going to be there,” Karagianis said, when asked how she planned to celebrate Koontz during his event. “I leave for Paris on Monday. His mom and dad, uncles and aunts are also coming, and my cousin and a couple of our friends will be there as well. We have a little crew that’s going to be a cheer squad.”

The cheer squad will be waving an American flag, as well as a banner that reads “Grant is Gold.”

Koontz and Karagianis were introduced to each other by friends in the cycling world, and spent a good amount of time in the beginning of their relationship riding together around Nederland.

“It was during the pandemic, bike racing was canceled so it was a great opportunity to ride together for fun and get to know each other and share that time together when we would otherwise be traveling around the world to race,” Karagianis reminisced.

The couple got married in September of 2023, at the Tolland

Schoolhouse off of Rollins Pass.

“After the Olympics we’re going to do a week and a half in southern France as a honeymoon,” Karagianis mentioned. “We never got to take one because preparing for the Olympics takes a lot of time.”

Karagianis spoke about Koontz’s intense schedule sending him all over the world, stating that Koontz was in Belgium, representing Team USA at a training camp prior to traveling to Paris to compete in the Olympics.

“In the beginning of our relationship he was racing gravel and I was racing road and he’d come back when I was leaving, and when we leave it’s usually for big chunks of time, at least two weeks,” Karagianis explained.

“I’d always joke with him, ‘can’t you just race road as well and then we can go to these things together’.”

“Even after the Olympics it’s still kind of crazy. The world championships are in October, so

here; her name is Alison Powers.”

Powers is a retired professional cyclist who is also a celebrated Nederland local. Powers is the first, and only, cyclist to hold all three national championship titles (for a road race, time trial, and criterium) simultaneously in the same year.

“I came out here to dogsit for her and just fell in love with the area,” Karagianis continued. “She helped me find a place to live out here and now we’re neighbors.”

Koontz is Karagianis’s current coach, which fosters a professional relationship and collaboration that results in the trading of techniques and strategies.

“He really pushes me. He’s been my coach now for the past year, and I help him on the track, too. I actually started with track racing and I know what all the races are and all the tactics.”

With Karagianis’s knowledge and support guiding him, coupled with the training and motivation that he



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRANT KOONTZ

Supporting each other’s passions

Top: The athletic couple met in the world of cycling, and had a picturesque wedding at the Tolland School House. Bottom: Koontz will be competing in the Men’s Omnium, a track cycling event consisting of three different races.

he’ll be prepping for those, and then there’s the champions league for track cycling.”

Despite such hectic schedules, the couple find respite and are refreshed when they are together again after a long time apart.

“We savor that for sure,” Karagianis said. “It’s kind of our reboot. It’s hard to be away but when we have that time together it really feeds us and gives us the energy to keep doing it.”

Koontz also still competes in road cycling events, as does Karagianis, who has raced with Team Illuminate and DNA Pro Cycling, and is currently with the Denver Disruptors.

Karagianis is a fierce competitor in her own right, Placing 12th in the 2017 Grand Prix Cycliste Gatineau, 9th in the 2019 Tour of Zhoushan Island, and 4th in the 2022 Tour of the Gila. She also is a successful designer in the branding and UI/UX worlds.

“I started working at ad agencies and design firms in Chicago and as I got more sucked into racing professionally I decided to go at it on my own and pursue both passions,” Karagianis said.

“I moved here straight from Chicago after living in the city for 17 years. My coach at the time lived

finds here in Nederland, Koontz has everything he needs to bolster his natural talent and determination and to compete as a true Olympian.

“Grant, because of the Nederland training grounds that we have here, the amazing topography and roads, that’s what’s really propelled his training and gotten him to this really amazing place,” Karagianis said. “I think that being up here has really nurtured that, it’s a special place that we’re in and it’s pretty cool that it can breed Olympians.”

Hopefully all cycling enthusiasts, fans of the Olympics and Team USA, and those who want to support an Olympian from Nederland will rally behind Koontz and cheer him on through to the finish line.

The Paris 2024 Summer Olympics can be viewed live on NBC and on the Peacock app. The Men’s Omnium event is expected to take place on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 9 a.m. but please follow the official 2024 Olympics schedule, located here, for the latest updates: <https://olympics.com/en/paris-2024/schedule/grid>

Follow Grant Koontz at: <https://www.grantkoontz.com> or @rakooontz on Instagram.

Follow Daphne Karagianis at: <https://www.daphneak.com> or @daphneak on Instagram.

Encourage kids to be creative without worrying about being perfect. - Dav Pilkey



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

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

210 N Jefferson St,
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Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership 2024 meeting



PHOTO BY WES ISENHART

Mitigation field tour
Attendees of the St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership meeting taking a field tour of the Highland Camp mitigation project.

WES ISENHART
BOULDER COUNTY

Cross-boundary Collaboration is a popular term that describes groups working together beyond their own organizational limits to solve complex problems.

The St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership (SVFHP) is a coalition of governmental, non-profit, and private organizations engaging in cross-boundary collaboration to increase the fire resiliency of the St. Vrain watershed for the benefit of forest ecosystems, water quality, and affected

communities.

SVFHP held their 2024 All Hands meeting on July 31, 2024, at the Highlands Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center near Allenspark. The meeting was an opportunity for a number of the organizations in the partnership to come together and show the results of their collaborative projects and highlight future activities by the varying organizations.

The meeting was structured in three parts. The first was a tour of Boulder Valley and Longmont Conservation Districts' forestry project at Highlands Camp. Meeting attendees were given a

walking tour of the mitigated land south of the camp. The tour leaders were the District Director of the Boulder Valley & Longmont Conservation Districts, Rob Walker, and the District Conservationist Jessica Jackman.

The camp, along with neighboring property owners, came together to mitigate about 100 acres using a combination of hand and mechanical thinning. The goal of the project was to reduce the risk of wildfire severity and tree crowning, increasing forest resiliency, and building survivability.

The initial phase of the project has been completed and the tour was able to see the landscape post-mitigation. Walker explained that the thinning had reduced stand density from 200 trees per acre to about 50. The predominant tree in the area is ponderosa and the landscape is a return to open meadows where a crown fire would have to go to the ground to continue.

Jackman said that the treated acreage would be monitored for three years for noxious plants and windthrow. There is a threat of non-native noxious plants taking over a landscape that has recently been treated. There are several treatment methods available depending on the noxious plants that invade. Jackman singled out Canadian Thistle and Cheatgrass as the most likely noxious plants to appear.

Walker said that 30 acres of the 100 will be treated with Mycelium from Boulder Mushroom. This will speed up the decomposition of cellulose by spraying the chips on the ground with a native mushroom mixture. There will be a good comparison with the 70 acres that will not be treated.

The second part of the meeting was a series of flash presentations by the different participating organizations. Speakers from each talked about the purpose of their organizations, past projects that they had been involved with, and potential future projects or problems that they anticipated dealing with. The presentations lasted from three to ten minutes, with open-ended questions and answers.

The agencies and organizations

making presentations included The Watershed Center, Boulder County Wildfire Partners, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, United States Forest Service, Colorado State Forest Service, Boulder Valley and Longmont Conservation Districts, City of Longmont, Allenspark Fire Protection District, Big Elk Volunteer Fire District, Cal-Wood Education Center, and St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District.

Chiara Forrester from The Watershed Center acted as the moderator. The Watershed Center (www.watershedcenter.org) acts as the coordination point for the SVFHP efforts.

One completed project is the Jamestown Fire Mitigation Project, which treated 43 private properties in Jamestown, which is surrounded by national forests. In collaborative fashion, the project involved the Watershed Center, Boulder Valley and Longmont Conservation Districts (bouldervalley-longmontcd.colorado.gov) and Lefthand Fire Protection District (lefthandfire.org).

Meg Halford from Wildfire Partners spoke about a new rebate program offered to help homeowners mitigate their private property. Wildfire Partners also offers free property inspections to help with identifying mitigation and home hardening opportunities.

The last part of the meeting encouraged attendees to go around to the tables of participating organizations and speak with the presenters about individual topics of concern.

The SVFHP All Hands meeting showed how landscape management in the St. Vrain Basin is a coordinated effort that crosses organizational boundaries and is focused on using fire science and adaptive management techniques to create fire resilient forests and communities.

The Watershed Center maintains the website for SVFHP at watershedcenter.org/project/svfhp. The other organizations can be found on the Internet by using their name as the web search term.

NAS
Nederland Area Seniors Inc.
MOUNTAIN PEAK LIFE

Thank you for supporting us at the Nederland 150 Pancake Breakfast! It was a morning full of friends and memories.

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PUBLIC NOTICE: COMMUNITY MEETING FOR CENTRAL-CITY CLEAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency will be hosting a public meeting on **Wednesday, August 28 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** at the **Idaho Springs City Hall** to provide an update on the status of the Central City-Clear Creek Superfund Site. The meeting will also provide a forum for community members to ask questions about the Site.

There are several ways to participate:

- Join community members in-person at the Idaho Springs City Hall (1711 Miner Street, Idaho Springs, CO 80452).
- Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/898512890637?pwd=Rd1lak1L4yNWBLWM0bk09rxsPaPYZR.1> (password: 743195)
 - To participate by phone (no video): 1-719-359-4580, pin 88639942552#, password 743195#

General information about the Site and access to resources related to health safety can be found at: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/central-city-clear-creek>.

To sign up for email notifications about the Site, including public notices and upcoming public meetings, go to <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/sign-up-hm-updates> and select "Remediation - Superfund - Clear Creek" at the bottom of the page.

If you have technical issues connecting to Zoom or prefer not to ask your questions publicly, please contact Branden Ingersoll at 720.810.7912 or Branden.Ingersoll@state.co.us.

Life in Nature



Teddy bear's picnic

PHOTO BY JAMES DEWALT

JAMES DEWALT
SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

A few weeks ago, I wrote an article regarding the "salad days" of summer in the high country. This week I decided to take a look at a slightly different variation of the theme.

This summer has found us with a couple of troublesome youngsters of the ursine persuasion, and as I was recently digging into my vaults for some photos for the Nederland 150 celebration, I came across some images from a summer afternoon 14 years ago that inspired this week's writing.

Living much of their year in slumber, or at least with significantly less motivation, these neighbors of ours spend most of their summer and fall life either eating or on the hunt for a meal. With a need to build up enough fat reserves to last them through a long winter, they will take any opportunity

to dine presented to them. This opportunity often has them frequenting our yards and homes in search of whatever food they might be able to get their paws into.

It is doubtful that we have more bears than usual this year. It's likely that we are hearing about them more often due to two main factors. First, social media and the more frequent use of game cameras and security cameras puts their usually clandestine presence in front of us a lot more often, thus leading us to a (false) conclusion that because we are seeing them more, there must be more of them.

The second reason is likely due to an influx of new human residents who simply aren't aware of the protocols absolutely necessary to deter bears from having an interest in our homes and potential food sources.

We have been seeing many reports this year of young bears coming to homes in the daytime, which leads me to my first point of behavior.

It is somewhat of a myth that bears are nocturnal in their activities. Bears in the wild are awake during most of the day (with a nap or two thrown in), and sleep at night. Bears that live around humans tend to be more nocturnal simply to avoid contact with us.

In the case of youngsters, as with our moose, the kids get sent out on their own at a young age, and not fully "seasoned" in their experience with us, and tend to linger around the humans simply due to the perceived ease of a meal. Young bears simply haven't learned the lessons necessary to keep them safe from human interactions, and thus are merely

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Life in Nature

Continued from page 14

following in the genetic footsteps of the generations before them: simply “going with their gut” in their opportunistic attitudes towards dining.

It is incumbent upon us humans to make sure we help to “teach” these youngsters (as the saying goes, it takes a village...) how to behave properly. This means not leaving any opportunity for them to have access to food.

Trash cans must be kept inside solidly closed doors, whether in a garage, a shed, or somewhere in a house that is not easily accessible. While having a “bear-proof” trash can might help, if it’s left outside it will not stop a curious bear of any age from repeatedly stopping by for another go at attempting to get to the tasty treats inside.

All food must be removed from cars that stay parked outside. You do not want to see first-hand what a bear of any size will do to the inside of a car once it is done dining and can’t figure out how to get back out.

Also, bird feeders of all kinds present issues if bears get to know their location. As seen in this week’s image, this young bear was found exploring the Sunnyside neighborhood on an August afternoon in 2012, and had very easy access to a couple of hummingbird feeders left on a stand that was only about waist high from the ground. Like any child, the sweet treat was FAR too irresistible, and the source was FAR too easy to get at.

Outside of these basic protocols that

remove most of any bear’s temptations, solid hazing techniques help to deter their interests in returning to a possible food source. This includes loud noises (typically, a hearty banging together of pots and pans works wonders) along with yelling, and while approaching wildlife is never a good idea, in this case it can sometimes help encourage a bear to leave.

While that cute little teddy clamoring about on your deck might just be the most adorable thing you’ve ever seen and need photos of for the family out east, you won’t be very happy about that same bear when it comes back a whole lot larger.

Please know that while this statement is common, it rings incredibly true: a fed bear (intentionally or otherwise) is a dead bear. Relocating techniques are mostly ineffective, as the perp can often return to the problem area, or face an early demise by being killed by an elder bear who is not happy about the new competition for its territory. A “humanized” bear with multiple strikes by CPW (Colorado Parks and Wildlife) officials will be euthanized without question.

As with any wildlife, we need to share space with them responsibly. A bear with easy access to food is not the problem; it is the human who provides that access that is the problem.

For additional information about James DeWalt Photography, check out <https://jamesdewaltphotography.com>.

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Celebrating the past for a prosperous future



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Then and now

Top, left: Natalie Duplessy of Peace, Love, and Cake puts the finishing touches on Nederland's birthday cake. Top, right: Celebrated citizen Jeanette Smith cuts the first slice. Center: Kay Turnbaugh tells stories about the infamous Goldie Griffith Cameron. Bottom: The smooth sounds of the Guerilla Fanfare Brass Band blanketed all of East 1st Street.

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY NEDERLAND

Over the first four days of August, the Town of Nederland celebrated its sesquicentennial with community-focused events and historical demonstrations. The long weekend provided locals with opportunities to learn about Nederland's rich history and to dance in the streets.

For more than six months, members of Town staff, the Nederland Area Historical Society (NAHS), the Nederland Area Seniors (NAS), Nederland Lions Club (NLC), as well as all of the Town's churches, the Peak to Peak Chamber of Commerce, Wild Bear Nature Center, and many volunteers from the community, rallied together to put on the ultimate celebration of the town they love.

Their mission was a clear success, as "old timers," transplants, longtime residents, and new arrivals were able to show pride in the place that they call home. Nederland's present, for once, was full of those enjoying a harmony between its past and its future.

On Thursday, August 1, 2024, the NAHS hosted a special presentation at the Nederland Mining Museum all about local legend Goldie Griffith Cameron.

Nederland historian and author Kay Turnbaugh told stories about Goldie's infamous past with a clear reverence as she emphasized some of Goldie's rough mountain demeanor, knowing that it would get a rise from the audience, who were quickly enamored by the famous cowgirl's "no-bull" attitude.

Tales of Goldie's days as a performer and of her time as a restaurateur and celebrity bar matron, drawing crowds to Nederland who all hoped to just catch sight of her, entertained all who attended the special presentation.

Representatives from the Buffalo Bill Museum in Golden also attended, to honor Bill and Goldie's special relationship as pioneer cowboy entertainers. The Buffalo Bill Museum brought photos and other items that once belonged to Goldie and displayed them on the original late-1800s bar from



Goldie's Corral.

This inaugural event helped to kick off the entire Nederland 150th weekend, and truly set the precedent for the vibe of the sesquicentennial. A powerful figure in Nederland's history helped to define the attitude of the entire Town, which still resonates today and put smiles on the faces of the young and old.

On Friday, the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church hosted a Community Potluck Dinner, organized by Margie DeFord Yansura with the assistance of many busy volunteers.

Tray after tray of baked ziti was brought from the church's kitchen as the hungry crowd continued to grow throughout the night. Many attendees traveled from across the country to return to their hometown for Reunion of the class of 1974, with the community potluck being the first thing to catch their eye as they passed through town.

Natalie Duplessy of Peace, Love and Cake was stationed under a protective tent, behind a velvet rope, putting the finishing touches on the Town's 150th birthday cake.

The six-tier yellow sponge cake was covered in chocolate and vanilla Italian meringue buttercream icing, with sprinkles in Nederland's colors, and printed pictures of the Town's decorative past, curated from the community and aligned all over the cake like one big, edible scrapbook.

Nederland royalty Jeanette Smith cut the cake after Parks Manager and longtime resident Nicki Dunn gave an impromptu speech, joking that she had just finished as interim Town Administrator, and was now having to fill in as Mayor. Dunn's love for the Town of Nederland is evident in everything she does, including how she steps up to the plate when Nederland needs her.

Then, right there on North Jefferson Street, the Peak to Peak Chamber of Commerce presented the Barn Dance, with a makeshift stage supplied by Jesse Seavers and High Performance Earthworks for the Sesquicentennial

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Celebrating the past



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



Dancing in the streets

Top, left: The Barn Dance on North Jefferson Street featured the music of the Sesquicentennial String Band. Top, right: The Community Potluck Dinner, organized by the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church, was a huge success. Center, right: Volunteer, and master pancake chef Nate James helped to serve over 600 pancakes. Bottom, right: Families and friends from all over the country traveled to Nederland to celebrate its rich history. Center, left: Members of the community came together to dance in the streets.

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String Band to lead the crowd with their infectious music.

Joshua Davis of the Nederland Streets Department also helped to make the dirt road of North Jefferson Street as even a dance floor as possible. His work was definitely not in vain, as a huge crowd gathered on Friday night to clasp their hands and stomp their feet.

Luckily, those who traveled far to return to their hometown didn't wear themselves out Friday night, because they came out in force on Saturday morning, along with many other members of the community, for the Pancake Breakfast.

Organized by Ann Marie Morgan and the NLC and NAS, the Pancake Breakfast brought a community together to sit and talk with a generation returning to the place that bore some of their most cherished memories.

To those, they weren't just sitting in the Nederland Community Center



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Celebrating the past



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

A weekend to remember

Top, left: Roy Slaughenhaupt, graduated from NHS in 1946; he was awarded Distinguished Citizen of a Century. Top, right: The Nederland Area Historical Society aced the assignment and added an extra layer of authenticity to the events. Center: The winner of the Ugly Truck Contest; a retired municipal workhorse. Bottom: Nederland's unofficial mascot, the hula hooping moose made an appearance.

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(NCC), enjoying some fluffy pancakes and scrambled eggs – they were returning to their old school grounds, to their childhood. Some even became giddy as they bustled about the building, recreating old memories with friends they haven't seen in ages.

The entire NCC was bustling with life, having served over 250 attendees with nearly 700 total pancakes. Some rifled through old photographs, yearbooks, and other memorabilia, thoughtfully collected and displayed by Lee Tillotson and other volunteers and keepers of history.

Speaking of volunteers, there were over 50 who helped to organize and manage the enormous Pancake Breakfast. From curating the memorabilia, to preparing and serving the food and beverages, the hard work of our friends and neighbors must be commemorated for creating a truly memorable experience.

Saturday afternoon was host to several events, including the aforementioned Class of 1974 Reunion. Nederland's 100 year old Bucyrus Model 50-B steam shovel demonstrated that it can still move and whistle with the best of them. Jessie Ansari, Emmit Hoyl, and fellow volunteers from the NAHS wore late 1800s garb while selling 150th merchandise and leading tours at both the Nederland Mining Museum and the Gillaspie House.

Hoyl also hosted live blacksmithing demonstrations, and showed a curious crowd of residents and visitors alike how the pioneers and miners of Nederland's early days used to work.

The NAHS took a short break to skedaddle over to the parade route in order to present to the Grand Marshal of the parade, 87 year old Jeanette Smith, with a much deserved Lifetime Achievement Award. As Hoyl bent down to give Smith her award, she grabbed the microphone to say that she used to teach him when he was in kindergarten.

The infectiously positive Brian Biggs of the Nederland Parks Department emceed the parade, wearing his sparkling



Continued on page 17



Locals and visitors celebrate
 Top: The whistle of Nederland's Bucyrus Model 50-B steam shovel could be heard throughout town. Center, left: Brian Biggs of the Parks Department emceeding for the 150th parade. Center, right: A 1940 Dodge 1-Ton Delivery Truck entered into the car show which took place in the Caribou Village Shopping Center parking lot. Bottom, left: Emmet Hoyl (right) demonstrating blacksmithing techniques from Nederland's early mining days. Bottom, center: Just one of the many entries in the chalk art contest at the Nathan Lazarus Skatepark.

by selling the original onion rings recipe made famous by the Branding Iron.

The Branding Iron was an infamous watering hole in Nederland; Sally Brady of WBNC became inspired to try the onion rings recipe after reading the book *Bar Brat* by local author Cheryl Rowe. Rowe was also present, signing copies of her book.

Later into the afternoon, part of East 1st Street became closed off to vehicle traffic, as the Nederland Downtown Development Authority's Summer Concert Series took over the streets and gave residents a chance to boogie down.

The concert series, produced by Time Served Productions, has seemingly energized the live music scene in Nederland, bringing big acts to family-friendly outdoor venues; and the concert on the weekend of the 150th was no different.

The Guerrilla Fanfare Brass Band covered 90s pop music with a ska twist, and Diggin Dirt's funky rhythms reverberated all down East 1st Street and all around town.

Things didn't slow down on Sunday, either. The Town's three churches, St. Rita's Catholic Church, Nederland Community Presbyterian Church, and Calvary Chapel, held a joint service at the pavilion in Chipeta Park. Such a worship service used to be a regular occurrence in the Town, though it hasn't been done in several decades.

After the service, just a hop, skip, and jump away at the Caribou Village Shopping Center was the Car Show, organized by local James Navratil. The show saw up to 30 contestants enter their classic and exotic automobiles, with a 1940s Dodge 1-ton Delivery Truck being one of the most notable.

There was a tie for first place, between Mark Clift, with his 1960 Studebaker, and Gil Cole, with his 1957 Ford.

The final event for the Nederland 150th celebration was one that solidified the meaning of the entire weekend: the official sealing and burial of the 2024 time capsule.

The capsule, constructed and decorated by Biggs, contains maps, drawings, children's letters to the future, old newspapers and event posters, tickets to the Carousel of Happiness, and even a puzzle, with each piece of the puzzle made by a young camper from the WBNC.

Years from now, the history that we are all making today will be remembered by some of us who will carry that history, as well as share it with new generations of proud Nederland residents. Some will perhaps leave and return for a destined reunion, or remain and carry on to nurture the Nederland spirit.

Let's continue to make Nederland an amazing place, and to make a history worth remembering.

Celebrating the past



Continued from page 16

rainbow coat and pink sunglasses and spreading enthusiasm throughout the ceremony while DJ GODLAZER provided the perfect tunes.

The parade was even graced with the presence of Nederland's unofficial and enigmatic mascot, the hula-hooping moose.

Everywhere you went on Saturday there was some event or demonstration related to the spirit of Nederland and its dense and interesting history.

Local artist Kathy Bremers hosted live community mural painting outside of Town Hall, while the Indian Peaks Radio Club held ham radio demonstrations outside of the Visitor's Center. A chalk art contest took place at the Nathan Lazarus Skatepark, and right on East 1st Street, Wild Bear Nature Center (WBNC) was raising proceeds for the construction of their new facility

Mountain Folk Tales: Ned Writers Group



JAMIE LAMMERS
NEDERLAND

During the second half of my four-year journey as a student at the University of Colorado Boulder (the half during which I decided to major in creative writing), I joined a creative writing group with other students. The group is called the Amuse Creative Writing Club, and during my time there, it met almost every week throughout each semester.

Every week, writers would bring in whatever they wanted to workshop. They brought poetry, essays, short stories, or anything else they wanted to work on. Workshopping the writers who wanted feedback on their work took up most of the time in each two-hour session. Whatever time remained would be spent actually writing. We wrote stories based on a prompt we came up with then and there.

It felt bittersweet to leave once I graduated, but just before I received my diploma, I learned of another group I could join to fill the void.

I heard from my mother about The Ned Writers Group, which was meeting weekly at the Nederland Community Library. In mid-April, I contacted Jeannie Leigh, the primary organizer and planner for the group, and asked if I could join once I had graduated. She enthusiastically welcomed me, and I believe my first meeting occurred on May 13, 2024.

Through this group, I've been lucky enough to meet other writers in the Peak to Peak area who love putting their words to paper and

sharing their stories with others. Being one of the newest members, though, I had no idea how far back the group's history stretched.

Enter Serene Karplus, who served as the director of Nederland Area Seniors (NAS) from 2007 to 2019. She's been part of the group since the beginning – in fact, NAS originally brought the group to life. I had no idea about this history until after our managing editor, Barbara Hardt, proposed this article, at which point I offered to write it as a new member.

In response to this proposal, Karplus found files from the group's inception that laid down plans for what the members would focus on. It is in large part thanks to those documents and her perspective (as well as others I've emphasized in this piece) that I can bring this much detail here.

From June to August 2009, the group started as the Lifestory Writing Group, a workshop led by Rita and Blair Justice. The Justices were Texas residents who summered in Colorado, and both had been writing for a long time. Blair had already published various books, some by himself (including 1999's *Visits with Violet: How to Be Happy for 100 Years*) and some with Rita. The Justices wanted to bring the NAS a similar writing workshop to those in their home state. Partially because of their interest in the concept and partially because the Justices offered the workshop free of charge, the seniors graciously accepted the offer.

Karplus recalls a dozen people signing up for the first workshop. It lasted eight sessions over the summer



and emphasized a safe, confidential environment where writers could exchange ideas and apply new techniques and skills. The stories usually revolved around a common prompt and centered around the writer's lives. While the group has always welcomed all ages, the initial workshop primarily attracted seniors due to its schedule and focus on past reflections.

At the workshop's conclusion, everyone enjoyed the experience so much and connected so deeply to each other that they voluntarily decided to keep the group going. The

group has morphed multiple times since then, from meetings twice a month after lunch hour, where writing focused on a particular topic about their lives, to spinning off a second group for improving specific writing skills, to eventually meshing the two groups together.

The current group meets at a consistent time in a public place (the Nederland Community Library) so that everyone knows they are welcome. The focus switches every other session between working on personal skills, and bringing in

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF SERENE KARPLUS

Writing in solidarity

Top, left: Seated are Blair Justice, Rita Justice, and Kathy Brantley. Standing are Jaydene Morrison, Betsy Buck, Sarah Triffleman, Alberta Montgomery, Jeannette Smith, and Elaine Miller. Taken in August 2009 as part of the original Lifestory Writing Group. Top, right: Standing are Jeannie Leigh, Betsy Buck, and Barb Miller. Seated are Serene Karplus, Lucy Stroock, and Sue Bart. Taken in October 2013. Bottom, right: Seated are Alberta Montgomery, Dick Deubel, and Violet Aandres. Standing are Serene Karplus, Kathy Brantley, Marilyn Fagerstrom, Lynda Dawson, Gary Ennor, Jeannette Smith, and Betsy Buck. Taken in December 2014.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SERENE KARPLUS

Same core, different members

Seated are Lucy Stroock and Lynda Dawson, and standing are Jeannie Leigh, Marilyn Fagerstrom, Jim Elder, Betsy Buck, Linnea Grovom, Claudia Kutscher, Serene Karplus, and Jeannette Smith. Originally taken in 2013.

Writers

Continued from page 20

stories based on a particular prompt, fictional or not. Every week, a different person is encouraged to suggest the next week's project, meaning that even though Leigh has a constant role in organization and communication, the leadership rotates weekly.

Whether the story is prepared in advance or written during the sessions, there is often time for everyone to share their stories and perspectives with other writers. The group is still confidential, so everything shared stays in the group.

Karplus has always been connected to the group, even though her active participation has lessened since retirement. She has always enjoyed writing, occasionally penning magazine articles while living in Illinois. However, she says that once joining the NAS in January 2007, she could start writing more. By that February, she had cemented her routine of writing a weekly column for *The Mountain-Ear* called "Senior Scene," keeping up with it for over twelve years.

Through the group, she found even more time to write and explore her ideas and experiences through words. She feels that with what everyone has shared in their writing, the group has developed a closeness as friends, despite the changes in membership over the years.

Karplus loves meeting new people in the group and emphasizes that the leadership format considers everyone's desires for the group's direction. She encourages everyone, whether in the group or not, to just keep writing because of how helpful it is for individual expression.

Since then, many members have come and gone, including Betsy Buck, who remembers the initial workshop in 2009. She recalls the meetings shifting from the

This For A Little Gold: The Diary of Henry Hawley, a Young Miner, a book of historical journal entries from a young Wisconsin miner during his time in Central City in 1860 and 1861.

Of course, the group is still strong and always accepts new people. Gerald "Ray" Phillips and his wife Donna Phillips joined earlier in 2024. Ray had already been involved in various poetry readings across the Peak to Peak area and worked on a novel in his own time. The idea of delving into different creative avenues than his usual ones attracted him. He also wanted to have scheduled times to finish his writing, which he had avoided since finishing his novel draft.

Donna, meanwhile, is primarily an artist but has helped edit Ray's novel to make it more concise. She joined the group with Ray because she wanted to join him in his activities. During a poetry reading she shared with Ray, Ward poet Mike Parker encouraged her to write because of her attendance frequency, and she's enjoyed the activity ever since.

She engages in the group because she can quickly connect with others on a less superficial level through the subjects they write about, and ultimately, she prefers the more personal subjects over typical small talk.

Someone else joined around the same time as I did. After graduating from Boston University with a bachelor's in interdisciplinary liberal arts, intending to become a teacher, Crystal Lordan decided to focus more on pursuing writing. She's always written, including semi-professionally for a publishing company during college, and has always enjoyed it. She joined the writers' group because she wanted to get back into writing frequently.

Much like Donna, she has loved connecting to people more deeply because of what everybody shares in each meeting. She wanted to focus on a particular kind of social outlet, and ultimately, she found that social outlet in this group and through their sharing of stories.

Many other writers and community members have been involved over

the years: Alberta Montgomery, Dick Deubel, Violet Aandres, Marilyn Fagerstrom, Lynda Dawson, Gary Ennor, Jeannette Smith, Lucy Stroock, Jim Elder, Linnea Grovom, and Claudia Kutscher are just a handful of those who have been involved in the group. Stroock and Kutscher are still involved today, and other members I've met include Sandy Chamberlain, Vicky McCulloch, and David Copeland.

With Leigh now in charge of organizing, it's clear that she's always enjoyed the group. Initially, she started incorporating her life stories into fiction after sharing many of her memories. She loves writing for the joy of it, and while she has no current plans to publish, she says that since characters sometimes overlap in the chapters she's collected, it's always possible.

And then there's me. I grew up in a completely different generation than everybody else currently attending, and at first, I worried I wouldn't quite fit in. However, after a couple of meetings, those worries disappeared completely. Every member has been easy to connect with and I have found it fascinating to listen to their different perspectives.

Each member has also seemed to appreciate my perspective, having grown up entirely in the 21st century in a world completely tied to technology. When I contribute something to the group, it is consistently met with eager ears. Being a part of the group has allowed me to meet some truly amazing people and hear beautiful perspectives from those who have lived here for decades. It has also allowed me to continue sharing my stories and write more frequently. With the group open to everyone, who knows who else might step in to join and share their perspective?

If you're interested in being the next person to join the Ned Writers Group, then email Jeannie Leigh at mjeanleigh@netscape.net for more information. The group currently meets every Monday at the Nederland Community Library, 200 Highway 72 N in Nederland, between 1 and 3 p.m.

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**Boulder County seeks information
about arson suspects**

DETECTIVE COMMANDER
JEFF PELLETIER
BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE

On the evening of July 31, 2024, a fire was started and extinguished near Panorama Point on Flagstaff Road just west of the city of Boulder. Investigators with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office have been working to determine the cause.

Eyewitness video (<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/zQplzMnsRbg>) from that night shows people near Panorama Point with fireworks ignited, and flames are visible. Investigators are working to identify the individuals involved, and we are interested in speaking with them.

Sheriff Curtis Johnson, "We will not tolerate this blatant disregard for the life safety of the residents of Boulder County. We were under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, which prohibits the use of fireworks, with multiple wildfires burning, yet they still recklessly set off fireworks in a grassy and wooded area, which immediately caught fire. It's only because firefighters were able to quickly get the fire under control

that a tragedy didn't take place."

At this time, investigators are interested in speaking with anyone who has information as to who these individuals are, or anyone with any information related to what occurred on the evening of July 31, 2024, near Panorama Point. Based on current information, the fire started around 9:42 p.m. that evening.

Additionally, investigators are interested in speaking with a person of interest, who we believe may have information relevant to the investigation. This person is 26-year-old Alan Khoshaba out of Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Khoshaba also has ties to Florida.

The associated Boulder County Sheriff's Office case number is 24-03856.

If you have any information about Khoshaba's whereabouts, or information about the individuals in the video, please contact the Boulder County Sheriff's Office at 303-441-4444, or via email at bcsotips@bouldercounty.gov. This case is assigned to Detective Les Harrison.

**Sheriff's office arrests arson
suspect from July 4 fire**

DETECTIVE COMMANDER
JEFF PELLETIER
BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE

Boulder County Sheriff's Office arrests an arson suspect from the fire that took place on the evening of July 4 in the 24000 block of Highway 7, between Lyons and Allenspark.

Assisted by tips received from the public in this case, investigators with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office were able to positively identify a suspect and obtain a warrant for their arrest on August 1, 2024. The suspect was identified as Luke Dalton Rynearson (08/15/97). Shortly after Rynearson was identified as the suspect in the case, members of law enforcement mobilized to locate him and his vehicle. Rynearson and his vehicle were found in the Town of Castle Rock and members of law enforcement were able to take Rynearson into custody without incident.

Rynearson was booked and lodged at the Douglas County Jail with a \$20,000 bond on the following charges:

- 18-4-1032 1st Degree Arson – Class 4 Felony
- 18-2-101 Criminal Attempt to Commit a Class 4 Felony – Class 5 Felony

- 18-4-203(1)(2)(d) 2nd Degree Burglary – Class 5 Felony
- 18-4-501(1)(4)(e) Criminal Mischief (\$5,000-\$19,999) – Class 5 Felony

Based on information known to investigators at this time, we have no reason to believe Rynearson or the arson in the 24000 block of Highway 7 on July 4 are connected to any of the wildfire starts that have taken place in Boulder County this week.

The previous press release about this incident can be found here: <https://bouldercounty.gov/news/update-release-version-2-boulder-county-sheriffs-office-seeks-publics-help-in-arson-investigation/>.

Law enforcement agencies who assisted with this investigation and capture of Rynearson include the Boulder County Sheriff's Office, Castle Rock Police Department, and the Boulder County Drug Task Force.

The associated Boulder County Sheriff's Office case number is: 24-03291.

As in every criminal case, charges are merely an accusation, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is foolish to be convinced without evidence, but is equally foolish to refuse to be convinced by real evidence." – Upton Sinclair

Trooper Tips - The hazards of following too close



SERGEANT PATRICK RICE
COLORADO STATE PATROL

Colorado State Patrol Troopers frequently talk about the dangers of speed and distracted driving. Speed and distracted driving are two significant contributors to vehicle crashes, often resulting in severe injuries or fatalities. Understanding the dangers associated with these behaviors is crucial for promoting safer driving practices.

The combination of distracted driving and speeding exponentially increases the risk of crashes. A distracted driver is less aware of their speed and the surrounding environment, while a speeding driver has less time to react and greater difficulty controlling the vehicle. Together, these behaviors create a perilous situation on the road.

If the dangers of distracted driving and speeding weren't enough, I would like to discuss an additional part of the equation: following too closely. Although there isn't a magic number of feet to put between yourself and the car in front of you, we do know that according to the National Safety Council, a lightweight passenger car traveling 55 mph can stop in about 200 feet. Other vehicles require different stopping distances. So, following at a distance of 50 feet in a 20 MPH zone might be plenty, but 50 feet on the interstate is way too close.

The law states when following another vehicle, you must do so at a safe distance and consider the conditions of the roadway at the time. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

has studied the topic and determined the average person's response time is between 2 and 2.5 seconds. The most effective way to describe a safe following distance is to talk about time-distance.

Troopers are equipped with an excellent tool for determining if you are following too closely. Most people are aware we can measure speed, but we also have a LIDAR or Light Detection And Ranging tool. We use LIDAR to determine the speed and distance of two separate vehicles. We can see how fast both vehicles are traveling and how much physical space is between them. With this information, the LIDAR can calculate the time-distance between them. The time-distance will provide how long it will take for the trailing vehicle to be occupying the space where the lead vehicle was at the time of measurement. If the time is under two seconds, you're following too close. Using this calculation method, it does not matter if you are traveling 35 or 75 MPH. The fact that you allow yourself less than 2 seconds to respond to a hazard makes that following distance unsafe.

So, is it possible to follow too closely when you are completely stopped? The answer is yes. Have you ever seen a multi-vehicle rear-end collision at a red light? When you are stopped too close, it causes a domino effect of each vehicle that is too close to the next slamming into each other. This could have been avoided by giving the vehicle in front of you more space. A good rule of thumb: Stop where you can see the tires meet the pavement on the vehicle in front of you. From here, you can steer around the vehicle in front of you in either direction if needed, and you reduce the likelihood of being pushed into the vehicle during a rear-end collision.

Awareness and adherence to safe driving practices, such as keeping attention focused on the road, obeying speed limits and giving space to the vehicle in front of you, are essential steps in reducing crashes and enhancing road safety for everyone.

Let's talk trash

Understanding where your waste can go not only protects the environment, it keeps you and your community healthy. Boulder County has facilities that make sure materials are handled properly to prevent harmful waste from getting into our air, soil, and water.

Recycle: Nederland or Allenspark transfer stations

Food scraps: Nederland transfer station

Household hazardous waste:
Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility accepts these for FREE:

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- Household cleaners
- Mercury containing bulbs
- Motor oil
- Antifreeze/ Gasoline/ Automotive fluids
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You won't ever find me where the rest go
You will find me, you'll find me next to you

Next to you, ooh
Next to you, ooh
Next to you, ooh
You will find me, you'll find me next to you

When the money's spent and all your friends have vanished
And you can't seem to find no help or love for free
I know there's no need for you to panic
'Cause you'll find me, you'll find him next to you

When the skies are gray and all the doors are closing
And the rising pressure makes it hard to breathe
When all you need's a hand to stop the tears from falling
You will find me, you'll find me next to you

Next to you, ooh
Next to you, ooh
Next to you, ooh
You will find me, you'll find me next to you

Come find me next to you, Fred Flintstone, appearing exclusively at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley: <https://www.boulderhumane.org/animals/?animalid=47735620>



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Jimmy Keith



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Coal Creek residents discuss incorporating



PHOTO BY JOHN SCARFFE

Coal Creek discusses incorporating

Veronica Carpio, who lives off Highway 72 and has a restaurant called BabooZa's Food & Art on Highway 72, led meetings to discuss the Coal Creek Town incorporating. The vocal public was not in favor of it.

JOHN SCARFFE
COAL CREEK CANYON

Coal Creek Canyon residents gathered on Saturday, August 3 and Sunday, August 4 at the Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association Hall, 31528 highway 72, to discuss the possibility of the town incorporating.

Veronica Carpio, who lives off Highway 72 and owns a restaurant called BabooZa's Food & Art on Highway 72, led the meetings and rented the hall. CCCIA Board Member Rai Farelly hosted the Zoom for the meeting and introduced meeting protocols.

About 40 residents total attended the meetings. Carpio handed out 26-

page booklets that included research from past endeavors to incorporate, letters, and positive and negative reasons for incorporating. While it included her own research, much of this information was given to her.

In October 1997, The Leaflet from CCCIA published an article about the Incorporation Research Project. It reported that on October 1, 1987, Coal Creek residents first met about incorporating, with about 50 people attending. It was noted that about 150 signatures were required for a petition to be filed requesting permission to hold an election on the issue.

"At the end of the evening, groups were formed to continue research in more specific areas," the article continued. Groups included Legal/Safety, Road/Bridges, Boundaries, Fundraising and Accounting.

Page 3 of Carpio's booklet featured results of a CCCIA membership survey from the same time. Regarding the possibility of incorporating Coal Creek Canyon as a city or town, 139 said yes, 24 no, two maybe and eight didn't know.

Carpio said she didn't know how many of the survey respondents still live in the area. On page 5 of the 1987 documents, the research committee presented the top pros and cons.

Pros:

More local control of the area and how it is affected by neighboring communities.

The ability to adopt regulation to govern the area more closely with the desires of the community.

Community members have someone local to talk to about their concerns.

Incorporated areas cannot be annexed by neighboring municipalities.

We could qualify for lottery funds.

We could purchase our own open space, parks and recreational center.

Cons:

Without citizen input local problems will not improve.

Citizens may not want an additional layer of government.

It can be a duplication of services

with county, state or special districts.

Some services are better performed by county or region.

Additional taxes to provide services.

Creation of numerous cities in a region can disrupt regional planning.

Liability issues:

Would we have enough people to participate in local governments?

According to the documents, the Committees performed their research, and after several meetings reported results.

According to a budget breakdown, the total annual budget would need to be \$1,027,000. This would include salaries for a city manager, mayor, town clerk, treasurer, council members, planning office, Board of Adjustment, part-time judge and city attorney, city hall rent, and law enforcement.

The research committees concluded that the proposal would not work unless the Town raised property taxes, which isn't going to happen, Carpio said.

Carpio moved here two years ago and found this research, she said. She thought it would be good to share with the community. If we created a town charter, she pointed out, we could create our own zoning.

No one else has been involved in this, she said. A committee has not been formed.

"All I've asked is that people come to a meeting. It's fun to have a discussion," she added.

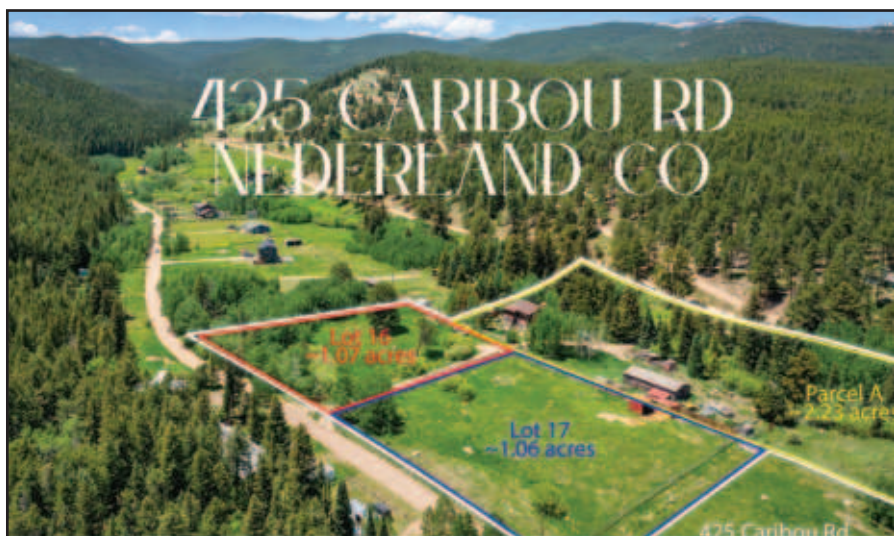
Vocal residents said they don't want another government. They already have federal, state and county governments, they noted. They don't need another layer.

One man said they already have the CCCIA; just use that.

One woman suggested doing a survey and another suggested that those who are interested in forming a committee should send an email.

The Mountain-Ear will continue to follow this story as it unfolds.

Carpio put a link to do so on the Facebook Coal Creek Community Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/528732367494262>



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Eldora summer celebration



PHOTOS BY DIANA SLOUGH

Celebrating community
The Eldora Civic Association held their annual community picnic in July.

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BOT looks at Town lots for housing

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) met on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, to discuss potential changes to several processes and procedures, including changes to Nederland’s building code regulations. Trustees were also presented with an update on title searches conducted on 12 Town-owned properties.

Before their scheduled meeting, the BOT attended a closed executive session to “receive legal advice related to outdoor recreational facilities and passive recreation uses in the Town’s zone districts, High

Density Residential and Central Business District.”

Tom Mahowald, Treasurer of the Nederland Food Pantry (NFP), provided the Board with an annual report and presentation regarding Nederland’s human services.

Mahowald provided history as to how the Town’s health and human services is funded: from a percentage of collected lodging taxes. Mahowald noted that, since the previous Board reduced the percentage going to that fund in order to address the Town’s budget issues, the NFP has experienced a reduction of their budget, affecting the services they can provide.

Mahowald added that the NFP will be returning to the Board later in the year as discussions begin regarding the 2025 Town Budget. He stated that the NFP’s goal in these discussions will be to increase the percentage of taxes going into the health and human services fund, in order to ensure success in its mission of clothing, feeding, and providing mental and physical health care to those in need.

The Board discussed the process

for licensing retail and medical marijuana businesses to address a scenario presently not covered in Nederland Municipal Code.

The Town has three operating marijuana dispensaries. Licenses for such business are capped at four. However, there is no language in NMC to address the scenario of two interested parties applying for the final available license at the same time.

Town staff suggested the following language to be added to NMC: any application submitted when there is a license available will be accepted on a “first come, first served” basis; those interested in obtaining a license, should all licenses be claimed, will have their information collected as a “waiting application”; a lot drawing will be conducted of any and all applications, including “waiting applications,” to determine the order as to which application will be processed first whenever a license is relinquished.

Such language will be drafted and will return to the BOT’s agenda for review at a later date. Those Trustees in attendance offered their approval of Town staff moving forward with these suggestions.

The Town has been working with Fidelity Title Company to conduct title searches on Town-owned properties to determine their eligibility for housing development.

Town staff presented the results from title searches on 12 properties and discussed the possibility of continuing with further feasibility

studies, including hiring a contractor for site assessments and surveying, in order to determine the full scope of the property’s eligibility.

There was discussion about issues with neighboring properties to some of these Town-owned parcels, including mention of Homeowners’ Association documents restricting certain Accessory Dwelling Units and placing limitations on the size of residential units, as well as a cap on such units.

Town Attorney Jennifer Madsen added that many of the properties listed may have been dedicated to the Town for particular reasons, and that she would need to review the plats and relevant documents in order to ascertain the most feasible parcels for development.

Town Administrator Jonathan Cain discussed returning to the Board with a narrowed list of properties that have the legal potential for housing development. Cain added that Town staff will also provide a list of potential funding sources in order to hire a third party contractor.

Madsen and Community Planner Britt DeMinck discussed drafting an ordinance to adopt the 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC). The Town of Nederland is currently operating under the 2020 edition of the NEC. Trustees approved.

The Board discussed both their Rules of Procedure, last updated in 2014, and the Electronic and Hybrid Meeting Participation Policy, adopted in 2022, and directed Town Staff as to whether either policy needs to be revised.

Mayor Billy Giblin noted that he would like to research using an online meeting platform other than WebEx, which the Town of Nederland currently uses.

Madsen provided additional clarification to the Board as to why the two policies are in need of being updated. She stated that the Nederland policies are in many ways inconsistent with state laws and are outdated, particularly in the matters of posting the official agenda, scheduling executive sessions, and providing sign-up sheets for public comment.

Trustee Tania Corvalan mentioned a potential issue in the language pertaining to Trustee and Mayoral term limits, as it appeared to her that a Trustee could serve more than the two terms allowed by running for Mayor and winning.

Trustee Kristopher Larsen reiterated that the language in Rules of Procedure is not legally binding, as there are binding rules for term limits stated within the Colorado Revised Statutes.

Madsen was directed to rewrite the Rules of Procedure from scratch, and to edit the Electronic and Hybrid Meeting Participation Policy as necessary.

The Nederland Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 20, 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>.

POETRY CORNER

Some words for the week

I guess the forest fires are sort of like dying in that we try our best to live without thinking of them until they are right in our faces the smoke of a thousand pines in our throats and everybody complains about my poems lamenting the summer and the risk of the burning but I don't want to look away I want to look into the flames I want to remember why this is happening to us why we have so much to lose this is the reckoning of history this is the end of an era and I can only hope as I drive the canyon to work in a hazmat haze that flowers can rise up from what has burned that something can rise up and be beautiful again

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



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Nancy Kirkendall
303-517-2585

Boulder Home Source & The Thomas | Ratay Team at RE/MAX Alliance



Jim Thomas
303-543-0625



Support Our Furry Friends!

Old Soul Canine Rescue & Mountain Paws Pet Care Fund are getting together for a Medical Fund Fundraiser.

Mountain Paws has helped two cats and five dogs with \$30,000 of medical care since 2019.



Old Soul Canine Rescue recent spent \$1,200 preparing two senior pups for their forever home.



Together we want to meet and thank our community for the generosity and to ask for continued financial support to keep dogs in their homes and help make abandoned senior dogs adoptable.

When: August 11, noon – 2pm

Where: Very Nice Brewery Gilpin 180 Jankowski Dr. (near Taggett's)

Music: Adam Pause of the NoGoGilbillies



Bonus: Meet Pringle and Cooper! Pringle and Cooper are adoptable senior rescues currently being fostered and looking forever homes

Both organizations are 501(3) non-profits operating in the Peak to Peak

Mountain Paws Pet Care Fund We assist financially challenged pet guardians in the Peak to Peak Region with Financial Assistance for Urgent Medical Pet Care. Our goal is to prevent unnecessary euthanasia or surrender, as healthy communities include companion animals. www.mtnpaws.org

About Old Soul Canine Rescue We are an empathetic, volunteer-driven, non-profit organization supporting senior dogs and expanding our community's compassion footprint. We honor senior dogs by giving them our best, for the rest of their lives. www.oldsoulcaninerescue.org



Please Join us for



The Annual Gilpin County Democrats Fundraiser

August 25, 2024 • 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

at the **Gilpin County Arts Association**

117 Eureka Street, Central City, CO 80427



Joe Neguse
Congressman



Sandy Hollingsworth
for D3 County Commissioner



Jeff Aiken
for D1 County Commissioner



Alexis King
District Attorney

Join us as we support Democratic candidates Vice President Kamala Harris for President, Joe Neguse for Congressional District 2, our local County Commissioner candidates **Sandy Hollingsworth** and **Jeff Aiken**, plus Kathy Gebhardt - St Brd of Ed, Lesley Smith - HD49 and Alexis King - DA.

Admission: \$25.00 per person (children 18 and under are free).

Appetizers, music and one complimentary beverage included in the price of admission.

(Augustina's Winery wine or Dostal Alley's Buddy Beer)

For more information please contact gilpindemschair@gmail.com • gilpincountydems.org

Paid for by Gilpin County Democrats Central Committee



AUGUST RECIPES



Cold beet borscht

We're discovering just how healthy beets are – and it's the perfect season for using those beautiful farmer's market beets and enjoying a delicious cold meal. This savory sweet/sour soup is a delight on a warm summer day.

Prep time: 30 minutes; Cook Time: 1 hour
Serves 6

Ingredients

10 large beets, peeled, washed and grated (It's hot; use your food processor! Just cut the beets into chunks first.)
2 1/2 quarts water

1 minced onion
3 Tablespoons sugar
juice of 2 lemons
1 minced garlic clove
2 beaten eggs (Vegans note: optional.)
8 small potatoes, boiled (You can cook them in the microwave if you don't want to mess with the stove any more.)
1 cup sour cream or plain yogurt (non-dairy is fine)
1 teaspoon Kosher salt

Instructions

Place the beets, water, salt, onions and garlic in a large pot. Bring to a boil, then cook on low heat for 1 hour. Add the lemon and sugar and cook for another 10 minutes.

Remove from heat. If you want to add the egg, do so gradually—but stir constantly. Keep stirring to prevent the egg from curdling. Check seasonings. When cool, refrigerate.

Serve cold. Add a small potato if desired, and a dollop of sour cream/yogurt.



Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Boulder County has received a notice of intent to acquire a permanent easement by Xcel Energy over the Adler-Fingru Open Space Property located on the north side of Empire Road in Lafayette. This demand will be considered at a Boulder County Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee public meeting on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and at a Boulder County Board of

Commissioners public hearing on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Both events will occur in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the 3rd Floor of the Boulder County Courthouse, 1325 Pearl Street, Boulder, Colorado. The public is invited to attend and comment at either or both events. For more information or to comment on this issue, contact Don Durso, 720-864-6694, ddurso@bouldercounty.gov.

Public Notice

County Designation of Areas of State Interest and Adoption of Revised 1041 Regulations

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County ("Board") will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 10th at 9:30 AM at the Historic Gilpin County Courthouse, Second Floor, Commissioners Meeting Room, 203 Eureka St. Central City, CO 80427 to consider:

- Designating the following areas of state interest pursuant to Title 24, Article 65.1, Colorado Revised Statutes ("Areas and Activities of State Interest Act" or "the Act"):
 - Areas containing or having significant impact upon natural resources of statewide importance as designated on the "Wildlife Areas" map adopted by the County and as may be amended.
 - Areas around interchanges involving arterial highways as designated on the "Areas Around Interchanges" map adopted by the County and as may be amended.
- Restating and confirming as an activity of state interest "the efficient utilization of municipal or industrial water projects."
- Adopting revised guidelines and

regulations under the Act, which are currently Article 12 of the County Zoning Regulations.

4. Ending the current temporary stay on the processing of 1041 permit applications pursuant to Resolution 24-96.

A copy of the revised Guidelines and Regulations for Areas and Activities of State Interest in Gilpin County, including all proposed designations, is available on the County's website (<https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/news-notices/public-notices>) and at the office of the County Clerk & Recorder 203 Eureka St. Central City, CO 80427.

The meeting will be held in person and broadcast live via Zoom. Members of the public will be able to participate virtually. A link to the live broadcast can be found on the Gilpin County website under the public meetings tab. All interested persons wishing to be heard are invited to said public meeting. Written comments or questions can be emailed to: kkaufman@gilpincounty.org. The meeting may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary. Those individuals requiring special accommodation to participate please contact Deputy Clerk Kimberly Kaufman at (303) 582-5214.



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Government Meetings

Black Hawk City Council meetings occur at 3 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in Council Chambers located upstairs at City Hall, 211 Church Street, Black Hawk. For more information check online at <https://www.cityof-blackhawk.org/>.

Central City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Join the next meeting in person at City Hall, 141 Nevada Street or online at <https://centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings>.

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

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

Gilpin County Board of County Commissioner (BoCC) meetings are typically held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Attend the next meeting in person or online via Zoom at 9 a.m. at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/public-meetings/board-of-county-commissioners-bocc-meeting>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Public Notice

**COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE
NO. 24-03PT**

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:

On May 29, 2024, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Gilpin records.

Original Grantor(s)
GS Mining Company, LLC,
a Delaware Limited Liability Company
Original Beneficiary(ies)
Lonn and Connie Waddell
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
Connie Waddell
Date of Deed of Trust
June 26, 2023
County of Recording
Gilpin
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
June 26, 2023
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
174635
Original Principal Amount
\$34,000.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$29,898.03

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

EXHIBIT A
LOTS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 AND THE NORTH 29 FEET OF LOT 10 AS DESCRIBED IN THE DOCUMENT RECORDED IN BOOK 60 AT PAGE 264 OF THE RECORDS OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER OF GILPIN COUNTY, BLOCK 46, CITY OF CENTRAL, AND THE LOT ON THE EAST SIDE OF PACKARD GULCH AS DESCRIBED IN THE DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 86, PAGE 529 OF THE RECORDS OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER OF GILPIN COUNTY, COUNTY OF GILPIN, STATE OF COLORADO.

Purported common address: 00 Packard St, Central City, CO 80427.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00a.m. on Thursday, 09/26/2024, at The Office of the Gilpin County Public Trustee, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 8/1/2024
Last Publication 8/29/2024

Name of Publication *The Mountain-Ear*
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
DATE: 05/29/2024

Mary R. Lorenz, Public Trustee in and for the County of Gilpin, State of Colorado
By: Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

Nathan L Andersohn #12000
Andersohn Law Office, PC 11971 Quay Street, Broomfield, CO 80020 (303) 650-6414
Attorney File #
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado
Revised 1/2015

What's happening at Gilpin Parks & Rec

Gilpin County Community Center
250 Norton Drive
bit.ly/gilpinparksandrec
303-582-1453
<http://www.facebook.com/gilpincounty.org/>

Pool Hours - SUMMER
*Please call to confirm prior to coming
Closed on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday*
Monday and Wednesday: 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Building Hours
Closed on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday*
Monday and Wednesday: 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Youth Co-Ed Soccer - Registration now open! Season starts August 12, Games on Saturdays August 24 - October 5, Ages 5-13, \$70/residents, \$78/non-residents.

Outdoor Adult Volleyball Grass League. Wednesdays August 14 - September 18, 6 - 8 p.m., Ages 14+, \$150/team, tournament is September 18.

Summer Day Camp Enrollment Now Open
Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., \$45/day per resident child, \$54/day per non-resident child (+\$10 for field trips).

4th Annual Shelby Allen Memorial Scholarship Volleyball Tournament. Saturday, September 7, Games start at 9 a.m. Registration fees contribute to the scholarship fund. Other donations accepted at www.shelbyallen.org. Four players per team. Each team must have at least one female. Double elimination, games played to 15 points. Registration fee: \$40 per team.

Outdoor gear rentals NOW AVAILABLE at the Community Center made possible by our partnership with ACA! Outdoor gear

can be rented Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Prices vary for gear rentals. For more information please visit <https://www.alwayschooseadventures.org/gearlibrary>.

Friends of the Gilpin County Community Center's "Heart of the Community" Fund supports residents in need with family punch cards for daily admissions, as well as scholarships for youth who need help to cover youth sports and classes. Visit <https://gilpincommunitycenter.org/heart-of-the-community-fund/> for more info and to apply.

Youth Camp (Licensed Child Care): Monday -Thursday, 4 - 6 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Eagles Teen Program: Monday - Thursday, 4:15 - 6 p.m.

Pilates Mat Class: Saturday, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Hatha Yoga: Monday and Friday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Senior Fit: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Senior Lunch: Wednesday and Friday, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Pickleball: (First 30 minutes is for instruction/practice; no games at this time). Monday and Wednesday: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Friday, 1 - 4 p.m.

Aquafit: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Gilpin Stitches Club: 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Master Swim: Monday and Wednesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Lap Swim: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8 - 9:30 a.m.

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FORRENT: 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. \$600 per month (~200 SF). 1 year lease - 1st, last + security. Available now! Email jackie@homesbyjackiejones.com

FOR RENT: Refurbished super "Amazing Minng Cabin" off Ridge Rd. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Loft, sunroom 1400 sq ft Cabin in secluded wooded area. 1.5 miles from Nederland, 3 miles from Eldora. Wifi, Propane and Woodstove heat. Skylights tile and wood floors W/D, Dishwasher. See in depth ad on Craigslist w/ pics and Tour. Contact discountsatellites@gmail.com. \$2396 per month. No Dogs, other pets negotiable.

For Sale

Sea Eagle RazorLite kayak set perfect for water sports enthusiasts. Made by the reputable brand Sea Eagle, this inflatable kayak is designed to provide a fast ride. The 393RL model manufactured in the United States and is suitable for use in a variety of water environments. It is lightweight, making it easy to transport. Not beginners boat. Contact Carolyn by phone at (303) 748-2672 or email at conroemcm@gmail.com.

Plants, blankets & sheets, records, CDs, cassette tapes, 8-tracks, books, more. Available to see by appointment. Mid-Gilpin. Call or text 303-881-0365

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Help Wanted

Gilpin County is Hiring!

Clerk & Recorder:
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Time: \$19.13 - \$25.87

Dispatch:
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:
\$30.77 - \$43.77
Deputy - Patrol - POST Certified:
\$30.77 - \$43.77
Detentions Officer - Non-Certified:
\$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>

Gilpin County School District RE-1 is accepting applications for the **Secondary School Administrative Assistant** position. See vacancy notice and a full job description at www.gilpin.k12.co.us. Hourly, at will position range \$18.24 to \$24.24 an hour DOE. District contribution to employee health, dental, and vision, life, accidental death and dismemberment, and long term disability insurance. District contribution 21.4% of annual salary to the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Account (PERA). Paid time off/Annual Leave 11 days a school year, which may be accrued to a total of 60 days. Apply on the school website. A complete packet includes: district application, cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation dated within the last year. Application review is ongoing and the position will be open until filled. Must pass background check. Drug-free workplace. GCSD is an equal opportunity employer.

Services

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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!

Silver Wings Arts Program, an adult day center for the arts offers an extensive range of in-depth workshops in music, art, and movement Monday through Friday, 10:30am - 3:30pm in a secure, beautiful space overlooking a lake. Disability access and basic caregiving oversight provided if needed. Meals/workshop materials included. For enrollment information, visit silverwingsartsprogram.org, email seniorsitterscolorado@gmail.com

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Current Job Openings for the City of Black Hawk

Go to www.cityofblackhawk.org and click on Job Openings for full Job Descriptions, Requirements, and to apply online.



POLICE OFFICER (LATERAL OR POST-CERTIFIED ONLY), Salary Range: \$78,981 - \$128,003 / Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E. The City of Black Hawk is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer (POST certified or laterals). The position is responsible for performing public safety functions and for providing for the enforcement of federal, state, and municipal law. Excellent Benefits package (See Benefits). Apply Now: <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

WATER UTILITY OPERATOR I, II, III or IV, Salary Range: \$55,518 - \$89,977 / Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E. Operator I: Colorado Class "D" Water Plant Operator and Class 1 Distribution Systems Certifications required within one (1) year of employment. Operator II: Colorado Class "C" Water Plant Operator and Class 2 Distribution Systems Certifications required. Operator III: Colorado Class "B" Water Plant Operator and Class 3 Distribution Systems Certifications required.

Operator IV: Colorado Class "A" Water Plant Operator and Class 4 Distribution Systems Certifications required. A Water Utility Operator III will operate and maintain the water treatment plants, distribution system, raw water system, maintain and repair water mains, service lines, valves, pumps, and water-related appurtenances. This is the journey-level class in the Utility Operator series and is expected to perform a full range of all duties with minimal instruction and assistance. Excellent Benefits package (See Benefits). Apply Now: <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>

City of Black Hawk Benefits:

The City pays 90% of the medical premium and 100% coverage for dental, vision, group life, and short/long-term disability. The City offers an excellent retirement package with a guaranteed 8% match of base earnings and up to a 12% match based on employees' retirement election. Newly hired employees enjoy over seven weeks of combined annual leave (PTO and Sick), which increases with tenure. Additional benefits include an annual Health and Wellness Reimbursement allowance, an annual Uniform Allowance, a cell phone stipend, and membership to the Gilpin County Recreation Center. The City of Black Hawk conducts post-offer drug/alcohol testing as a condition of employment per the City's Drug and Alcohol Use policy. In addition, post-offer background investigations and physical exams are also required.



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THEME: BACK TO SCHOOL

ACROSS

1. Soothing concoction
5. *The Magic School ride
8. Mama's husband
12. Dwarf buffalo
13. Moneyed one
14. "M*A*S*H" extra
15. Soon, to Shakespeare
16. Sheltered, nautically
17. *Abacus user, e.g.
18. *School jacket-wearer
20. TV classic "Happy ____"
21. What hoarders do
22. Speech-preventing measure
23. *Pencil end
26. Deep regret
30. Indian restaurant staple
31. What cobblers often do
34. Mother Earth, to Ancient Greeks
35. Embedded design
37. ____ Khan
38. Contending
39. *Don't forget to cross them
40. Plural of flora
42. Rolodex abbr.
43. Sultry or carnal
45. *Rydell High School movie
47. Defensive one on the gridiron
48. Oodles
50. *Some PTA members?
52. *It involves elements
56. Cuban dance
57. Burkina Faso neighbor
58. Opera solo
59. Boot-shaped European country
60. Oil org.
61. Review a service
62. Say "No!"
63. Animal's nose
64. Perceives with an eye

DOWN

1. Jezebel's idol
2. Beheaded Boleyn
3. Plunder
4. Certain rays
5. Plural of #1 Across
6. Part of an eye, pl.
7. Witnessed
8. *Field of education
9. ____ Walker, American Girl doll
10. *Inspiration for circular charts, pl.
11. Acronym, abbr.
13. Zimbabwe's capital
14. Address to a woman
19. Nail salon file
22. Toothpaste type
23. *Marks in English
24. Hindu queen
25. "Hannah and Her Sisters" director
26. End of line
27. Yogurt-based dip
28. *Opposite side over hypotenuse, pl.
29. Bald symbol
32. * ____ monitor
33. Bigheadedness
36. *All-school get-together
38. Giuseppe ____ of opera fame
40. Temporary craze
41. Parthenogenetic
44. Recant or retract
46. *English homework, pl.
48. *Circle, e.g.
49. Paparazzi's target
50. Remote control option
51. Middle Eastern sultanate
52. "Follow me!"
53. Genealogy plant
54. Agitate
55. Puppy barks
56. Antonym of keep

CROSSWORD

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

CROSSWORD: JULY 25

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

SUDOKU: JULY 25

SUDOKU



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

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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.

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