

# THE MOUNTAIN EAR



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Nederland, Colorado

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

## Gilpin Schools celebrate Homecoming with a parade



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

### Gilpin County School homecoming parade

A cowgirl smiles at Black Hawk residents as she rides down the street, while the Gilpin County Booster Club waves their banner and hands out treats. *More photos page 12.*

### Zoe Lewis Therapy



#### Keep it Local!

Zoe Lewis of Nederland brings us Sole Talk Therapy, her wilderness-based private therapy practice.

*see story page 21*

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## Wild Bear Nature Center builds on



PHOTO BY SCOUT EDMUNDSON

### Making their mark

Signing the cornerstone of the new Wild Bear Nature Center.

### SCOUT EDMUNDSON NEDERLAND

On Saturday, September 24, 2024, approximately 60 people bedecked in hard hats and high-visibility personal protective gear gathered at the site of the future Wild Bear Nature Center to celebrate the building's progress and the dream that inspired it.

The crowd that gathered in the late-summer heat—mostly made up of Wild Bear staffers and donors who have helped raise funds for the new nature center—stood outside of the gigantic steel, concrete, and plywood structure to receive a tour of the building and a rundown of its future functions. In the middle of the gathering stood Jill Dreeves, Wild Bear's founder and Chief Vision Officer.

Dreeves founded the non-profit Wild Bear nearly 30 years ago with the dream of sharing her love of nature with children through immersive education. She dreamt of constructing an all-inclusive nature center meant to educate people about Colorado's

*continued on page 18*

### Black Hawk Council approves historic renovations



The council quickly moved into its agenda, focusing on the future of the City's historic heart.

*see story page 30*

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<https://www.themtneer.com/register/30-day-online-trial/>

### -QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance.

— Alan Watts

## THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

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We welcome thoughtful, local letters to the editor.  
You can submit online on our website or by  
email to [info@themountainear.com](mailto:info@themountainear.com). Letters may  
be edited for length (less than 500 words) and  
content (rude, vulgar or obscene). Letters must  
include local name and address, to be considered  
for publication in the next available edition. We  
reserve the right to refuse to print letters.

### Ownership

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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 contributors  
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.



# Nancelia Jackson, Chronicler of Lincoln Hills

## October 27, 1924 - August 18, 2024

WES ISENHART  
GILPIN COUNTY

Nancelia Elizabeth Scott Jackson passed away on Sunday, August 18, 2024, in Denver, Colorado, not quite making it to 100. She is best known in Gilpin County for being the granddaughter of William Pitts and the mother of retired judge Gary Jackson.

Nancelia was born October 27, 1924, in Chicago, Illinois, the second oldest of six brothers and sisters. Her parents were Paris Monroe and Elizabeth Geraldine Scott. Nancelia and her family migrated to Denver in 1926 from segregated Missouri and Illinois looking for better opportunities. Those opportunities included her grandfather, William Pitts, who was born into slavery in Missouri, building three homes in North Cherry Creek and a family cabin called Zephyr View in historic Lincoln Hills.

Growing up, Nancelia would spend summers at Zephyr View and attended the YMCA camp for African American girls called Nizhoni (Navajo for beautiful) that was next to Lincoln Hills.

At the age of fourteen, Nancelia started keeping a daily diary of her experiences at Lincoln Hills and kept it up throughout her life. Her journals are now being digitized for the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C.

Judge Jackson said that this firsthand account preserves memories of the Lincoln Hills resort that are important to Black Coloradans.

"It was having the American dream," he said. "It was important, because so many Black people were working hard jobs. It was an opportunity to rejuvenate yourself. It was also, when I look back at it, spiritual — spiritual in terms of being in the wilderness and being close to nature and being in a place where there was no fear, there was no conflict."

In 1945, Nancelia married Floyd M. Jackson, Jr., a World War II soldier stationed in Laramie, Wyoming. Floyd received three Bronze Stars for his valor and later in life a commendation signed by President Barack Obama.

On November 10, 1945, Gary Monroe was born, followed by Larry McGlother on February 15, 1947. The icing on the cake was the birth of Kimberle Mae on February 26, 1960.

Throughout her life, Nancelia was known for her letter-writing when she saw injustice. Those letters were sent to college presidents, mayors, governors and the Colorado Supreme Court Justices.

At age 99, Nancelia's dream of a family reunion was realized when, on July 20, 2024, 71 family members gathered together at Zephyr View cabin in Lincoln Hills to celebrate her trailblazing life. The celebration included the receipt of a letter written to Nancelia at her Lincoln Hills mailing address from Vice President Kamala Harris, congratulating her on a job well done.



PHOTO BY HON. GARY JACKSON

### Nancelia Jackson

Nancelia Jackson writing in her journal, which was a constant companion throughout her life.

Nancelia is survived by her brothers, Warren Frederick Scott (Sandra) and Arthur Bishop Scott (Frazier); children, Hon. Gary Monroe Jackson (Regina), Larry McGlother Jackson (Jennifer), and Kimberle Mae Jackson-Butler; daughter-in-law, Sylvia L. Jackson; grandchildren, Jamal Brandon Jackson (Jamylah), Maya Bryonne Jackson-Moye (Bryan), Kaitlin Elizabeth Butler, Nicolle Alessandra Butler, Michael Mascotti (Robin) and Tara Lavizzo; great grandchildren, Myles Ahmir Jackson, Parker Tariq Jackson,

Phoenix Simone LaRoux Moye, Skye Jordyn Jean Moye, Daunte Mascotti, Marissa Mascotti, Laila Lavizzo and Averie Lavizzo, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that those wishing to donate please consider Scott United Methodist Church, 2880 Garfield Street, Denver 80205, or the non-profit, LAW SCHOOL...Yes We Can, 950 South Cherry Street, Suite 508, Denver, Colorado 80426.

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# Peak Perspectives

## Why your vote matters

BARBARA HARDT  
BLACK HAWK

This year may be the most contentious election year I have ever been through. Now, that's not saying much, I guess. The Presidential election four years ago was certainly contentious. This year it seems more so both on a National level and a local level. Like people are seriously getting angry and even mean, locally. I don't recall experiencing that in my 18 years at the paper or my 34 years of listening to local and national election news.

I have always felt exceptionally thankful to be able to have kind, considerate conversations with my neighbors. Somehow this election is different. My neighbors, normally open to civil discussions, are not willing to talk about politics within the county. You like this person but did you know this person did this? Like 25 years ago, I heard ... this random rumor. Instead of talking to each other, social media is allowing people to share blatantly false information online. Then others grab onto it and share it. It takes a while to refute the accuracy, but social media does eventually put a flag on the

information saying "some of it may be false."

On Friday, September 20, 2024, at 6 p.m., *The Mountain-Ear* will be hosting a Gilpin County Commissioner Candidate Forum. The forum is an opportunity to meet your candidates, listen to them answer questions and participate in a public Q&A at the end of the forum.

We are trying very hard to ensure

that the nastiness generated by national politics does not make an appearance at the Forum. We've already noted (and apologized for) letting one example of that unpleasantness appear in the paper. We count on you to attend the Forum and assure that all candidates are listened to, politely. We are all neighbors, and we'd like to keep our politics neighborly in the Peak to Peak.

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## POETRY CORNER

*Some words for the week*

this morning the clouds  
like another world  
strung up above the trees  
and my driveway  
a perfect floating bliss  
almost in reach  
I wish to rise up  
weightless  
and be like them  
dawn gold  
slowly morphing  
into another spun cotton shape  
then dissipating into blue  
how does the sky  
seem so soft  
when the world is so hard  
my truck and my bones  
and my turkey sandwich  
I've brought in a tupperware  
for my lunch  
feel like they weigh  
a million pounds  
I want to drive into the horizon  
and into the clouds  
I want to fly away  
behind the wheel of this F150  
but for now driving the canyon  
will have to do

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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# Music of the Mountains Where to be and what to see



PHOTO BY JAMIE LAMMERS

## JAMIE LAMMERS NEDERLAND

Randy McIntosh grew up playing piano, embracing the cello, guitar, and electric guitar by the time he was a teenager. When he went to college on a track scholarship, he thought he would work in a school district, teaching history or psychology or even coaching. However, during his studies, he kept finding himself in the music building working on original compositions. Ultimately, he transferred to Colorado State University, graduating in 1992 with a bachelor's in music.

At this point, he found himself drawn to percussion music, particularly outside of the European classical music canon.

Soon after, he made friends also interested in percussion and started learning percussion instruments. Another friend, Chris Zorn, studied at Naropa and focused on music from the African diaspora, specifically Zimbabwe.

In 1996, McIntosh graduated from the University of Colorado (CU) Boulder with a master's in music composition. He had worked on his doctorate at the same time Zorn was working on his own, an ethnomusicology degree also at CU. By 1998, McIntosh was teaching multicultural music at Metropolitan State University. He had taught classes at CU Boulder, Regis University, and the Colorado School of the Arts, among others, and as he continued focusing on teaching, he decided he wanted to master musical knowledge

of a particular cultural area.

As he thought about what area to focus on, he also played in a marimba group. A woman in the group caught his eye. That woman, Amy, had also been playing African instruments (particularly marimba and hosho) and had been studying African music since 1994. The two connected, ultimately marrying in 2002 (Amy's full name is now Amy Stewart McIntosh), and they focused on African music together. Ultimately, after Zorn earned his doctorate, he moved to Hawaii. Amy and Randy decided to continue their passion in Colorado, with Randy learning to compose in the style of African music he had learned from Zorn.

In 1999, Amy and Randy co-founded an organization of their own to continue teaching music from the African diaspora. They called it Kutandara, a Zimbabwe term meaning "to come together and have fun." The two have now fully cemented their roles in the organization – Amy as the executive director, Randy as the artistic director, and both as instructors. After Randy had been denied opportunities to teach African music, he could now teach through his own program, which started in Lafayette. After moving locations over the next few years as nearby tenants became tired of the constant music, Kutandara finally settled in their current Boulder location.

Kutandara has taught multiple groups over the last 25 years. These groups include Kunaka (meaning "really

good"), Takapenga (meaning "we are awesome"), and Shamwari (a Shona term for greeting a friend). Currently, it teaches three primary groups. The adult group, Kutandara, includes three different bands: Kutandara Kombi, or the "little" band, with three marimbas, electric mbira, drum set, hosho, guitar, and vocals; Kutandara Marimba, in which seven musicians play bass, baritone, tenor, alto, and soprano marimbas; and Kutandara Marimba Experience, which includes the 7-piece marimba orchestra, drum set, electric mbira, guitar, electric bass, and percussion. Then, there's the senior teen band Tanaka, loosely meaning "we have arrived." Finally, there's the junior teen band Mhodzi, which means "seeds," a shorthand method of conveying the idea of those members being the seeds of tomorrow.

Through these groups, Kutandara is dedicated to teaching people of all ages how to play music from the African diaspora, properly play a show, stay engaged the entire time, set up for a show, and get comfortable performing in front of an audience. Randy, who always found himself nervous playing piano by himself, loves performing with these groups and seeing them bring the pieces to life every show.

While the program still uses the name Kutandara, it was incorporated as a non-profit in 2017. At that point, Amy and Randy dissolved Kutandara Center as a legal entity and reformed it as the 501(c)(3) entity Moon and Stars Foundation, named after one of Randy's most popular original compositions.

Over the years, Kutandara students have traveled to various places focused on African music, transitioning from visiting the Zimbabwe Music Festival (which Kutandara produced in Boulder in 2009) to Zimbabwe itself. The organization has been able to directly connect more with Zimbabwe, including meeting a local musician, Blessing "Coach Bled" Chimanga, on a 2017 trip to the country. After being asked to produce the annual Kutandara fundraiser for three separate years, Blessing became the first visiting artist of the organization.

Coming to Colorado on a P visa in August of 2023, he now works day-to-day to teach various classes there, write

music for the groups, and coach and produce their major concerts. Blessing admires and respects the mission that Amy and Randy have created with Kutandara, and with the program still going strong and working harder than ever to correctly represent the culture and musical stylings of Zimbabwe, the passion put into the program is evident in every aspect of its operation.

You can see the Kutandara Teen Bands (Tanaka and Mhodzi) performing at the Nederland Farmers Market, 80 E. Second Street in Nederland, on Sunday, September 29, 2024. The market starts at 10 a.m., Ben Allen (on pipes) and Margot Krimmel (on harp) will be playing traditional Irish tunes starting shortly after opening, and the Kutandara youth groups start performing at noon.

You can learn more about Kutandara by going to [kutandara.org](http://kutandara.org), where you can find CD and digital album releases from the groups, browse a massive archive of concerts and albums on their YouTube channel, and follow them on social media. You can also stream their 2024 album *Paushamwari Hwedu*, released under the name *Takapenga*, on various streaming services online.

## Music Events

### Busey Brews

Sunday, September 22 at 2 p.m. - Pineytops Duo

Sunday, September 29 at 2 p.m. - Dan Williams Trio

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, September 20 at 8 p.m. - The NoGo Gilbillies

*Continued on page 5*

**Business Spotlight**

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[peaktopeakcounseling.com](http://peaktopeakcounseling.com)

## Music Events

*Continued from page 4*

Saturday, September 21 at 7 p.m. -  
Natalie Spears Trio  
Sunday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. -  
Fly in the Ointment  
Friday, September 27 at 8 p.m. - Matt  
Skinner Band  
Saturday, September 28 at 7 p.m. -  
Greg Schochet Trio  
Sunday, September 29 at 7 p.m. - Sturtz

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

### Gold Hill Store

Friday, September 20 at 7 p.m. - Charlie  
White

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

### Gregory Plaza

Saturday, September 28 at noon - Jen-  
nifer DeDominici and Jonathan Hays

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, September 21 at 4 p.m. -  
Steepland String Band  
Sunday, September 22 all day -  
Pop up with Justin Rice  
Saturday, September 28 at 5 p.m. -  
NoGo Gilbillies

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

### Jamestown Mercantile

Thursday, September 19 at 7 p.m. -  
Johnny Blueheart  
Wednesday, September 25 at 5 p.m. -  
Open Mic  
Thursday, September 26 at 7 p.m. -  
Unpaid Bills  
Friday, September 27 at 7 p.m. -  
Fast Floyd  
Sunday, September 29 at 12:15 p.m. -  
The Matt Katters

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jamestownmercantile/>  
Website: <https://www.jamestownmer->

[cantile.com/](http://cantile.com/)  
Location: 108 Main Street,  
Jamestown  
Phone: 303-442-5847

### JKQ BBQ

Friday, September 20 at 6 p.m. -  
Adam Pause  
Saturday, September 21 at 5 p.m. -  
Adam Pause

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

### Knotted Root Brewing

Saturday, September 21 at 5 p.m. -  
Break Signals  
Saturday, September 28 at 5 p.m. -  
Gratefully Acoustic  
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 Community Library

Friday, September 27 at 5 p.m. -  
Serene Karplus Art Reception Followed  
by Boulder Philharmonic Trio Concert

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NederlandCommunityLibrary-Foundation/>  
Website: [nederland.colibraries.org](http://nederland.colibraries.org)  
Location: 200 Hwy 72 N, Nederland  
Phone: 303-258-1101

### Nederland Farmers Market

Sunday, September 29 at 10:15 -  
Traditional Irish Music with Ben Allen  
and Margot Krimmel  
Sunday, September 29 at noon-  
Kutandara

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NederlandFarmersMarket/>  
Website: <https://www.nederlandfarmersmarket.org/>  
Email: [nederlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:nederlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com)  
Location: 85 E. 1st Street, Nederland  
and 80 E. 2nd Street, Nederland

### Old Gallery at Allenspark

Friday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. -  
Open Mic

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheAOldGallery>  
Website: <https://www.theoldgallery.org/>  
Location: 14863 Highway 7,

Allenspark  
Phone: 303-747-2906

### The Caribou Room

Saturday, September 21 at 7 p.m. -  
White Trash Adult Prom  
Friday, September 27 at 7 p.m. -  
Tom Hamilton (guitarist for  
Joe Russo's Almost Dead &  
Billy and the Kids) with full band  
with Cole & Eric from Dragondeer

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

### Very Nice Brewing Co. (Gilpin County)

Friday, September 20 at 6 p.m. -  
David Tilmon  
Saturday, September 21 at 5 p.m. -  
Windy Pines  
Friday, September 27 at 6 p.m. -  
Ella Wren

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)

Saturday, September 21 at 5 p.m. -  
Chris Smith  
Saturday, September 28 at 5 p.m. -  
Mountain ReVerb  
Sunday, September 29 at 5 p.m. -  
Rick Lobato

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](mailto:info@themountaineer.com) to be  
included in the next edition.*



## Everybody's Reading It!



### *The Mountain-Ear* is read beyond the Peak to Peak

John Scarffe is excited about the upcoming Studio Tour and checking out the map!

Submit your photo to [info@themountaineer.com](mailto:info@themountaineer.com) for inclusion in an upcoming edition. Selected photos receive a free 90 day trial subscription to *The Mountain-Ear*.

# Why I support Sandy Hollingsworth

Dear Gilpin County readers,

I don't plan to talk about county finances, the true facts are out there for you to read. I encourage you to do so. I am going to speak from my heart.

I have known Sandy as a friend for about 7 years. Although she has been an acquaintance long before that. (There is a difference between an acquaintance and a friend.) I have many acquaintances and only a few true friends. But our passion for volunteering brought us closer together and now she is a true friend.

In 2017 we started brewing a plan to grow a garden to grow fresh mountain

grown produce to supplement the Gilpin Co. Food Pantry. In 2018 the garden beds were redone to help ward off critters and give us a greater yield. Sandy's experience as a master gardener helped us be able to provide mountain grown produce for 4 months a year to the food pantry.

In March of 2020 the world altering pandemic hit the world and things turned upside down. Gilpin Co. was hit especially hard. The Food Pantry had to kick into overdrive. Sandy was right there to help put together 70 + boxes of supplement to food per week and also being there to load peoples cars.

Seeing a need to help people feed

their beloved pets. Sandy contacted the Colorado Pet Pantry and made arrangements to pick up 600 lbs. of pet food each month. And still today she goes to Boulder once a month to help support our community.

Also tragic in 2020 was the East Troublesome Fire. Animals were evacuated to Gilpin County Fairgrounds. There were horses, llamas, ducks, chickens, a great big pig, dogs and cats. Sandy signed up to feed, clean and give support to the needs of the community. Something as a commissioner is always on her mind - What Is Best for all of the community.

She is an active member in the Peak to

Peak Rotary and High Country Axillary.

And since becoming Gilpin County Commissioner she dove in head first to do the best job possible for all of the residents of Gilpin Co. The job of the county commissioner has many hats. Caring for our County locally, but also having to be involved on the state and national level to be aware of what might affect our Little Kingdom of Gilpin.

So having a county commissioner who is well versed in the way government works is very important.

Black Hawk sold out to the corporate casino businesses. We need a County Commissioner that will not sell our county out to Black Hawk.

Respectfully,  
Roxy Goss  
Gilpin County

# Independents... It's time to come out of your fox holes

Dear Editor,

For those truly independent voters who may still be undecided, here are a few points to ponder.

Kamala Harris is not a felon. She's never been indicted. She's never been found liable for sexual assault / rape or defamation. Her company, and her children, have not been barred from doing business in New York State because of fraud. She has not "pardoned" multiple advisors who were convicted felons (Michael Flynn, Roger Stone, Paul Manafort, etc.). She has not played it fast and loose with porn stars and then paid them off to

keep them quiet, while her spouse was home with a newborn. She will use donations to fund her campaign, not pay for criminal attorneys.

She respects democracy and will accept defeat if she loses. She will not incite and send an armed mob to the capital, or anywhere else, to kill Tim Walz. She will not bring home highly classified documents by the truckload, lie to her own lawyers, and then hide them when the Feds come to look for them.

Project 2025 is not her agenda. Quite the opposite. She will fight to get back the rights we have already lost. She believes that the government should

stay out of our bedrooms and doctors' offices. She finds it unacceptable that women are being refused healthcare, losing their lives or their health in the process. She will not disable government agencies by closing them or replacing long-term civil servants with "loyalists".

She is not enamored with dictators. She believes that assault rifles have no place among civilians and in general, we need safer gun laws. She will fight for this. She will concern herself with the well-being of all Americans, including Republicans, and not just a small subset... just look at the diverse crowd at the DNC.

She's a dignified adult. She doesn't call people juvenile names. She doesn't intentionally mispronounce names. She actually has an agenda that will propel our great country forward toward a "more perfect union", and not pull us back into a divisive universe.

If you followed all this, you know that Trump did all these things (and much more) and continues to defend his actions. It's time to come out of your fox holes and take a stand for our collective future.

Bill Thibedeau  
Gilpin County



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## Nederland Jazz and Wine Festival - a community event

Dear Editor,

As President of Nederland Area Seniors (NAS), I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the support and participation that made this year's Nederland Jazz and Wine Festival a tremendous success. This was the third year, and what a remarkable community event it was!

I am deeply appreciative of the volunteer time and community support provided for the event. Our quirky community may be nestled in the

mountains, but we never run out of new ideas and surprises.

I want to express my gratitude to the festival staff and crew for their openness to new ideas and their unwavering dedication, even when the work becomes challenging. It's these collective efforts that make moments like these truly worthwhile.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Sincerely,  
Guy D. Falsetti  
President, Nederland Area Seniors

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# Support Rise Against Hunger

Dear Editor,

Food insecurity is an issue both in the Peak to Peak community and around the world. We at the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church are making efforts to alleviate hunger both here and abroad.

Our Love Your Neighbor Cereal Drive, benefiting the Nederland Food Pantry, and the thousands it serves in the Peak to Peak Community, was a big success. We were able to collect 159 boxes of cereal in the month of August. We extend a big thank you to all who donated, and also extend our deep appreciation to Dan Ball and the B&F Mountain Market, the Nederland Community Library and the Nederland Community Center for providing collection sites for the cereal drive.

On October 3 at TEENS, Inc. from 6-8 p.m. for the ninth year in a row, the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church will host the Rise Against Hunger food packaging event. The public is invited to volunteer -- all ages are welcome -- to package 10,000 nutritious, easy-to-prepare meals in

two hours. The meals are distributed through the Rise Against Hunger organization to hungry people around the world.

To purchase the food for this event, we are seeking sponsorships from local businesses, organizations and individuals. Thank you to the Peak to Peak Rotary and the Nederland Lions Club for already pledging their support. We are also selling beautiful fresh evergreen wreaths for the holiday season for \$35 (\$50 for wreath delivered by mail) to fund the program. Wreaths can be ordered now through November 1 and will be delivered beginning November 21.

If you'd like to order a wreath or sponsor the Rise Against Hunger event, contact me at [gipp.paula@gmail.com](mailto:gipp.paula@gmail.com). Thank you to our generous community for supporting these efforts to help others.

*Paula Gipp  
Missions Elder  
Nederland Community Presbyterian Church*

## Letter to the Editor



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

**Here is our Letter Policy:** We welcome thoughtful, local letters to the editor. You can submit online on our website or by email to [info@themountaineear.com](mailto:info@themountaineear.com). Letters may be edited for length (less than 500 words) and content (rude, vulgar or obscene). Letters must include local name and address, to be considered for publication in the next available edition. We reserve the right to refuse to print letters.

**From the Editors:** We will not publish letters that are part of a local smear campaign or contain unsubstantiated information. Letters will be sent back to the author with an option to rewrite following our letter policy. Questions? Email [info@themountaineear.com](mailto:info@themountaineear.com).



SUBSCRIBE to The Mountain-Ear newspaper for local news and stories that matter most to you.

# Marshall for Commissioner

Dear Editor,

I know the phrase common sense has been used by many candidates running for office. The definition of common sense, according to Google, has multiple meanings, including a basic level of practical judgment. So, common sense is in the eye of the

beholder. When it comes to politics in general, common sense has gone out the window in the eye of this beholder.

My family has known Corey and Debbie Marshall for many years. Recently I have been working with Corey to become our new Gilpin County Commissioner for District 3. I've known Corey as a hardworking,

honest, family man. To hear Corey's passion for the Western way of life and protecting the county we love, just shows what common sense is. Common sense is a basic level of practical judgment, which is exactly what Corey Marshall represents.

*Karen Midcap  
Black Hawk*

# Marshall IS the difference that we need

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my support of Corey Marshall, from my family, and friend's experience of him. I want to convey some measure of the character of the man seeking to serve this county.

About a year ago, my two kids and I decided to escape the city life and move up the hill. After returning from living in New Zealand for several years, my children living the rural experience,

returning to city life was just too much! My daughter's mental health and well-being have always benefited from being around horses, so I knew finding a place for her to be with horses and riding was an essential priority when we got up here. That's when we came across Rudolph Ranch. It has proven to be one of the best decisions for my daughter and our family!

It's difficult for me to capture or convey into words all that Corey has contributed to my daughter's growth

over the past year.

From the beginning, Corey respected Lyla, who was only 12 at the time, for who she is as a horsewoman, and has continued to support this growth in so many meaningful ways. Corey once wrote a letter of recommendation for Lyla and talked about what horsemanship is, which in his words "is one of the greatest indicators of a natural leader."

The reason Corey can see these attributes in others, is because he possesses them himself. Here, I feel I can best speak to Corey by placing him, in his own words:

"Corey is a great natural leader because he is smart, tough, knows what he wants and is willing to put the effort in to get there. Resilient, persistent, empathetic, kindhearted and gentle at the same time. People and animals trust him. I always trust him to do the right things..."

Corey Marshall does not romanticize the "western way of life" he lives it. When many people think about that "way of life," we think about the simple life. Kids being able to engage and play outside, families eating dinner around the table, hard work, loving your family, supporting your family, supporting the community,

being reliable, kind, caring, and those respectful values that were true, and still hold true to the idea of the western way of life.

This way of life is not privileged. He understands this and puts in the hard work every day to create his place in it. My daughter, as an employee, speaks to his own character, as someone who brings the best out of others. If you ever engage with his business, you'll see firsthand the spirit and ideal of this way of life we choose.

Corey saw the potential in my daughter and brought her on as an employee. As an employer, he sets a high bar to reach in service and performance, the same he demands of himself, and he knows how to bring it out in others.

Is this not something we want to preserve in our community, and isn't this one of the driving forces behind why so many of us choose to live up here, rather than the city life? I am confident, Corey will bring those same qualities and character to the County as Commissioner.

Corey Marshall is what Gilpin County needs!!! I, as an independent voter, will vote for him.

*Sarah Levenson-Hori  
Gilpin County*

**What should candidates be talking about as they compete for your vote?**

### Local grants available from Alan Green Memorial Foundation

The Alan Green Memorial Foundation (AGMF) is accepting grant applications from Gilpin County organizations and groups that benefit Gilpin County residents. This non-profit organization was created by the family and friends in memory of Alan Green.

Ken and Lela Green lost their son and his wife in a commercial plane crash. AGMF has given out grants since 1983 to benefit our Gilpin residents.

Grant applications are available on the website: [alangreenmemorialfoundation.org](http://alangreenmemorialfoundation.org).

RETURN COMPLETED GRANT APPLICATION AS A PDF DOCUMENT TO: [alangreenfdg@gmail.com](mailto:alangreenfdg@gmail.com). The deadline is September 30.

## Mountain Spirit Astrology: Libra



Autumn arrives in the mountains as the great wheel of the year turns once again. The magical hummingbirds have flown to tropical climes and the glorious golden aspens are shining. Balanced Libra brings expertise and fascination about partnerships to the zodiac.

The Solar Eclipse in Libra on October the second asks that we place ourselves in the center of our lives. We are the ones who honor ourselves and decide who and what we want to have or release in our lives. The full moon on the 17th brings perspective in regards to relationships, contracts, and connections.

**Aries** - Libra is your opposite sign of relationships, so expect to be active, attractive and in demand in the month ahead. You know what you want. In connecting with other people, negotiate with diplomacy any contracts and alliances particularly around the eclipse on the second.

**Taurus** - Precision and order are keynotes for you as you approach fall. Exercise, health, diet and skin care and fashion come to the forefront. You have a strong drive to strategize to achieve your goals. The full moon on October 17 gives you perspective on the results that you want.

**Gemini** - The twins admire Libra, the sign that's a breath of fresh air for you. Good luck Jupiter continues in your sign and you want to expand your life and horizons and enjoy theatre and music. The eclipse on the second makes you cherish the most important people in your life.

**Cancer** - Mars is in your sign and your bountiful enthusiasm is directed to your career. You want to nurture and be nurtured, so remember to carve out some time for you. October's eclipse on the second signals that the month ahead will be active and driven with recognition and rewards.

**Leo** - The lions become social creatures during the fall month ahead. With all of the demands on your time, you will want to make sure that you are not feeling last in line. As the royalty of the stars, you would prefer to be first in line as you connect with social events around your neighborhood.

**Virgo** - The busy schedule coalescing around you continues into the start of fall. The month that follows yours, social Libra, is an ideal time for you to gain an overview of your life. What would you like your autumn to look like? Consider a purchase of an exquisite item that you deserve.

**Libra - Happy Birthday!** The Vernal Equinox is the start of your birthday month. The partial Solar Eclipse on the 2nd of October places you in the center of favorable destiny. Your guide, Venus, is in stalwart Scorpio, so become the one who defines your fate, especially about a major decision.

**Scorpio** - The Autumnal Equinox brings strength to Scorpios. The

goddess Venus, who symbolizes love and money, has now entered your powerful sign for one month. Libra's eclipse on the second of October is ideal for you to visualize the future that you want and will have.

**Sagittarius** - Fall is a social season for you with partnership oriented Libra at the helm of the heavens. Your guide jovial Jupiter is in Gemini, your opposite sign, placing you in demand. Powerful Venus in Scorpio likes working behind the scenes, a different sort of role for you.

**Capricorn** - You want to nurture everyone who crosses your path this fall, but that urge is somewhat damped down by your extreme work schedule. The eclipse on October second would like to grant you an overview of your busy life with public appearances and rewards arriving.

**Aquarius** - The Sun entering Libra on the equinox allows you to take a deep breath and gain an overview of your complex life particularly in regards to work contracts. The fall season is asking you about your travel plans for the year ahead and most specifically for the season ahead.

**Pisces** - Happy Autumnal Equinox! At this time of harvest, the heavens are also introducing the theme of pruning into your life. Placing yourself in the center of the universe, you are to decide what you want to cherish and bring forward into your future, and what you would like to release.

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

## 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.cityofblackhawk.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>.



### Gilpin County Seniors

**September 19** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park King Soopers

**September 20** - Lunch at Justice Center at 12:15 p.m.

**September 25** - Lunch at Justice Center at 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

**September 26** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

**September 27** - Lunch at Justice Center at 12:15 p.m.

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 303-515-4292 for details. We accept donations for the Senior Fit exercise classes.

### Nederland area Seniors

**September 19** - Busey Brews Live Trivia Night benefiting Nederland Area Seniors, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Busey Brews!

**September 25** - Sit and Stretch Yoga, 11 - 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Lounge.

**September 25** - Lunch: Breakfast casserole, blueberry muffin, broccoli, and a banana

**September 25** - September 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](mailto:info@mountainpeaklife.org). Check out our website calendar for the latest activities and updates [www.mountainpeaklife.org](http://www.mountainpeaklife.org).



### Advertise in The Mountain-Ear

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!



**Saturday, September 21**

CCCIA Pancake Breakfast: \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. Contact Bruce Goodwin to volunteer at 303-642-0529. 7 to 11 a.m. at 31528 Highway 72.

**Monday, September 23**

Nederland Writers: Bring something you are working on to share and get feedback on 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 more information, visit <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

The Mountain Meditation Circle: A free and open group that has been meeting every Monday evening at 6 p.m. for the last four years at 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 at [wittalisa@gmail.com](mailto:wittalisa@gmail.com) or call her 847-890-5262.

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

**Tuesday, September 24**

Wild Bear Story Time: We will read books, sing songs, play and move together, all while fostering early ecological literacy. Join us for fun, friends & community! 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 20 Lakeview Drive in Nederland.

STEAM Club: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math activities hosted for kids grades 1-4 at the Nederland Community Library. Club meets every Tuesday through the end of October. There will be a shuttle running directly from Nederland Elementary to the Library after school and the meeting ends at 5 p.m. Register at <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

**Wednesday, September 25**

Lunch Hour Book Discussion: September's book is Vanessa Chan's *The Storm We Made*. Copies will be available at the Circulation desk. Please contact Jen Matthews at [jmatthews@gilpincounty.org](mailto:jmatthews@gilpincounty.org) with any questions about this book club. 12 to 1 p.m. at the Gilpin Public Library.

Children's Storytime: Join us every Wednesday morning for our Children's Storytime. Most of our children range from 0-5 years of age but all children are welcome. Enjoy stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and

more. A themed craft will follow every storytime. The previous week's crafts are available while supplies last. Start at 10 a.m. at the Gilpin County Public Library.

Game Night: Bring a game, bring a friend and meet new ones! 6 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday at Very Nice Brewery, 20 Lakeview Drive, Unit 112, Nederland.

**Friday, September 27**

Wild Woman Tea Party: Join Vagabond Hikers Club in creating space for your inner wild woman with a walk through the changing Aspens, sound bowl, and reiki exercises as well as a journal entry to close the meeting. 8 to 11 a.m. in Ward. For more information, email [vagabond-hikersclub@gmail.com](mailto:vagabond-hikersclub@gmail.com) or call 720-412-8826.

Build it! with LEGO: Drop in to create and play! Kids can let their imaginations run free while they construct their own creations using LEGO bricks. Duplo and K'nex kits are also included. Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult. All materials are provided. LEGO bricks and creations will remain in the library after each program. 1 to 4 p.m. at the Gilpin Public Library.

Family Movie Matinee: Bring the kids for free popcorn and a movie as we watch a family-friendly film in the meeting room. The feature for this week is *Inside Out 2*. 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Gilpin Public Library.

Art Reception and Outdoor Concert: Enjoy the art of Serene Karplus and the music of the Boulder Philharmonic at the Nederland Community Library! There will be wine and cheese offered in exchange for donations. 5 to 7 p.m.

**Sunday, September 29**

Annual Democrats Picnic: All are welcome to this family-friendly event. There will be a grill going and you are invited to bring a dish to share if you'd like, but totally optional! 3 to 6 p.m. at Very Nice Brewery - Gilpin Taproom located at 180 Jankowski Drive.

Nederland Farmers Market: Enjoy a multitude of different arts, foods, and crafts vendors along with live music right in the middle of town. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 80 East Second Street.

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



## School Calendars

### Nederland Middle-Senior High School

Thursday, September 19 at 4 p.m. - 1st Day IS Girls' Volleyball  
 Saturday, September 21 All Day - Cross Country at St. Vrain Invite  
 Sunday, September 22 at 4:30 a.m. - 14ers Field Trip to Mt. Cameron and Lincoln  
 Monday, September 23 at 4 p.m. - V Boys' Soccer vs Rocky Mountain Lutheran  
 Monday, September 23 at 4:30 p.m. - JV Volleyball vs Two Roads  
 Monday, September 23 at 5:30 p.m. - V Volleyball vs Two Roads  
 Tuesday, September 24 All Day - BVSD District Honor Orchestra at Monarch High School  
 Tuesday, September 24 at 11:45 a.m. - Pop-Up Library at Lunch  
 Tuesday, September 24 at 6 p.m. - High School trip to Portugal & Spain - Student/Parent Informational Meeting  
 Wednesday, September 25 at 9:30 a.m. - ASVAB Testing for Seniors  
 Thursday, September 26 at 3 p.m. - Homecoming Powderpuff  
 Friday, September 27 All Day - Cross Country at Longs Peak Invite  
 Friday, September 27 at 3 p.m. - Homecoming Assembly  
 Friday, September 27 at 4:30 p.m. - JV Volleyball vs Twin Peaks  
 Friday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m. - V Volleyball vs Twin Peaks  
 Saturday, September 28 All Day - Homecoming  
 Saturday, September 28 at 10:20 a.m. - Homecoming Parade  
 Saturday, September 28 at 12 p.m. - Homecoming BBQ

Saturday, September 28 at 1:30 p.m. - V Boys Soccer vs Twin Peaks  
 Saturday, September 28 at 7 p.m. - Homecoming Dance

### Gilpin County School

Thursday, September 19 at 4:15 p.m. - MS Volleyball Home vs Front Range Christian  
 Thursday, September 19 at 5 p.m. - HS Volleyball at Union Colony Preparatory  
 Friday, September 20 at 4 p.m. - Volleyball at Summit MS  
 Saturday, September 21 at 3 p.m. - MS Football Home vs South Park  
 Saturday, September 21 at 6 p.m. - HS Football Home vs South Park  
 Tuesday, September 24 at 4 p.m. - HS Volleyball Home vs Skyview Academy  
 Tuesday, September 24 at 4:30 p.m. - MS Football at East Grand  
 Wednesday, September 25 at 9 a.m. - Late Start Wednesday  
 Wednesday, September 25 at 4:15 p.m. - MS Volleyball Home vs Estes Park  
 Thursday, September 26 at 4 p.m. - MS Volleyball at Belleview Christian  
 Saturday, September 28 at 9 a.m. - MS Volleyball Home A/B Tournament  
 Saturday, September 28 at 6 p.m. - HS Football vs Justice at Boulder High School

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# Statepoint Crossword

## THEME: GREEKS AND ROMANS

**ACROSS**

1. Fountain order
5. Christian minister, abbr.
8. Betelgeuse or Deneb
12. Isaac's firstborn
13. Senegal's neighbor
14. Nobody (2 words)
15. Bangladeshi currency
16. Chopin's creation, e.g.
17. Like thick smoke
18. \*Greek goddess in 1995 Woody Allen movie title
20. \*Mars, to the Greeks
21. Ooze out
22. Edible tuber
23. \*Poet of "Aeneid" fame
26. \*\*"Pair of writing tablets"
30. Outrage
31. A small part
34. European currency
35. Jousting pole
37. B & B
38. Sunni religion
39. Et alibi, abbr.
40. Newspaper VIP
42. First woman, Biblically-speaking
43. Return of disease
45. Washer, during a certain cycle
47. Last month
48. Belittle
50. Taro plant
52. \*Athenian Acropolis tourist attraction
56. Anticipate

57. Black-and-white cookie
58. Small European freshwater fish
59. \*#18 Across, to Romans
60. Big cat sound
61. Future atty.'s exam
62. Work units
63. Tight one, in football
64. Sunrise direction

**DOWN**

1. Facebook owner
2. Quickly, acr.
3. Hundred thousand, in India
4. Sahara's Berber people
5. R in R.E.M.
6. Wash out with solvent
7. Workbench holding device
8. \*Plato's famous teacher
9. Ripped
10. Black tropical cuckoo
11. \*Not black-figure, but \_\_\_-figure
13. Spacecraft's detachable unit
14. W.E.B Du Bois's org.
19. Oxygen-containing compound
22. \*Olive derivative
23. More reprehensible
24. About to explode
25. Kidney-related
26. Exertion
27. Christmastides
28. Have a hankering
29. \*Poet of "Iliad" fame
32. Ocean motion
33. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2

# Statepoint Sudoku

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

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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.*

## Puzzle Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | A | L | T |   | R | E | V |   | S | T | A | R |   |   |
| E | S | A | U |   | M | A | L | I |   | N | O | O | N | E |
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| A | P | H | R | O | D | I | T | E |   | A | R | E | S |   |
|   |   |   | E | X | U | D | E |   | O | C | A |   |   |   |
| V | I | R | G | I | L |   | D | I | P | T | Y | C | H |   |
| I | R | E |   | D | E | T | A | I | L |   | E | U | R | O |
| L | A | N | C | E |   | I | N | N |   | I | S | L | A | M |
| E | T | A | L |   | E | D | I | T | O | R |   | E | V | E |
| R | E | L | A | P | S | E |   | R | I | N | S | E | R |   |
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|   | E | D | D | O |   | P | A | R | T | H | E | N | O | N |
| A | W | A | I | T |   | O | R | E | O |   | D | A | C | E |
| V | E | N | U | S |   | R | O | A | R |   | L | S | A | T |
| E | R | G | S |   |   | E | N | D |   |   | E | A | S | T |

Crossword solution September 12

## Sudoku Solution

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

Sudoku solution September 12

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance.*

— Alan Watts

# Mountain Strong Families - Parenting with purpose



PHOTO COURTESY OF BETSY EPP

**Learning together**  
Mountain Strong Parents in a web of shared strength.

**BETSY EPP  
NEDERLAND**

The first Mountain Strong Families parenting event of the school year, hosted by TEENS, Inc., on September 3, created a warm and uplifting atmosphere. Although some parents initially hesitated, many left eager to return for the next session. During the event, families enjoyed a shared meal, and while children played, parents engaged in meaningful discussions about nurturing social-emotional skills in their children. By the end, several attendees had enthusiastically expressed interest in joining other Mountain Strong parents once a month at Nederland Elementary School.

Mountain Strong Families offers research-based strategies using the Nurturing Parenting Curriculum to

help parents, caregivers, and families nurture their children's emotional development. A vital part of the evening focused on Dr. Dan Siegel's work, particularly his concept of four crucial experiences children need: being seen, soothed, safe, and secure. Parents learned that building these experiences requires specific techniques, self-awareness, and self-love.

One parent candidly said, "After tonight, I feel like it's okay not to be the perfect mom. Hearing other parents sharing the SAME struggles we face at home was so refreshing." This moment reflected the event's overall message - parenting is a journey that requires community, vulnerability, and growth.

Throughout the evening, parents were introduced to the Nurturing Parenting philosophy, which emphasized understanding children's

emotional and cognitive needs. This approach encourages parents to coach their children through challenging behaviors instead of reacting with punishments. Dr. Siegel's teachings remind us that addressing a child's emotions, rather than focusing solely on their outward behavior, is essential for their emotional growth.

Parents learned that children often act out when they feel disconnected from their caregivers. This disconnect can happen for many reasons - work, school, or simply the busyness of life. Reestablishing that connection through mindful and consistent engagement is vital in nurturing a secure attachment in our children.

While functional parenting ensures basic needs are met, nurturing parenting focuses on building a deep emotional connection. This connection fosters empathy, self-awareness, and emotional regulation in children - without it, children may exhibit demanding or dramatic behavior as they seek attention.

One important takeaway for parents was the power of positive reinforcement. Aiming for five positive interactions

for everyone, one critique can help foster cooperation and strengthen the parent-child relationships. Children feel "seen" when parents immerse themselves in their world and respond with empathy.

In today's world, with work demands and distractions from technology, meaningful connections can easily slip away. Parents were encouraged to dedicate "special one-on-one time" with their children daily - this could involve commenting on a child's artwork, engaging in their favorite video game, or simply spending quiet time together.

The next Mountain Strong Families session, facilitated by Chrissy Quinlan and Betsy Epp, is scheduled for October 1 at Nederland Elementary School. This upcoming session will explore the importance of parental self-care, offering parents and caregivers an opportunity to tune in to what they need.

*For more information or to register, please contact [betsy@teensinc.org](mailto:betsy@teensinc.org).*

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# Gilpin Schools celebrate Homecoming with a parade



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

**All dressed up**

The Gilpin County Booster Club makes its way down Gregory Street during the homecoming parade on September 13, 2024, showing off their school spirit.

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

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

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

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



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# Gilpin Homecoming



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY

### How far they will go

Top, left: A Moana-themed float cruises through Central City on September 13, 2024. Right: The Gilpin County School parades down Eureka Street, with the Senior Class of 2025 showing off a colorful mural that reads, "Oh, How Far We'll Go." Bottom, left: Gilpin students at the parade.



PHOTO BY CURT HALSTED

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# Ned\*Ned Trail Fest 2024

CHRISTOPHER KELEY  
NEDERLAND

42 years ago, two community-minded Nederland locals, Kay Turnbaugh and Pat Willis, created an event that is still enjoyed today. On Saturday, September 14, 2024, the tradition continued with the celebration of the Ned\*Ned Trail Fest, with area residents and running enthusiasts arriving in spirited costumes to race a 5k, 10k, or half-marathon course and raise funds for TEENS, Inc.

Each of the three races kicked off from the campus of the alternative school and teen center at 151 East Street in Nederland, with the first, the half-marathon race, launching at 8 a.m.

The 13.3 mile half-marathon course featured an elevation gain of 1,408 feet, and led runners through the center of town, into Old Town, to Eldora Road, then along the Sugar Magnolia, Lookout, Hobbit, and Observatory trails, before heading into the West and East Magnolia trails, coming back into town through Big Springs.

Of the 132 participants in the half-marathon, Sean Daugherty came out ahead with a time of 1:34:28, just ten seconds ahead of second place winner Davide Giardini.

The 10k course launched at 9 a.m. and offered contestants a 6.3 mile course with an elevation gain of 712 feet. The course begins the same as the half-marathon course, but with the Lookout and Hobbit trails omitted, as well as portions of Magnolia Drive and

the Pipeline and Reboot trails.

Of the 78 participants, Patrick Ward won first place with a time of 0:45:19, with Jackson Barcheck close on his tail with a finishing time of 0:45:29.

The 5k course launched at 9:30 a.m. and featured members of the Nederland Middle-Senior High School Cross Country team (Ned XC) competing in the race. Runners of all ages, and also leashed dogs, were able to join in the fun on the 3.14 mile course, which had an elevation gain of 253 feet and led runners through town to the high school and back.

The 5k saw a total of 70 participants overall, with Ned XC athlete Benjamin Weber winning first place with a time of 0:19:52, followed by fellow teammate Amika Begin, with a time of 0:22:12.

As the exhausted runners returned and passed over the finish line, greeted by cheering friends and family, they immediately took advantage of the supplied hydration stations, quenching their thirst and catching their breath. The members of Ned XC grouped together to encourage their fellow teammates as they approached that final stretch.

From 10 a.m. to noon, the Ned\*Ned expo offered all attendees with beers from Oskar Blues, non-alcoholic craft IPAs from Best Day Brewing, and delicious South American street food from San Guchito, who served Peruvian-, Argentinian-, and Ecuadorian-inspired sandwiches and empanadas.

Specialty vendors were also present



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

### Running for Teens, Inc.

Top: Runners of all ages and their furry friends were encouraged to race in the 5k. Center, right: Costumes were strongly encouraged, and these two understood the assignment. Bottom: Benjamin Weber and Amika Begin, athletes on Nederland's Cross Country team, won 1st and 2nd place. Center, left: A competitor poses for his victory.

at the expo, including Boulder-based ROLL Recovery, who create massage technology focused for athletes; and La Sportiva, who design and sell state-of-the-art running shoes. Tocabe Indigenous Marketplace was also at the expo, serving blue corn pancakes and maple syrup, made by Indigenous-owned and -operated suppliers.

While attendees enjoyed all that the expo offered, local bluegrass quartet Colorado Junction String Band filled the air with their infectious sound, bolstering the joyous spirit that the Ned\*Ned cultivated.

The 42nd Ned\*Ned Trail Fest raised thousands of dollars this year, all to

benefit TEENS, Inc., who serve the youth of Nederland and the Peak to Peak region by empowering them with educational programs, as well as the Youth Employment program, which prepares teens with the job related skills and interview practice needed as they venture into the workforce.

For more information on TEENS Inc. go to: <https://teensinc.org>.

For more information about Peak to Peak Endurance and their many community-benefitting programs and events, go to: <https://www.peaktopeakendurance.com>.





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# Birdhouse Painting Workshop brings out local creativity



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

**Local art workshop**

The Gilpin Arts Association held a birdhouse painting workshop on September 14, 2024, sponsored by Main Street Central City, a volunteer group focused on boosting business and culture while preserving the town's historic charm.

**MINDY LEARY  
CENTRAL CITY**

On Saturday, September 14, the Gilpin Arts Association hosted a relaxed birdhouse painting workshop, sponsored by Central City Main Street. The event ran from noon to 2 p.m. and brought together six participants for an afternoon of painting, chatting, and just having a good time.

Attendees had the choice of painting small or large wooden birdhouses, priced at \$35 and \$40. With plenty of colors, brushes, and design ideas on hand, everyone was able to get creative and make their birdhouse uniquely their own. The atmosphere was laid-back, with friendly conversations flowing as people painted.

The workshop was also a fundraiser, with all proceeds going to the Gilpin Arts Association. Central City Main Street, which works to keep downtown Central City vibrant and fun, sponsored the event, showing their support for local art and community engagement.

Gilpin Arts Association, around since 1947, is a local gallery and retail outlet, offering shows, classes, and events to showcase area artists. If you'd like to support the Association, you can donate through their website, send a check, or join in on one of their future workshops.

It was a simple, enjoyable way for people to get together, get creative, and support the arts in Gilpin County.

More information can be found at <https://www.gilpinarts.org/>.

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# Capacity crowd learns about dementia



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGIE YANSURA

**Learning together about something that impacts so many**  
Pastor Ralph Patrick presented facts and tips about navigating the dementia journey.

**MARGIE YANSURA  
ALLENSPARK**

More than 40 local residents filled the Allenspark Community Church fellowship room on September 7 for “Navigating the Dementia Journey: Nurturing the Spirit.” The three-hour event was organized by Ralph Patrick, pastor at Allenspark Community Church and the former regional director of the Alzheimer’s Association.

Patrick is a dementia consultant and provides coaching and companionship through Cardinal Crossroads. Rebecca Chopp, the author of *Still Me: Accepting Alzheimer’s Without Losing Yourself* and chancellor emeritus at the University of Denver, was a co-presenter with Patrick. The program also included “soul collage,” led by Teresa McGuinness.

Patrick explained that dementia is a broad term that applies to many diseases: there are more than 100 types of dementia. Alzheimer’s is the most common form, accounting for 70% of all those with the disease. More than 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer’s, with an increasing number diagnosed each year as the Baby Boomer generation ages.

Although there are currently no cures, there are drugs and lifestyle adaptations that can help dementia patients “live well” with the disease, he said.

Chopp, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s five years ago, encouraged everyone to make sure their doctor includes a cognitive test in their annual checkup. The test is covered by Medicare, she added. “The earlier you get diagnosed, the better,” Chopp said. Dementia progresses differently with each individual. She suggested five steps to take if diagnosed:

1. Accept the diagnosis with a positive attitude while acknowledging that there is tremendous grief that comes with the diagnosis.

2. Build your body to protect your brain through diet, exercise, and sleep.  
3. Take time to create through play, dance, and art, all of which are good for your soul and your brain.

4. Engage socially to keep your brain stimulated.

5. Concentrate on your spirituality – be in awe of all of the wonders around you.

“Live with joy!” Chopp urged the attendees. “Stay as well as you can for as long as you can. Everything you take in is either brain-sustaining or brain-draining.”

Chopp said she is confident that drugs will be developed that will provide a cure and that vaccines will one day be available. Currently, however, the drugs available are expensive and, though they can delay progression, they do not provide a cure and can have serious side effects.

She urged patients to apply to be included in clinical trials, most of which are conducted at major medical centers. The Alzheimer’s Association’s Trial Match is a registry for clinical trials, accessed through their website at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

Patrick said those who are caring for a family member or loved one face unique challenges. “Care partners often feel alone, isolated from family and friends. It is essential for them to intentionally establish a support network, as you can’t take this journey alone.” Patrick provided numerous hints to help navigate this path, such as not arguing; focusing on feelings, not facts; and being intentional about healthy self-care practices. Patrick provides personal guidance for those living with dementia and care partners.

*Due to the overwhelming response to this program, Patrick said that it is his intention to make this an annual event hosted by Allenspark Community Church, at 16 Washington Street in Allenspark. If you have questions about dementia or are in need of further support, contact Patrick at [rwepatrick@gmail.com](mailto:rwepatrick@gmail.com).*

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGIE YANSURA

**Caring for each other**  
A capacity crowd attended the dementia seminar at Allenspark Community Church.

**4<sup>th</sup> FRIDAY NEDERLAND** ART WALK

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# Wild Bear Nature Center builds on



PHOTOS BY SCOUT EDMONDSON

## Celebrating Wild Bear

Above: Donors, construction staff and Wild Bear's board cheer as the nature center nears completion. Below: Turns out foxes enjoy a good sparkling cider toast, too!

*continued from page 1*

ecosystems and wildlife, and to get children outdoors and into nature. Now, she says, that dream has nearly come true.

"We are all nature," Dreeves observed. "Everybody is on this planet trying to survive, right? So, my belief is that we're all in this together, we all have to help each other. And, you know, be as kind and thoughtful as we can be, and to make sure that everybody can access all of the great things that you know, especially what we're offering."

The nature center, located near Mud Lake Open Space just off County Road 128W, will be free to the public while also offering the opportunity for more immersive tuition-based educational programs for children, and fee-based adult and family workshops, destination school field trips, weddings and corporate retreats, and community organizing events.

"I don't know who will preserve the Earth if there's no relationship with the Earth," Dreeves stated. "I

think about what our community did to preserve [Mud Lake Open Space], and then to clean it up. We removed 30 tons of trash, seven and a half roll-off dumpsters."

What's more, Dreeves added, the center will be all-inclusive – meaning that people with disabilities will be able to enjoy the facility's offerings. Students from Title 1 schools, which aim to give kids from disadvantaged and low-income communities more opportunities, will be able to attend the center's classes free of charge.

"Nature needs us, and we need nature," she shared with a smile. "Just having a place where kids can just run and play

in the dirt, and parents aren't saying, 'Don't touch that, come in, you're dirty.' It's just getting people to kind of accept that reality of childhood and that we shouldn't hurry kids out of childhood."

The building itself is meant to serve the community. From its front doors, people will have access to nearly 3,000 acres of open spaces, with stunning views of the Indian Peaks and surrounding ecosystems. It will be completely powered by renewable energy and serve as a resiliency hub for the town of Nederland, meaning that, in the event of a power outage, wildfire, or severe winter storm, people from the community can come to regroup, recharge their devices, and get out of the elements.

Dreeves said that she and Wild Bear's Board of Directors hope that construction on the center will be completed by the end of 2025.

"The trusses aren't up yet, but they'll be up next month, and then we'll have the windows in and the corrugated steel," Dreeves stated enthusiastically. "Then our next stage is the renewable energy campaign, and then all the interior finishing, like getting the stairway done, finishing out the elevator, then all the drywall, all the walls, the lights, and the kitchen. So that will take us through 2025."

Dreeves said that so far, one of the biggest challenges the center has faced has been budgeting.

"I think once you pull prices and contractors and materials and you get real budget numbers, that's when you know what your budget is. That's why they call it a 'projected budget,'

*continued on page 19*

# ELECTION

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# Wildbear

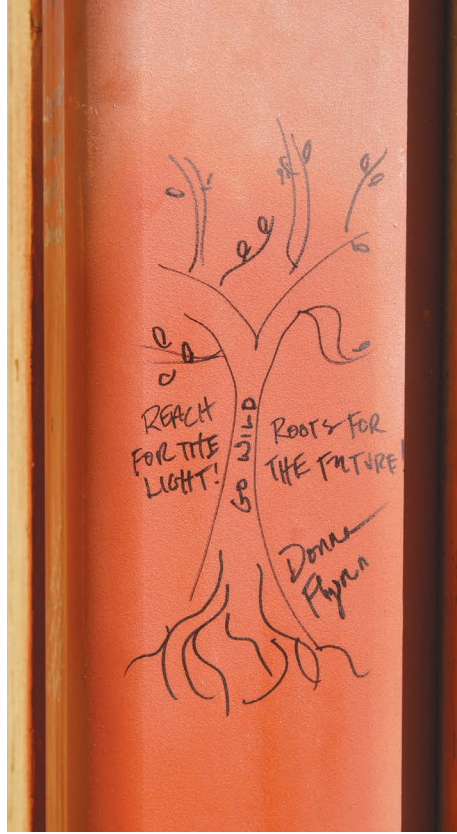
continued from page 18

because you don't really know. And so we had a lower budget, and then it went way up."

Wild Bear needs to raise \$14 million in order to finish construction. The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing supply chain issues put a damper on the center's progress. However, Dreeves confirmed that the organization has already raised \$8 million with the help of major donors from throughout the community.

"We raised \$8 million from a story and a hole in the ground. Donors appreciate knowing that when they give, they can trust you will meet the goal. We are doing just that."

*If you would like to schedule a hard-hat tour of the nature center construction site, go to [gowild.wildbear.org](http://gowild.wildbear.org).*



PHOTOS BY SCOUT EDMONDSON



### Building a future space to learn about nature

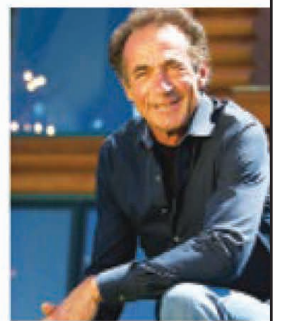
Top, left: One of the insignias on the nature center's steel beam. Top, right: The east wall of the nature center next to a rendering of the future outdoor play space, which will occupy the entirety of the property's eastern boundary. Bottom, right: Charles Rawlins signs the center's beam. Bottom, left: Members of Wild Bear's Board of Directors pose in front of renderings of the completed nature center. Lower, center, left: Admiring the signatures on the nature center's corner stone. Upper, center, left: A scaled-down model of the completed nature center.



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# Discover Colorado

## Greenhouse and art with a beautiful purpose

OMAYRA ACEVEDO  
GILPIN COUNTY

Colorado Mountain Living is a brand that emerged as Amy and Bryan Hager documented their journey of moving to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and building their dream rural homestead.

The Hagers started a YouTube channel to document their journey. Over the past two years, Amy delved into a new creative venture, creating mixed media artwork that combines natural materials such as dried flowers, encaustic medium (made from beeswax and tree resin), and wood.

Amy's art studio is a part of the Colorado Mountain Living brand. Her compositions are literal pieces depicting the Hagers' Colorado lifestyle, in that they contain wood remnants from their home build, flowers either foraged or planted on their property, and beeswax from Amy's beehives.

In late July, Amy partnered with Wild Bear Nature Center to host an "Art in the Wild" class where students can learn in the outdoor environment. Wild Bear Center is a nonprofit organization in Nederland whose mission is to inspire a lifelong connection to nature and community through creative exploration of the outdoors.

Students were instructed in the art



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMY HAGER

### Joyful art

Above: A group of art enthusiasts learn how to create during a Colorado Mountain Living art workshop with Amy Hager.

Right: Wildflowers and reclaimed wood inspire a unique piece of artwork.

of encaustic botanical collage, which involved foraging for wildflowers, creating compositions on wood planks, and sealing them.

Working outside encouraged the students to find inspiration from the natural world. "I enjoy teaching in groups and would like to continue offering classes as part of the Colorado Mountain Living brand," Amy says, smiling.

The Hagers are building a year-

round greenhouse that they hope will become a novel environment in which to teach classes, giving "students a unique experience of being surrounded by verdant botanicals even amid a long winter and chilly spring."

Amy adds, "I want the greenhouse to feel like a magical retreat inside a whimsical and inspiring eco-dome." Inspirations for classes include additional art and botanical collage classes, greenhouse gardening instruction, food preservation, cooking instruction, and recipe development.

Art is found in so many forms. Since my first meeting with Amy and Bryan

Hager, I can't help but see art in every aspect of their beautiful lives.

The public is welcome to explore the Hagers' homestead, art studio, and newly constructed greenhouse dome during this weekend's Studio Tour sponsored by *The Mountain-Ear*. Learn about The Mountain-Ear Studio Tour here: <https://www.themtnear.com/pageview/viewer/studiotour2024>.

To find out more about Colorado Mountain Living, visit <https://coloradomountainliving.net/> or find them on YouTube @ColoradoMountainLiving.



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# Keep it Local: Sole Talk Therapy



LYNN HIRSHMAN  
PEAK TO PEAK

Adding to our area’s rich store of wellness-oriented services, Zoe Lewis of Nederland brings to us Sole Talk Therapy, her wilderness-based private therapy practice.

Lewis had dreamed and planned to start such a program ever since she began working as a wilderness therapy field guide in 2007. Finding that “wilderness is a powerful and necessary force for healing,” she believes that “the natural world reminds us of our interconnectedness with everything that is. It brings us back to our core selves and our true nature.”

Lewis holds most of her therapy sessions actually outdoors, in the wilderness, where she will sit, walk, and talk with her clients in a private, off-trail location. She also offers sessions via Zoom, and in winter she rents office space for working with those who are uncomfortable meeting outdoors.

With her main emphasis on trauma, anxiety, and chronic pain, Lewis finds “that I end up teaching a lot of my clients about their nervous system, about why they’re feeling what they’re feeling from an evolutionary and survival-based perspective, and what to do about it.”

She continues: “A lot of my work centers around helping people recognize their belonging to the human race, to this planet, and to this universe. Every person has within them an intact, healthy, whole self at their core. I try to help people connect with this true self, to help them love and accept themselves as they are, and to help them recognize their own brilliance, beauty, and value.”

Lewis clearly loves her work, telling *The Mountain-Ear* that the best part of what she does is interacting with “Humans! The people I work with are wonderful. I am so lucky to have found my way into this work. I feel so connected to humans because of the work I do. And also, it’s pretty incredible to have my ‘office’ outside in such a phenomenally gorgeous place.”

The future for Sole Talk Therapy, Lewis hopes, will include psychedelic-assisted therapy and integration services. And while she focuses on our mountain community, she will continue offering Zoom sessions for folks all over Colorado.

*To find out more about Sole Talk Therapy, you can check out Zoe Lewis’ website at <https://www.soletalktherapy.com>, or reach her directly at [zoelewis@therapysecure.com](mailto:zoelewis@therapysecure.com) or 435-979-3564.*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ZOE LEWIS

The land around us  
Beauty surround the Peak to Peak area.



This article is sponsored by the Nederland Downtown Development Authority (NDDA). The NDDA encourages the community to Keep It Local. Shop local, spend local and keep economic vitality alive in the Peak to Peak region.



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# Welcome to The Mountain-Ear's Studio Tour 2024

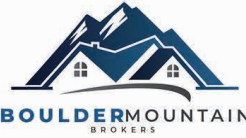
The Studio Tour, sponsored by *The Mountain-Ear*, takes you throughout the spectacular mountains and hills and around the curves of the Peak to Peak Highway to visit local artists and their creations. Our artists work in many mediums, from wood to fiber to clay to paint to photography. Their talent is astonishing and we love sharing it with our locals and guests.

While in the area for the Studio Tour on September 21 and 22, 2024, enjoy the autumn season in the Peak to Peak region from Central City to Allenspark. Every town along the way has its own unique narrative to tell and entertaining places to visit.

Come along with *The Mountain-Ear* on our Studio Tour 2024. Experience the Peak to Peak mountain art and meet the artists who create the art.



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To think about the dog you love and hold him tight  
So happy together

If I should call you up, invest a dime  
And you say you belong to me, and ease my mind  
Imagine how the world could be, so very fine  
So happy together

I can't see me lovin' nobody but you  
For all my life  
When you're with me, mama, the skies'll be blue  
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Come find me at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley, ask for Max:  
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2024 dates:

June 1  
July 6  
August 3  
September 7  
October 5








# Read a banned book!

LYNN HIRSHMAN  
DENTON, TEXAS

Next week, September 22 to 28, is Banned Books Week. The Gilpin County library is “celebrating” by suggesting that we “Live life on the edge and read some banned books!”

Some of us can remember the dark days after 9/11, when the Patriot Act enabled this country’s security services to monitor, among other things, what we were all reading – ostensibly to see who was reading “subversive” material – and our Gilpin County librarians offered, gently, to erase our library records *just in case*.

Today, in some states, those librarians could be thrown in jail for even offering “inappropriate” material to their readers. Teachers have been fired for leaving on the shelves books that have been accused – not proven – of being “inappropriate” for students at their grade level.

It started with folks wanting to keep our young people “pure” – eliminating books that had anything to do with sex, including nudity or discussion of bodily functions. Or profanity. Then it began sliding into the political, with bans against books mentioning anything to do with LGBTQ+ issues. And issues of racism – which, the zealots seemed to assert, doesn’t exist any more in this country.

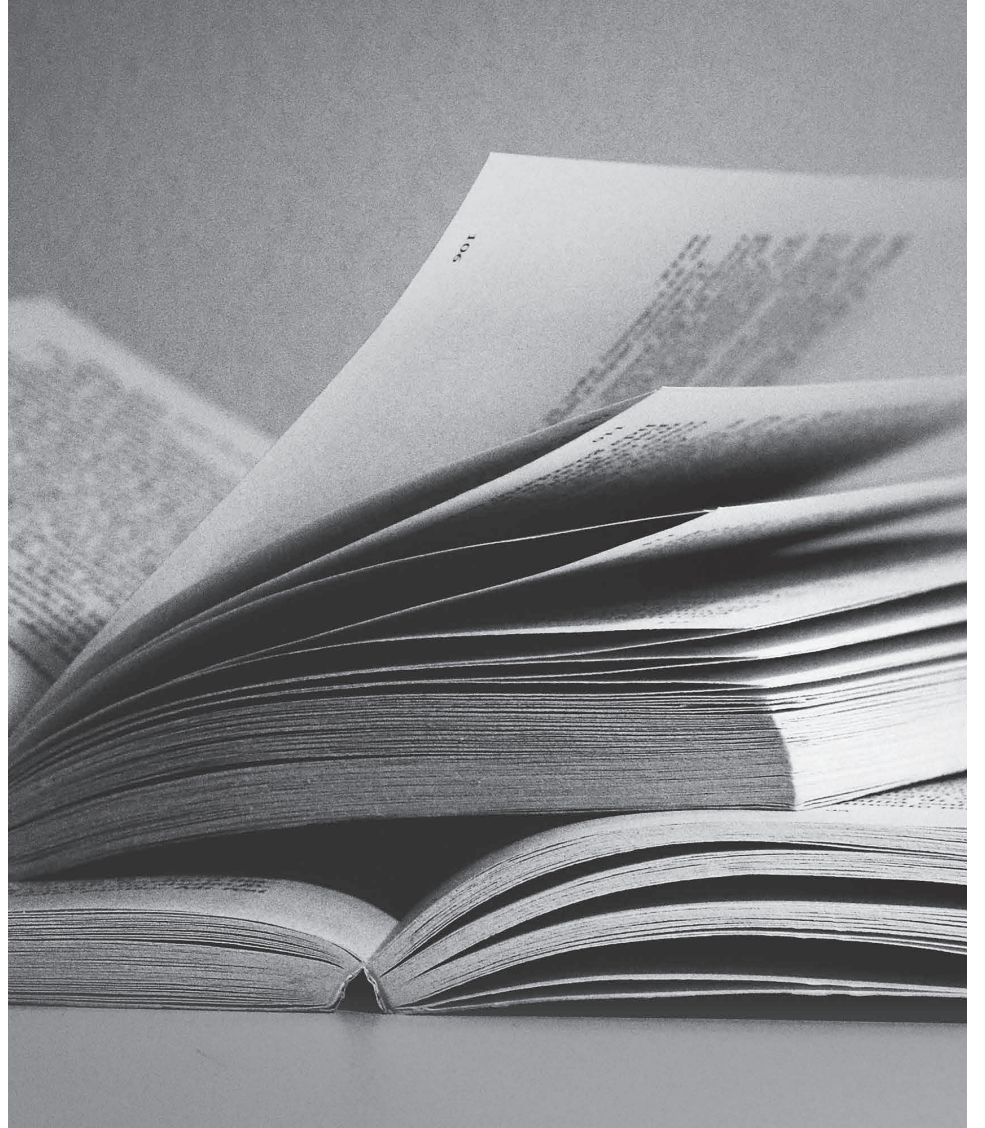
First it was for the primary kids... then the bans were extended to middle schoolers. Too bad if an 11-year-old girl wanted information about puberty – BANNED! Too bad if a curious kid wanted to read the highly regarded

book *Maus*: the mice in the book were – shock! – naked! For shame! Can’t have kids seeing that.

This movement seems to be advancing from two epicenters: Florida and Texas, both also centers for Christian Nationalism, defined by NPR as a movement “to make [our country] great again in terms of being a Christian nation.” We’ve all heard about Florida’s “ban the gay” laws. They are nearly as bad here in Texas. Some Texas school boards have banned Harry Potter books (for “mysticism and paganism”); others, anything to do with slavery. One major complaint was that “the story (*Charlotte’s Web*) portrayed talking animals that can communicate and act just like humans.”

And now, it seems, the corruption has moved on to South Carolina, and turned to Holocaust denial, as the powers there have banned a graphic novel for middle schoolers titled *We Survived the Holocaust* – as inappropriate for their age group.

This prompts the question: when is it appropriate for kids to learn that just one lifetime ago, nearly all the Jews of Europe – including their children – were killed? When should they learn that not all adults are straight? That, until 160 years ago, the ancestors of their Black neighbors were enslaved? And who makes those decisions? Is there a one-size-fits-all answer to each of these questions, as the book banners propose? Or is it more “appropriate” for the kids and their parents to make those decisions?



## SEPTEMBER RECIPES



¼ cup sliced green onions, green part only.  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1/2 teaspoon cumin  
1/4 freshly grated nutmeg  
Additional green onion for garnish

### PREPARATION

### German Potato Soup

Now that we’re getting into soup season, here’s a hearty warmer-upper, easily made vegan by substituting any non-dairy cream (and thickening with cornstarch if necessary).

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- 1 large carrot, diced
- 1 celery stalk, diced
- 1 lb potatoes - approximately 3-4 medium potatoes, ideally starchy ones, like Idahos
- 3 cups vegetable stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons butter or vegan butter
- Zest of 1 lemon

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add onions, cook until soft and fragrant. Add garlic, and stir for about 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Add carrot and celery. Stir and cook for 3-4 minutes. Add the diced potatoes, stock, and bay leaf to the pot. Cover and bring to a boil; reduce to a simmer. Let simmer until vegetables have softened. Pour in heavy cream and butter. Stir until fully combined. Using an immersion blender, puree soup to desired consistency (I like to leave some vegetable chunks!) Once blended, add lemon zest, cumin, and nutmeg. Stir to combine. Stir in green onions and cook for an additional 3-4 minutes. Serve warm. Garnish with additional green onions.

*When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.*  
- Jimi Hendrix

### Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

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

210 N Jefferson St, Nederland  
303-258-3579



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

## Correction 9/19/24

The Mountain-Ear seriously regrets its editing error in including in our candidate statements one from Candidate Marshall critical of Candidate Hollingsworth. We stated clearly that we would not print criticisms of one candidate by another, and we failed. While there is no way we can make amends for this error, we can certainly remind our readers that this issue will be addressed during the Candidate Forum.



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## Public Notice

### Nederland Board of Trustees

At the September 17, 2024 meeting, the Board of Trustees passed Ordinance No. 866AN **ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF NEDERLAND, COLORADO, ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, 2023 EDITION, AND AMENDING SECTION 18-1(a)(6) OF THE NEDERLAND MUNICIPAL CODE**. The full text of the Ordinances are available online at [https://library.municode.com/co/nederland/ordinances/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/co/nederland/ordinances/code_of_ordinances)

# Millennials take on family estrangement

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

“How often do you see your parents?” I asked Missy, a new Millennial client. “Oh, you know,” she answered evasively. I waited, but she didn’t continue. “What does that mean?” I wondered out loud.

“I mean, they’re fine,” explained Missy. “My childhood was OK. No trauma or anything. But they live out of state and I’d rather spend my time off actually relaxing, on adventures, or spending holidays with people I genuinely connect with.”

The Millennial generation (those ages 26 to 41) are the first generation as a group to create very strong boundaries with family members, to the point of cutting ties completely (family estrangement).

1995 brought about the idea of toxic relationships, which older Millennials soon connected with, both personally and professionally. Psychology Today shares research that indicates that one in four people experience estrangement from a family member, and one in 10 Americans have decided to cut off a parent or child.

Sophie, a Baby Boomer (those 60 to 78), was in counseling to understand and implement her legacy.

“I grew up in the midwest on a farm, and my parents were tough, salt-of-the-earth people,” Sophie began. “I thought I had a good childhood until I had children of my own, and then I realized my parents were very hard on us. My father would punish us when he came home from the bar, and my mother was often ‘tired.’ She went to her room with headaches and my older sister and I had to take care of the house—cooking, cleaning, managing our siblings, even paying the bills.”

“It sounds really difficult Sophie. How did you handle your relationship with your parents once you realized the extent of their abuse?” I asked.

“Oh, I didn’t do much,” Sophie paused. “I made sure our kids were never alone with them, but that’s about it. Abuse? That’s a strong word. They had a tough life and didn’t have many resources. But they were my parents. We still spent every holiday with them.”

Millennials and Gen Zers are the most likely generations to go into therapy. The Thriving Center for Psychology survey reports that 55% have attended, and 90% of them believe more people should go to therapy.

In the past, the field of psychology tended to recommend cutting off family members only in extreme circumstances, such as continuing physical abuse.

However, with Millennials coming of age, they began to question the status quo. What if they didn’t want to go home for every major holiday? What if they stopped eating Grandma’s traditional ham and potatoes? What if they noticed after visiting family that their mood was lower, they felt tired, worn out or stressed? What if who they were was continually ignored or even ridiculed?

Millennials remind us that we can value our own mental health over family ties, take the time to advocate for our needs, and to set and follow through on strong boundaries when necessary.

Here are a few tools if we find ourselves in challenging family dynamics and need to make some changes. As a reminder, safety is always number one and needs to be the first consideration!

Assuming safety is in place: 1) Clearly and concisely communicate needs and necessary boundaries. 2) Follow through on boundaries

if they’re crossed. 3) Reach out for support from other family members, friends, and community. We all need a village! 4) Adjust, communicate, and follow through as needed.

Finally, as a Millennial reminded me recently, Baby Boomers can be models of flexibility and acceptance, as they kept the bigger picture in mind when interacting with their challenging family members over the years. Research shows that family

estrangements are not necessarily permanent, and they can range from a few months to decades.

*Where do you need some shifts in your own family dynamics? I’d love to hear about your experiences at amy@peaktopeakcounseling.com, 303-258-7454. You can always find past articles at www.peaktopeakcounseling.com or find us at www.facebook.com/peaktopeakcounselingservices.*



PHOTO BY RICHARD BRANDON

## Mountain boundaries

Winter wood stacks, prepared over the summer and fall and sometimes used to mark property lines between neighbors, can be reminders of healthy, flexible family boundaries.



## 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 **Thursday, October 3 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** at the **Gilpin County Courthouse in Central City** 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 Gilpin County Court House (203 Eureka St, Central City, CO 80427).
- Join via Zoom:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82749556178?pwd=kgnM6kJmlyjRu005LBJp10enEQR9Dx.1> (password: 480706)
  - To participate by phone (no video): 1-719-359-4580, pin 88639942552#, password 480706#

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](mailto:Branden.Ingersoll@state.co.us).

## Public Notice

### Public Library Board

The Gilpin County Library District is seeking applicants for a vacant seat on the Library Board of Trustees. Candidates must advocate for the library in the community and become familiar with the bylaws, budget, policies, and legal responsibilities of a Trustee in the state of Colorado. Terms are five (5) years; an appointee to a currently vacant seat would be eligible for appointment to a new term. Must be a resident of Gilpin County. Letters of interest must be received by October 4th at 5:00PM. Send to: Gilpin County Public Library Board of Trustees, 15131 Hwy 119, Black Hawk, CO 80422, or contact Board President Harv Mastalir at [harvmastalir@hotmail.com](mailto:harvmastalir@hotmail.com). For more information, please call at 303-582-0161.

What has happened to my newspaper? We moved things around last minute for a press change. Bear with us, we are almost there with the new design and printer.

[WWW.THEMTNEAR.COM](http://WWW.THEMTNEAR.COM)

## Public Notice

### LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING

Notice is hereby given that a public Logic and Accuracy Test of the electronic voting machines will take place on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 12 noon in the Old Courthouse, 203 Eureka St, Central City. The public may obtain more information by calling the Clerk & Recorder’s office at 303-582-5321 or emailing [elections@gilpincounty.org](mailto:elections@gilpincounty.org).



# NDDA discusses Development Plan

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY  
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Downtown Development Authority (NDDA) met on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, to discuss the potential of updating their Plan of Development.

The NDDA discussed a proposal from Studio Seed and Progressive Urban Management Association to draft an update to the Authority's Plan of Development for a total cost of \$39,875. The plan outlines the NDDA's vision for downtown development, and was recommended to be updated by consultants Downtown Colorado Inc.

Studio Seed was listed as the ideal candidate due to their current work with the Town of Nederland on the Downtown Subarea Plan, which focuses on development of the Central Business District, which is currently being developed in conjunction with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Board members reviewed the proposed scope of work from Studio Seed, which also laid out the timeline for the project, estimated at four to six months from an initial kickoff meeting, through research, review, and public engagement, all the way to a developed plan.

The questions before the Board were whether to work with Studio Seed for the proposed price, whether to budget for an additional \$37,500 for "optional tasks" such as design concepts and market assessment, and whether to use

an available \$80,000 of the Wayfinding project's budget (supposedly on hiatus through 2024) to pay for the work.

Board members were also asked whether the update to the Plan of Development should wait until the Comprehensive Plan and subsequent Downtown Subarea Plan are completed. The Comprehensive Plan is expected to be completed and approved by the Board of Trustees by February; the Subarea Plan is currently ready for public review, with a presentation planned for October.

There was some question as to whether the NDDA is required to update their Plan of Development at this time, whether enough has changed since the last update of the plan in 2017. Board member Steve Karowe stated his opinion that the cost of the update exceeded the benefits of the result, and felt that the Authority could update the plans themselves with less expansive consulting from Studio Seed.

Board member Scott Papich expressed his belief that, despite the cost and the community potentially experiencing "planning fatigue," the significance of the plan's dictates was important enough for the Authority to pursue it.

Regarding the cost, Board member Everett Nielsen inquired about what deliverables or results are to be expected from the "optional tasks" listed in Studio Seed's proposal. Such tasks include design concepts, which could cost anywhere from \$5,000 to

\$20,000; and marketing assessments, costing from \$12,500 to \$17,500.

Representatives for Studio Seed answered that the results depend specifically on what the NDDA chooses to prioritize, and added that their consulting work includes team building exercises, prioritizing of goals, collaborative work sessions, and focus groups with downtown stakeholders.

There was some interest from the Authority regarding aligning their goals and objectives for downtown development along with the Town of Nederland's own plans. It was proposed that the Plan of Development should be discussed with the BOT during the next joint meeting.

Town Administrator Jonathan Cain also suggested discussing the plan with the BOT during strategic planning meetings, to take place early next year after the Comprehensive Plan update is complete.

NDDA Executive Director Kate Masingale noted that she will be having more one-on-one conversations with each member of the Board over the next month in order to refine the agreement with Studio Seed and to have the matter return to the agenda for next month's meeting.

The Authority also voted unanimously to approve spending \$1,230 from the organization's remaining Traffic and Safety budget to provide traffic flagging services for the Nederland Farmers Market's Harvest Fest event on Sunday, October 6.

Cain reviewed the projected sales tax revenue for 2024, which indicated

the Town was trending below its total revenue from 2023. Cain noted that there are fluctuations in downtown business as some shops close and others set to open, but added that the bump in revenue from summer tourism has only yielded about \$60,000.

"I wouldn't say that we're in a crisis, but we're at a point where we really need to think about the sustainability of this town and where we're getting the money from to make sure it remains a community of people that can live here and can thrive here," Cain said.

Cain explained that with the cost of running a business in the mountains constantly going up, with the Town requiring many needed infrastructure updates, and with the cost of Nederland's contract with Boulder County Sheriff's Office to rise indefinitely, the Town is in need of a sales tax-driven solution to bolster the budget.

It was expressed that the NDDA could assist in the efforts of coming up with solutions, especially with downtown infrastructure such as sidewalks.

The Nederland Downtown Development Authority meets the second Wednesday of every month. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. and will be held online as well as in person at the Nederland Community Center.

For more information go to: <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/downtown-development-authority>.

## Election watch: The State perspective

LYNN HIRSHMAN  
PEAK TO PEAK

While we have focused on local issues – those closest to us – voters are also, unsurprisingly, focused on major national issues. Some of the loudest, in terms of advertising and "politicking," are immigration and abortion.

While immigration doesn't tend to touch us much here in the mountains (though it certainly has affected Denver), abortion is one issue that affects many, if not most of us. For better or worse, we live in a state that has among the most liberal abortion laws in the country.

We are aware, of course, that the right to abortion is under threat everywhere in this country. And one of the proposed amendments to the State Constitution on the ballot this November, according to Ballotpedia, would "provide for a state constitutional right to abortion and repeal provision banning the use of public funds for abortions."

There are a number of other measures on the ballot that also affect our lives here. Here's another: "Remove the provision of the state constitution that says 'Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.'" Again, protecting a right we have seen in practice for years, but which is now under threat nationally.

Proposition 127 would prohibit trophy hunting, something that certainly affects members of our community. Proposition JJ would "allow the state to retain tax revenue collected above \$29 million annually from the tax on sports betting proceeds," which flouts TABOR and would add to the government's general fund.

Amendment 80 puts "school choice" into our State Constitution for good or ill, while Amendment G would expand the property tax exemption for some disabled veterans.

Perhaps the most contentious of the propositions is No. 131, which would "establish top-four primaries and ranked-choice voting (RCV) for federal and state offices in Colorado." This would completely change the way we vote, eliminating party-owned primaries and opening the electoral process dramatically for independents and third-party candidates.

Have you been one of those voters who checks off the top boxes on the ballot and then ignores all the fine print below? This year, it's certainly the time to read your Blue Book and then decide in which direction you want our state to go. One of the most useful changes the election system has made in recent years is to provide us, with mail-in ballots, the leisure of time to research each initiative and decide how to vote. Please use it wisely.

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# Trustees tackle term limit loophole

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY  
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) met on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, to discuss their goals for 2025 and beyond, and the strategies with which to implement their plans. The BOT also continued their discussion of Trustee term limits, focusing on a possible loophole in Town code that would allow for Trustees to serve more terms than legally allowed by state statute.

Trustees received an update from Ayden Eickhoff of SE Group regarding the Town of Nederland's Comprehensive Plan update. The plan is reportedly close to completion, with one more public engagement event planned.

A full draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be introduced at the Public Plan Presentation, scheduled for October 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center. Nederland residents will be able to review the draft plan and provide their comments and concerns regarding the suggested strategies proposed within.

Public relations material, including fliers and press releases, will be rolled out on September 26, and the Comprehensive Plan will be released for view on the Town's website, through the Engage Nederland portal.

Of the nine chapters being drafted, only the Transportation and Utilities and Facilities chapters are still in progress. The Subarea Plan, which focuses on Nederland's Central Business District, is also close to complete and ready for public review.

Eickhoff also noted that the Comprehensive Plan and Subarea Plan both inform several other plans that are in process, including the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Trails Plan, and the Multimodal Transportation Plan

(MTP). The MTP, being developed by Fehr and Peers, directly crosses over with the Subarea Plan in terms of downtown infrastructure affecting economic development.

SE Group expects both plans to be approved and established by the Board in December.

The BOT voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 866, which adopts the 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code, which would require an amendment to Section 18-1 (A)(6) of Nederland Municipal Code.

Resolution 2024-37 was also approved, setting the rates of the Town's EV chargers to \$0.32 per kWh for the level 2 chargers and \$0.50 per kWh for the level 3 chargers, which are soon to be fully installed.

In continuing their discussion of the Town of Nederland's 2025 Budget, the Board was tasked with reviewing a draft for the Town's Strategic Goals for 2025, and to assess the goals based on the projected financial climate of the coming year.

Town Administrator Jonathan Cain presented Town staff's recommendations for 2025 goals, which include economic stabilization and growth, infrastructure maintenance and improvement, environmental sustainability, tourism management and planning, community engagement and communication, and public safety and emergency preparedness.

Cain proposed that, considering that the Strategic Goals for 2024 includes several plans and initiatives that are not yet complete, the 2025 budget should be adjusted accordingly to cover the completion of those initiatives. Following the completion of the Comprehensive Plan, the BOT would then begin strategic planning for 2025 and 2026.

The 2024 goals were reviewed,

with Cain providing Town staff's recommendations as to how the focus on these goals will be slightly shifted going into 2025.

It was noted that, for 2025, the budget may not allow for a 5% increase for Town staff, that "several million dollars" in water and sewer infrastructure upgrades will have to be assessed, and that the Town will be pursuing affordable housing opportunities to fulfill its commitment to Proposition 123, requiring Nederland to develop 13 affordable housing units by 2027.

The successful completion of the Big Springs Emergency Egress project was listed as a high priority in 2025, as was the development of a five-year capital plan, a parking management plan, the Tourism Management Plan, and sidewalk reconstruction in the downtown area.

Trustees commented that a review of the Town's proposed budget for Public Engagement in 2025 is required, as they desired to see financial reports indicating sales tax revenue gained from the Town's planned events. Concern was also raised that the Public Engagement position is being used more for tourism initiatives.

Cain concluded the presentation by highlighting the BOT's calendar for the remainder of the year, indicating the next steps in the budget drafting process. The Board, after discussing Boulder County Sheriff's Office's contract on October 1 and reviewing the water and wastewater rate study on October 15, will discuss the 2025 budget during a Work Session on October 29, and a regular meeting on November 12.

The public hearing on the 2025 budget is tentatively planned for November 19, with the final adaptation of the budget planned to occur on December 3.

Trustees also continued their discussion of Trustee and Mayoral term limits, which was previously discussed on August 6 when the Board was asked by Town staff if an update of their Rules of Procedure should be drafted. The BOT did direct Town Attorney Jennifer Madsen to rewrite the rules at that meeting.

Concerns have been raised by Trustees and members of the public regarding language in the Rules of Procedure that seemingly allows for a Trustee to run for more than two consecutive terms by running for Mayor. Trustee Corvalan expressed her belief that the Town was currently in violation of Colorado state statutes since Trustee Kristopher Larsen had been elected to the Board two years after serving as Nederland's Mayor.

The Nederland BOT's policy states: "no elected official may serve more than two consecutive terms in office, except that with respect to terms of office which are two years or shorter in duration, no official shall serve more than three consecutive terms in office. Terms are considered consecutive unless they are at least 4 years apart."

Trustee Tania Corvalan and Mayor Pro Tem Nichole Sterling presented this discussion to fellow Trustees, stating that the term "in office" is open to interpretation as to whether the positions of Mayor and Trustee are the same or different offices. Corvalan wished for the BOT to express urgency in drafting an ordinance to address the issue.

The question before the Board was whether they wanted to have residents vote on clarified term limits and descriptions of offices in a special election.

Others felt that, due to the cost of holding a special election, the matter should either be held until the Town's next regular election, or be held until after it is determined whether the matter of Nederland becoming a home rule municipality will be going to a special election, so the two issues can share a ballot.

*continued on page 28*

## What's Happening at Gilpin County Parks & Recreation

### Gilpin County Community Center, 250 Norton Drive

[bit.ly/gilpinparksandrec](http://bit.ly/gilpinparksandrec), 303-582-1453,  
<http://www.facebook.com/gilpincounty.org/>

#### Pool Hours

Please call to confirm prior to coming.  
Closed on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
Monday and Wednesday: 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 4:30 - 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.

#### Community Center UPCOMING MAINTENANCE CLOSURE

Facility: Monday, September 9 - Thursday, September 26  
Pool: Monday, September 9 - Tentatively Friday, October 4  
The Community Center will be closed while our roof and pool filters are getting replaced. During the closure: Classes and programs will be postponed;

memberships will be extended. If you would prefer a refund, please come to the Community Center before September 9. After-school Childcare and Eagles Teen programs will move to the Barn during the closure.

Senior Lunch will be held in the Justice Center on September 11, 13, 18, 20, 25. Youth Soccer and Adult Volleyball will run as planned at Pete Gones Memorial Park.

#### Now Hiring:

We are hiring for a part-time guest services representative. For more information and other job opportunities, visit our website <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers>.

#### Eagles Teen Program - After School

Monday - Thursday 4:15 - 7:15 p.m.  
We'll be providing transportation from Gilpin County School and will be running an after-school program from 4 - 7:15 p.m., Monday - Thursday. Daily program is free after \$25/annual registration fee.

#### 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.

#### We're Still Dancing Fundraiser Dance Party and Celebration presented by the Friends of the Gilpin County Community Center

Saturday, September 28 from 5:30 - 9 p.m. held at the Gilpin County Community Center. Ticket prices are per person and includes food and beverages. Adults: \$30, teens (13-19) / seniors (60+): \$20, children (5-12): \$10, under 5: free. Optional costume and dance contests. Tickets available at <https://tinyurl.com/FGCCC-Dance>, in person at the community center, or call 303-582-1453.

#### Spooky Trick or Treat Stroll

Friday, October 25, 5 - 8 p.m. at the Gilpin County Community Center. School Carnival, Haunted Trail, JKQ, and more. A fundraiser for school clubs.

#### 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 - 7 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 Mondays 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.

# Strategic planning at BoCC work session



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

## Incentives discussion

Undersheriff Greg Demo, Finance Director Joe Allaire, and HR Director Chanda Johnson address ongoing staffing challenges at the sheriff's office, namely the six unfilled dispatcher positions.

MINDY LEARY  
CENTRAL CITY

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners held a work session on September 17, 2024, at 9 a.m. to address key issues outside their regular meetings, including discussions on conservation efforts, changes to solid waste management, and updates on recruitment and retention incentives.

John Hannon, the NoCo Places Program Manager, presented on the collaborative efforts of eight public land agencies from north-central Colorado. These agencies are working together to tackle the challenges posed by increased visitation and a growing population in the region's mountains and foothills.

Their goal is to promote sustainable land management, equitable practices, and long-term conservation of Colorado's

public lands while enhancing the visitor experience. The Board expressed full support for the agreement.

John Combs, Director of Public Works, and Sam Bower, Administrative Analyst, proposed the addition of a position in the solid waste department, which is already included in the proposed 2025 budget. The Board endorsed the move, encouraging Combs to post the job.

The discussion also touched on landfill pricing, revealing that Gilpin County's rates would align with those of Clear Creek. To bolster the transportation of trash and recycling, the County is also sending one employee for formal training to obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

While the Board approved the new fee structure, they postponed decisions on the need for a replacement roll-off truck.

Undersheriff Greg Demo and Division Chief Sean Wheeler updated the Board on the County's incentive programs aimed at attracting and retaining employees.

Since the program's inception, \$65,000 has been disbursed to employees in safety-sensitive roles. By the end of the year, a total of \$36,250 is expected to be spent in retention incentives, with an additional \$2,000 in hiring incentives.

Despite these efforts, six dispatcher positions remain vacant, and staffing shortages are often covered by overtime.

County Manager Ray Rears

emphasized the need for incentives to fill critical roles, stating that the County has allocated funds specifically for these positions. However, not all commissioners agreed on the approach.

Disagreements arose over the effectiveness of the current incentive levels, with Demo arguing that reducing incentives would not help reach staffing goals. Human Resources Director Chanda Johnson and Rears stressed the importance of maintaining incentives to attract new hires, though concerns were raised that the program could become a "revolving door" without careful evaluation.

The commissioners agreed to assess the effectiveness of the incentive program over a full year to determine its impact on staffing and applicant attraction. The total cost of the recruitment program for 2024 is projected to remain under \$100,000, with a current estimate of \$88,250.

As the session concluded at 12:29 p.m., the Sheriff's Office expressed gratitude to the Board for their continued support of the incentive programs.

*The next regular meeting of the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for September 24, 2024, at 9 a.m. and will be held in person at the Historic Courthouse, 203 Eureka Street, Central City and online via Zoom.*

# What is Nederland's CWPP?: Part 2

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY  
NEDERLAND

Two weeks ago, *The Mountain-Ear* published an article detailing the community engagement efforts involved in the formation of Nederland's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). This coverage continues with a focus on the many collaborative partners involved in this plan, and what each, specifically, contributed.

The Town of Nederland, Boulder County, City of Boulder, Colorado and U.S. Forest Services, Nederland and Timberline Fire Protection Districts, United Power, The Ember Alliance, and Coalitions and Collaborations Inc. all offered their expertise and worked for two years to draft the CWPP.

The result is a 263-page document that encompasses everything, from broad but definitive information such as the tenets of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, to more localized topics, such as recommendations for each specific zone of the surrounding fire protection district on how to become fire-adapted.

"They are part of the healthy forest national cohesive strategy, not mandated, but encouraged, that counties put in place in fire protection districts," Meg Halford, Wildfire Partners Forest and Grasslands Project Coordinator for Boulder County, told *The Mountain-Ear*, describing the purpose of a CWPP.

"They help us come together and

partner with different agencies to do hazard assessment and really identify management recommendations and actions." Halford has more than 25 years experience developing such plans on a county level, as well as consulting on the drafting of local plans.

Halford's role offered a county perspective, which helped to create a framework on which the Nederland CWPP could be built.

"These plans, especially the county ones, always cover the entire county but with emphasis, in Boulder's case, on everything from 36th and West," Halford said. "But because of population growth and more events happening in urban areas, we didn't just mention the East, we really integrated the East in our hazard assessment and really focused on them equally, and that's normally not done."

On the local level, Nederland Fire Protection District (NFPD) Fire Chief Charlie Schmidtmann and Fire Marshal Andrew Joslin offered their knowledge and concerns regarding the district, life safety during an emergency, and building defensible spaces.

"We're there to bring up our concerns regarding every aspect of the CWPP," Joslin told *The Mountain-Ear*, regarding the NFPD's role in the development of the plan. "Whether it's about how people are mitigating, how well are the homes being constructed, do we have access to water, our concerns for evacuations, and our concerns about access with fire apparatus."

"The first thing is always life safety," Schmidtmann explained to *The Mountain-Ear* about a firefighter's priorities in a fire emergency. These are life safety first, then incident stabilization, and property preservation listed last.

"I'm living proof that you can most likely replace your stuff," Schmidtmann said, having lost his home in the 2016 Cold Springs Fire. "We're not going to jeopardize our volunteers' lives, or anybody's life, to protect somebody's house if they can die doing it, it's not worth it; but we're going to do everything we can up to that point."

"The CWPP takes some of this into consideration, like with ingress and egress routes and what work needs to be done for clearance along roadsides and major roadways."

Specifically, insights from the NFPD inform the CWPP and the recommendations that are offered within. These are recommendations on how Nederland, and other areas in the surrounding district, can align with the tenets of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, which includes becoming a fire-adapted community, ensuring safe and effective wildfire response, and building resilient landscapes.

A fire-adapted community is defined as populations that are prepared to handle all aspects of a wildland fire, from home hardening, routine maintenance and safety measures, to building defensible spaces.

"We look at these big forest mitigation projects to figure out if we can get a large area where there are not a lot of trees that we can go for refuge in case we get in trouble," Schmidtmann spoke of the strategy behind wildland mitigation.

"I think the Forest Service gets a really bad rap about the cutting and the prescribed burns, but they're working on creating a firebreak all the way across this range, across the Peak to Peak.

"A firebreak gives us an area that we can burn off and take the fuels away, so when the big fire comes you can control it and it goes down," Schmidtmann said.

Recommendations listed in the CWPP that focus on becoming a fire-adapted community include increasing fire ban signage, implementing a Community Leader Program, requiring fuel treatments along public roadways, and expanding the sort yard's availability.

Safe and effective wildfire response is defined in the CWPP to mean "all jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions."

To ensure a safe and effective wildfire response, the CWPP recommends mitigating evacuation routes, improving ingress and egress routes, offering training for local emergency response agencies, and funding a Type 3 engine for the Nederland Fire Protection District.

The recommendations for building

*continued on page 29*

# Central honors Clara Brown, addresses community concerns



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

## Concern for community

The Central City Council listens with concern as they learn about the possible chlorine poisoning of a resident's cat from public water. The city has committed to a full investigation into the incident.

## MINDY LEARY CENTRAL CITY

The September 17 Central City Council meeting was marked by a mix of celebration and concern as the council unanimously approved the renaming of County Road Street to Clara Brown Way, honoring a local historical figure known as the "Angel

of the Rockies."

Clara Brown's legacy as a pioneering entrepreneur and philanthropist includes founding the city's first laundry, assisting newly freed slaves, and establishing St. James Methodist Church.

However, not all residents were pleased with the change. During the public forum, longtime resident Barbara Trick voiced her opposition, arguing that the name change would affect her address on Google Maps and disrupt deliveries to her home.

City Manager Daniel Miera assured the council that all necessary updates with Google, the postal service, and other entities were being handled to minimize inconvenience.

Mayor Jeremy Fey proclaimed September 21, 2024, as Clara Brown Day, with plans for a ceremony at the Methodist Church, the unveiling of the new street sign, and opera scenes from "Gabriel's Daughter," inspired by Brown's life.

"This day is about reflecting on Clara Brown's enduring spirit and her contributions to our community,"

said Fey.

During the public forum, former resident Chris Duran shared a troubling account of his cat's sudden death after drinking water from his Gold Mountain Village apartment, with tests showing high chlorine levels.

Duran mentioned similar incidents involving dogs at a nearby campground. The Council expressed concern, and City Manager Daniel Miera promised a thorough investigation.

The meeting also featured the Cody and Shelby Allen Memorial Fund at Red Rocks Community College, which supports local students in the Fire Science program.

Dr. Landon Pirijs, the new college president, announced that the fund is at \$28,000, with a goal of \$50,000. This year's recipient, Angel Delarosa, was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. Mayor Fey pledged to help reach the fund's target by 2025.

The Council welcomed Marc Johns as the new Public Works Director and reviewed the Fiscal 2025 budget calendar, with the first public work session on October 15.

Alderman Kara Tinucci reminded residents of upcoming community events, including the Gilpin County Farmers Market and Halloween festivities.

- Gilpin County Farmers Market on Saturday, October 5
- Fall Foliage and Pumpkin Festival on October 5-6
- 15th Annual Creepy Crawl at Century Casino on October 11, 12, 18, and 19
- Halloween Spooktacular on October 19, 26, and 31
- Spooky Stroll at the Community Center on October 25

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8 p.m.

*The next regular meeting of the Central City Council is scheduled for October 1, 2024, and will be held at Central City Hall, 141 Nevada Street, second floor; or online via Zoom. Information can be found on the City website, [centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings](https://centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings).*

## BOT tackles term limits

*continued from page 26*

Cain added that the earliest a special election can take place is January, specifically 90 to 120 days after the approval of a resolution setting that election.

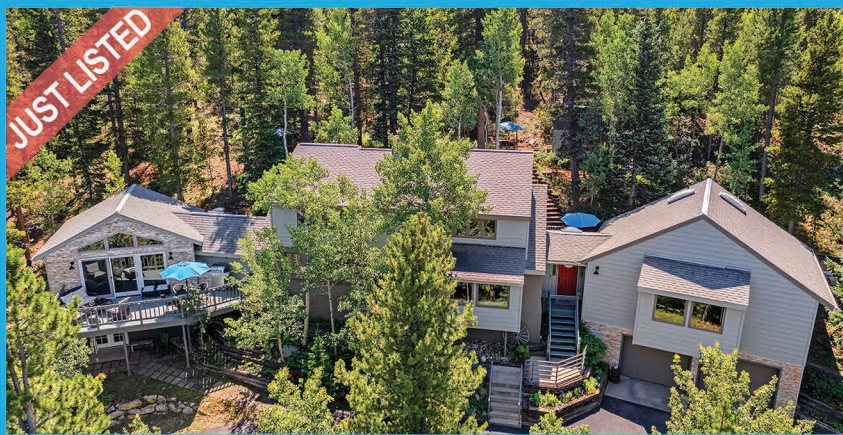
Sterling proposed continuing the conversation during strategic planning discussions after the 2025 budget has been finalized, which the majority of the Board agreed with. Sterling also suggested that, if home rule is eventually approved, Trustee and Mayoral term limits can be included in the Town's new Charter.

The Board approved a funding agreement with Boulder County, allocating \$39,500 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to Peak to Peak Housing and Human Services to be used to create mental health training programs.

A memorandum of understanding was also approved, naming former Town Administrator Miranda Fisher as the person responsible for managing the program for the Town. Fisher is still under contract with the Town of Nederland for consulting work until December 31, 2024.

*The Nederland Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 7 p.m. and can be attended either online or in person at the Nederland Community Center.*

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



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# More on CWPP

continued from page 27

the fire protection district into a resilient landscape include “cross-boundary forest management,” planning fuel treatments, and drafting a Nederland-specific recovery plan for how the Town should rebuild after a wildfire.

“We live in an area where historically there have been wildland fires,” Joslin said, explaining the intricacies of building resilient landscapes. “Lightning would strike and we would get big fires just rolling through, and it created a cyclical ecosystem.

“What we’ve done by residing here is that we’ve put homes in these places that are prone naturally to these events; and what we need to take into account is, if we’re not going to let forest fires roll through here and destroy all our property, then we need to manage the forest in a way as if those things were occurring naturally.”

The Ember Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping communities live with wildfire, provided their expertise in wildfire mitigation and prescribed fire work for Nederland’s CWPP.

“Our role in this project was facilitation and wildfire planning knowledge,” Kenzie Hartt, Project Manager for The Ember Alliance, told *The Mountain-Ear*. “We brought together the partners to share their knowledge and expertise, review the data that we were working with, and make decisions about priority treatment areas based on that data and community feedback.”

“Part of our work with CWPPs is helping map and interpret wildfire risk across a landscape,” Hartt said. “We used vegetation and fuels data from the Colorado State Forest Service’s *Forest Atlas* and combined it with local weather data and topographic data to model fire behavior.”

Hartt detailed the areas of focus in The Ember Alliance’s research, including the length of flame of a wildfire in the

area, the burn probability of the general landscape, and which type of fires are most likely to occur. These include low surface fires, passive crown fires (burning in the tree canopies), and active crown fires (flames jumping from treetop to treetop).

“We also perform a few additional analyses to help understand the impact that the expected fire types could have,” Hartt continued. “We looked at where radiant heat from burning vegetation is likely to affect nearby homes, critical infrastructure, and where embers produced from crown fires might disperse and land on homes and infrastructure.

“We also looked at where radiant heat from burning vegetation could intersect with roads, and where on the roads there might be extra traffic during an evacuation.”

Much of the analysis that The Ember Alliance delves into is utilized to create fire behavior modeling, to show how different scenarios of wildland fire – the size, type, and direction the fire is moving in – impact the community. Hartt was sure to reiterate that such information is not ascertained from just one source.

“What’s just as important is making sure that what we see on the maps matches what we see on the ground, and that we are looking at the risk factors that computer data cannot give us,” Hartt explained how she visited Nederland’s neighborhoods in person with Fire Marshal Joslin, to note the differences in each area in order not to paint Nederland’s CWPP with too broad a stroke.

“For example, some plan units (neighborhoods) had better home hardening but the road might be inaccessible for a fire engine during a wildfire; whereas others had many evacuation routes and hydrants but almost none of the homes had defensible space.”

The Ember Alliance worked directly with the Boulder Watershed Collective,

who are the overall facilitators of the drafting of Nederland’s CWPP, to form recommendations specific to each neighborhood and their priorities and proclivities. Though, as determined by Hartt, an underlying message remained true through assessing all of the Town’s distinct areas.

“Every neighborhood needs better home hardening and defensible space,” Hartt said. “And each neighborhood can benefit from a collaborative group that works together on their defensible space and road maintenance.”

*The Mountain-Ear’s* coverage of

Nederland’s CWPP will continue with a deep dive into how the plan encourages programs about wildfire resilience that can be, and already have been, implemented, such as volunteer mitigation events, joint efforts between fire districts, and community education programs.

To view the full 263 page CWPP, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/CWPP2024>.



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# Black Hawk Council approves historic renovations



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

## Preserving the past

The Black Hawk City Council decided to rehabilitate the historic property at 311 High Street, with the project not exceeding \$1,477,700.32, partly funded by a grant.

MINDY LEARY  
BLACK HAWK

In a sweet start to the Black Hawk City Council meeting on September 11, 2024, Eddie Miller, owner of Hi-Heat & Sweets, rang the ceremonial bell.

Miller, fondly known around town as the “Candyman,” and referred to on their Facebook page as “Papa Candy,” runs the popular shop that brings sugary delights and a touch of whimsy to Gregory Street.

After Miller’s spirited ring, Mayor David Spellman led the room in a moment of silence, paying tribute to the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The council quickly moved into its agenda, focusing on the future of the City’s historic heart. A key area of business revolved around a series of resolutions concerning the rehabilitation of the property at 311 High Street.

Ryan Meredith of WCG Construction and Cynthia Linker from the Community Planning and Development Department presented a detailed proposal for the rehabilitation of 311 High Street.

This project, which has been in the works since the design phase earlier this year, aims to breathe new life into the historic residential property.

The council unanimously approved Resolution 75-2024, authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the existing construction contract with WCG Construction. This amendment will fund the extensive restoration work at 311 High Street, with a budget not to exceed \$1,477,700.32.

The restoration includes both exterior and interior improvements, supported by a Historic Preservation Easement Agreement and a Rehabilitation Grant Program Agreement..

Linker said that the preservation efforts for 311 High Street would

include both exterior renovations, totaling \$1,001,598.61, and interior improvements funded by a grant of \$476,101.71. The preservation easement, once completed, will be recorded with Gilpin County, securing the building’s historic status in perpetuity.

During the presentation, Linker highlighted that the city’s partnership with WCG Construction has been successful on previous projects, like those at 187 Clear Creek and 121 Marchant Street. The team’s experience and dedication to maintaining the city’s architectural integrity were key factors in their continued involvement with the 311 High Street project.

Additionally, the council approved temporary construction easements that will allow the city and WCG Construction access to neighboring properties for the duration of the rehabilitation.

In other business, the council passed Resolution 74-2024, which amends the commercial lease with JKQ Consolidated, LLC, for property located at 200 Gregory Street. This amendment allows the company continued use of a City lot and extends a utility credit of \$600 per month for another year. It also clarifies the City’s responsibilities for snow removal.

The meeting concluded with a slight change to the executive session, with City Attorney Corey Hoffman advising on potential litigation and legislative matters related to City-owned land on Gregory Hill.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at approximately 3:20 p.m.

*The next regular meeting of the Black Hawk City Council is scheduled for September 25, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 211 Church Street, Black Hawk, Colorado.*

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**YOUR AD HERE!**  
Looking to sell or buy?  
Have things you want to give away for free? You can place your classified here:  
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## Help Wanted

**Gilpin County is Hiring!**

**Clerk & Recorder:**  
Deputy Clerk-Motor Vehicle Tech (full time): \$19.13 - \$25.87  
Deputy Clerk-Motor Vehicle Tech (part time): \$19.13 - \$25.87

**CSU Extension Office:**  
CSU Extension - Office Assistant (part time): \$18.36 - \$24.79

**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

**Parks & Recreation:**  
Child Camp Program Leader: \$15.77 - \$21.30  
Sports Official: \$20.63 - \$28.89

**Public Works:**  
Road and Bridge Worker (seasonal culvert crew): \$17.36 - \$23.46

**Senior Services:**  
Senior Services and Transportation Driver (part time): \$15.77 - \$21.30

**Sheriff's Office:**  
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  
Investigator: \$36.06 - \$51.29

See website for most up to date job list and details at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers>

Need plow operator for local snow removal business with large client list in Nederland area. Base of operations in mid Gilpin County. Early morning starts and 10-13-hour shifts possible, plus shop work & equipment maintenance. Starting pay \$30/hour. Call (303) 819-2118 to apply.

Good People Tree Service is hiring. No experience necessary. \$20/hour. Clean driving record, reliable transportation and a good attitude are required. Must be able to lift 80lbs and work outdoors all day in all weather. Give us a call at 303-847-5221 and/or send your resume to [goodpeopletreeservice@gmail.com](mailto:goodpeopletreeservice@gmail.com).

**YOUR AD HERE!**  
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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 luther 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!

### SEEKING APPLICANTS TO THE GILPIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will accept applications from individuals wishing to serve as Gilpin County Planning Commission (PC) members until **October 31st, 2024**. Applicants must be full-time residents living within the county to apply. The PC serves as an advisory board to the BOCC on matters of zoning, land use, and long-range planning matters. The PC is responsible for rendering formal recommendations to the BOCC on land use petitions such as rezonings and special uses. Appointed individuals will serve a term of three (3) years starting in January 2025. The PC holds regular meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Historic Gilpin County Courthouse, 203 Eureka St., Central City, CO 80427.

### SEEKING APPLICANTS TO THE GILPIN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will be accepting applications from individuals wishing to serve as Gilpin County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) members until **October 31st, 2024**. Applicants must be full-time residents living within the county to apply. The HPC serves as an advisory board to the BOCC on matters of historic preservation of lands and structures. The HPC is responsible for rendering formal recommendations and decisions on petitions for alteration to formally designated historic structures and landmarks. Appointed individuals will serve a term of three (3) years starting in January 2025. The HPC generally holds at least one meeting every quarter on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The meetings are held virtually online or in a hybrid in-person & online format at the Historic Gilpin County Courthouse 203 Eureka St., Central City, CO 80427.

### HOW TO APPLY

Individuals interested in serving on the Planning Commission and/or Historic Preservation Commission should submit a resume and letter of interest addressed to the Board of County Commissioners detailing their background and reasons why they would like to serve on the commission. Individuals can email their resume and letter to: [communitydevelopment@gilpincounty.org](mailto:communitydevelopment@gilpincounty.org). We strongly encourage you to check for a confirmation of receipt email from staff after submittal. You can also submit materials in-person at the Department of Community Development 203 Eureka St., Central City, CO 80427.



**We're hiring! The Mountain-Ear is looking for high school interns in the Peak to Peak region. This is a paid position at \$20 per hour or paid by story (your choice). Want to find out more? Fill out our application online: <https://forms.gle/bXp4pjnEcVk38wks6> or email us at [info@themountaineear.com](mailto:info@themountaineear.com)**

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**Beetle Juice Beetle Juice**

After a family tragedy, three generations of the Deetz family return home to Winter River. Still haunted by Beetlejuice, Lydia's life is turned upside down when her teenage daughter, Astrid, accidentally opens the portal to the Afterlife. Director: Tim Burton. Writers: Alfred Gough, Miles Millar, Seth Grahame-Smith. Stars: Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder, Catherine O'Hara. Rated: PG-13. Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes. Genre: Comedy, Fantasy, Supernatural.

September 20 and 21  
Friday and Saturday Evening  
at 7 p.m.

Saturday Matinee at 2 p.m.

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

**750 Highway 72 North,  
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## Current Job Openings for the City of Black Hawk

Go to [www.cityofblackhawk.org](http://www.cityofblackhawk.org) and click on Job Openings for full Job Descriptions, Requirements, and to apply online.

**Hiring Rule for Excellence**

**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.

# Brent Bishop: Surreal Landscapes

LYNN HIRSHMAN  
NEDERLAND

You can see Brent Bishop’s minimalist surreal landscapes during the Studio Tour at 158 E. 1st Street in Nederland.

Bishop tells us that he primarily works with acrylic on canvas or board, occasionally with graphite, gouache, and oils. He’s been painting on and off for about 20 years, and has been a full-time artist for about three years.

But actually, Brent has studied art his entire adult life, receiving a BFA in Integrated Arts from CU Boulder in 2010.

Brent is inspired as he sees “a scene in [his] head,” which is “generally the start of every painting. I’ll get an idea and then do my best to translate that to a canvas.” Most recently, nature has been his main subject.

Come see Brent in his studio this weekend, where you can expect to find he will be “working on some new paintings, maybe doing some plein air painting, and will have my originals to view.” He will also have an assortment of museum-quality archival giclée prints for purchase.

*You can see Brent Bishop’s art during the Studio Tour this Saturday and Sunday, September 21 & 22. His email is [brent@brentcollinbishop.com](mailto:brent@brentcollinbishop.com).*



**Meet the Candidates!**

Friday September 20, 2024  
6 p.m. at the  
Gilpin County Courthouse  
203 Eureka St., Central City

Please join us for the...

## Gilpin County Commissioner Candidate Forum

- Format will be a 5 minute introduction by each candidate (25 min).
- Questions of candidates, which will be selected from questions submitted by email (90 min).
- Candidates chat with the public (30 min).

Questions? Email [info@themountaineer.com](mailto:info@themountaineer.com)  
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