

Leaf season across the peaks

# THE MOUNTAIN EAR

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

## Gilpin coach sees successful season ahead

DAVE GIBSON  
GILPIN COUNTY

After the Gilpin Homecoming football game was canceled due to a last-minute forfeiture by Lake County, the Eagles were anxious to take the field on September 21 against the South Park Burros.

With only one game under their belt so far this season, following a long run by Ryan Marr in the first quarter, Drew Starkey found paydirt with a 1-yard plunge into the endzone. A successful 2-point conversion made the score 8-0. South Park answered with a touchdown of their own. With 1:08 remaining in the quarter, Vinnie Schoell connected with a 50-yard touchdown pass to Landon Church to bring the tally to 16-6 in favor of the Eagles.

Less than four minutes left in the second quarter, Gilpin struck again with a Mason Sechler rushing touchdown. The “thunder and lightning” tandem of Drew Starkey (thunder) and Ryan Marr (lightning) continued pounding the Burros; Marr scored on a wave sweep around the left side and Starkey added the conversion. Marr scored yet another touchdown on a 30-yard run with 2:11 remaining in the half. Both

*continued on page 13*



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

**Eagles tame the Burros**  
Connor Holloway throws a block that springs Vinnie Schoell for a long gain against South Park.

## Quality volleyball every year

DAVE GIBSON  
GILPIN COUNTY

Year in and year out, no matter who the starting players may be, it's no accident that the Gilpin County Eagles always seem to put together a quality volleyball squad. Superb coaching along with multiple seasons of hard work and dedication on the part of the talented players make it so.

With a record of 3-3, on September 18 the Eagles faced the Bishop Machebeuf Buffaloes in a match that could shape the rest of their season. Having lost to them 0-3 last year, the girls were eager for redemption.

Coach “Topher” Rouse noted about the first set that “The girls came out strong and played aggressively. It was a clean game.” Gilpin won that set decisively by a score of 25-14.

*continued on page 12*



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

**Gilpin vs. Bishop Machebeuf**  
Lizzie Westbrook returning serve during a hard-fought varsity home match.

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## THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

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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.



# Tim Hannon

## May 20, 1951 - August 16, 2024



Long-time Eldora resident Tim Hannon died August 16, 2024, at Boulder Community Hospital after an extended illness. He was born in Anderson, Indiana, on May 20, 1951, to Donald and Ruth (McClain) Hannon.

Tim didn't lead a life that is easily encapsulated in an obituary. His life's work was loving the mountains and the plants and animals that lived there, which he did very well.

Tim's parents hoped he would attend college or work in a factory. But Tim did not want either of those things. He wanted to be free, outside, and experiencing the world with all of his senses—a big dream for a kid from a town where few people shrugged off middle class responsibilities. In early adulthood, Tim spent a few years bouncing around the world, looking for his place. He discovered it when he rolled into Nederland in the early 1980s. The vibe, the people, and most of all, the astounding beauty spoke to him. He had found his people and his home.

In the summer, he hiked and hiked and hiked. He knew the Indian Peaks Wilderness trails and lakes well enough to write a guide book, if he were the type of person to write a book, which he was not. He covered great distances, discovered secret swimming holes, and caught many trout, which he shared with the people he loved. On busy summer weekends, he knew where to go to escape the throngs of flatlanders. Every winter, he delighted in watching the snowdrift outside his cabin grow. He loved cross-country skiing up Fourth of July Road and on the secret trails that only Eldorans know.

A person of simple material needs, he hiked with a simple canvas rucksack and a 40-year-old canteen. He rarely bought anything new. He drove a 20-year-old truck that didn't have first or second gear, a back window, or a functional driver's side door. He didn't

care. He loved that truck. If someone laughed at the scratched-up sunglasses that he found on the trail, he'd shrug and say were good enough for him.

Tim's social circle was small, but he was loyal to those who were in it. If a bear broke into a friend's cabin, he cleaned up the mess. If it snowed especially hard, he'd show up with a shovel. If a moose appeared in the neighborhood, he'd call neighbors so they could stick their heads out the window and see it too. He picked up other people's trash, both figuratively and literally, and was meticulous about leaving the wilderness the way he found it.

The last couple of years of Tim's life were marked by the difficulties brought on by illness and age. He saw the worst this world has to dole out at this time, but he wanted to stick around a little longer anyway. He hoped to see the coast of Maine, to vote for Kamala Harris, and most of all, to find a sweet, little cabin in the woods where he would continue to love his mountains. The universe, unfortunately, had other plans.

Tim leaves behind sisters Theresa Hannon of Hanover, New Hampshire, and Christy Lanane of Anderson, Indiana, and several nieces and nephews. He also had several good friends, including Audrey Godell, Todd Buchanan, and Lisa Lopez, who were particularly kind to Tim at the end of his life.

No memorial service is scheduled, but on some sunny day, his loved ones will haul his ashes up into the mountains and release him. The family asks that those who wish to honor Tim in some way, do so by fighting to keep the mountains beautiful and Nederland a refuge for the people who just don't quite fit in the regular world.



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# Peak Perspectives Gratitude

BARBARA HARDT  
BLACK HAWK

First, I want to say a huge thank you to the five candidates that are running for Gilpin County Commissioner. Each candidate showed up for our Candidate Forum, answered the questions thoughtfully and shared a bit about what they'd bring to the county, if elected.

Most of you know, I don't "politic" much. But I do think it's exceptionally important to share all of the available information about all of the candidates. And it's important to do this in a way that is accessible to all to participate. This time, for the first time, I ran a YouTube through my computer to make sure everyone could watch (either during the forum or after). You can find the full recording here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4d91PVubWc>

I felt really good after the forum, like we had asked a lot of the questions that were important to people. There were a few more on the list that we ran out of time for, but ultimately we asked the questions that were asked by more than one person in the submissions we received.

My hope is that between the forum and the previous candidate questions, there is enough information out there to make an informed decision about the

candidates. And that everyone takes the time to vote in this very important election.

Here are the Gilpin County Candidate profiles once again.

Jeff Aiken: <https://www.themtnear.com/articles/candidate-jeff-aiken/>

Jeremy Fey: <https://www.themtnear.com/articles/candidate-jeremy-fey/>

Sandy Hollingsworth: <https://www.themtnear.com/.../candidate-sandy-hollingsworth/>

Corey Marshall: <https://www.themtnear.com/articles/candidate-corey-marshall/>

Marie Mornis: <https://www.themtnear.com/articles/candidate-marie-mornis/>

Beyond the candidates forum, last week was an exceptionally busy week for us at *The Mountain-Ear*. We are training on our new software and website. We are super excited to launch this new site in the next week. The website will be a lot different than what you're used to. It will have a lot more news, more columns, more photos (tons of photos), and more. Don't worry, print isn't going anywhere. We're still here, we're simply spreading our wings a bit to be able to share more with you, our readers.

*The Mountain-Ear is your community source for news, from Peak to*

Peak, since 1977. To reach us, call 303-810-5409 or email [info@themountainearear.com](mailto:info@themountainearear.com). You can also find us on our website at [www.themtnear.com](http://www.themtnear.com), on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/mtnear/>.

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

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Voter Voices 2024

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# Music of the Mountains

## Where to be and what to see



**Nat Lefkoff**

**JAMIE LAMMERS  
GOLD HILL**

Nat Lefkoff has been playing music and writing songs since he was around the age of nine – songs which he now considers terrible. For him, music started as a hobby and developed into a passion, and he performed in several bands throughout junior high and high school. He found himself getting more comfortable performing in local bars and other venues, and eventually, he moved to Washington to attend college, where he became involved in more projects.

Around his college years, he started DIY touring of his own projects, and

in 2017, he released his debut self-titled album. Just before the COVID pandemic hit, he was gearing up to play music full-time after his career as a teacher in the Santa Cruz area. Once the pandemic came, he had to put his full-time music career on hold for a while, eventually getting a job in disaster relief at quarantine centers and homeless shelters.

After some time, he worried he was compromising his dreams for a stable life. However, one day a song came to him in a dream. He recorded the chorus to this song, which ultimately developed into the title track of his sophomore album, *Heavy Lifting*, and took this as a sign to finally play

music full-time.

Over the last three years, he has found an immense amount of support among the musicians he has befriended and performed with, and he still plans on focusing on music full-time for the rest of his life. He cites Neil Young as an early influence, remembering that his dad would play Young’s songs in the car and pause to emphasize great lyrics.

The art of songwriting—the structures, the lyrics, and how the poetry of the song comes together – appeals more to him than the art of music – how the song sounds, what chords are used, etc. – and he performs almost exclusively originals in his shows.

Lefkoff mentions “an indescribable feeling of pride and satisfaction” that occurs whenever he creates a song that sounds good to him. He says it took a long time to get to the point where he felt proud of his writing, but now that he’s there, he feels there’s no other high quite like it. He describes his songs as somewhere between folk, rock, and pop, especially since he can arrange his songs either for a solo acoustic guitar or for a full rock band. He wants his songs to reach other people and touch them in some way, whether through the Internet or in a physical space.

Traveling specifically to play music has allowed him to create memories and play in places he never would have imagined, from a boat in a Missouri lake to a firehouse in New York City on his summer 2023 tour. He hopes that audiences are able to embrace the honesty he brings to each show, and that ultimately he is able to lift weights off people’s shoulders through shared experiences.

*You can see Nat Lefkoff performing live at the Gold Hill General Store, located at 531 Main Street in Gold Hill, on Thursday, October 3, 2024, starting at 7 p.m. This show is part of a tour to support his third and newest album, There You Are, which you can listen to along with his first two albums wherever you get your music. Be sure to learn more about him by going to his website at natlefkoff.com and by finding him on Facebook or Instagram.*

### Music Events

#### Busey Brews

- Sunday, September 29 at 2 p.m. - Dan Williams Trio
- Friday, October 4 at 4 p.m. - Lost Penny (Oktoberfest and 5th Anniversary)
- Saturday, October 5 at 3:30 p.m. - S'moreGrass (Oktoberfest and 5th Anniversary)
- Sunday, October 6 at 4 p.m. - PJ Moon (Oktoberfest and 5th Anniversary)

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 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
- Thursday, October 3 at 7:30 p.m. - Jeffrey Foucault
- Friday, October 4 at 8 p.m. - Deer Creek Sharpshooters
- Sunday, October 6 at 7 p.m. - The Wildwoods
- Friday, October 11 at 8 p.m. - Tone-wood String Band
- Sunday, October 13 at 7 p.m. - Mollie O'Brien and Rich Moore
- Friday, October 18 at 8 p.m. - Hunter Stone Band
- Sunday, October 20 at 7 p.m. - Lily Talmers Trio
- Friday, October 25 at 8 p.m. - Bear Hat
- Saturday, October 26 at 7 p.m. - Covenhoven
- Sunday, October 27 at 8 p.m. - Drunken Hearts

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

*Continued on page 5*

## Music Events

*Continued from page 4*

### Gold Hill Store

Thursday, October 3 at 7 p.m. - Nat Lefkoff  
 Saturday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. - Last Mile Country Club  
 Thursday, October 24 at 7 p.m. - Redd and the Paper Flowers  
 Friday, October 25 at 6:30 p.m. - How About No  
 Saturday, October 26 at 7 p.m. - Hundred Pound House Cat  
 Sunday, October 27 at 2 p.m. - Ella Wren

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 - Jennifer 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 28 at 5 p.m. - NoGo Gilbillies  
 Saturday, October 5 at 4 p.m. - Tyler Ballantyne and Bridgette Spinney  
 Saturday, October 12 at 5 p.m. - Brandywine and the Mighty Fines

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  
 Wednesday, October 2 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic  
 Thursday, October 3 at 7 p.m. - Mercy Clxub  
 Friday, October 4 at 7 p.m. - Free Range Marmot  
 Wednesday, October 9 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic  
 Thursday, October 10 at 7 p.m. - Paul DeHaven and the Patrick Dethlefs Duo  
 Friday, October 11 at 7 p.m. - Derek Dames Ohl  
 Wednesday, October 16 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic  
 Thursday, October 17 at 7 p.m. - Andy Mann  
 Friday, October 18 at 7 p.m. - DAV-

ELLIE Band  
 Wednesday, October 23 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic  
 Thursday, October 24 at 7 p.m. - Ethan J. Perry  
 Friday, October 25 at 7 p.m. - Rachie and the Tramps  
 Thursday, October 31 at 7 p.m. - The Rampart Street Stompers

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

### Knotted Root Brewing

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](https://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  
 Saturday, October 6 at 11 a.m. - Melt and the Family Band  
 Saturday, October 6 at 1:30 p.m. - Atomga

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

### The Caribou Room

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  
 Friday, October 11 at 7 p.m. - Wookiefoot with A-Mac and the Height Night 1  
 Saturday, October 12 at 7 p.m. - Wookiefoot with A-Mac and the Height Night 2  
 Saturday, October 19 at 7 p.m. - Dave Abear's A Very Jerry Band with The Desert Furs  
 Saturday, October 26 at 7 p.m. -

Masquerade Ball feat. Banshee Tree w/ High Step Society

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

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

Friday, September 27 at 6 p.m. - Ella Wren  
 Saturday, October 5 at 5 p.m. - Strangebyrds  
 Saturday, October 12 at 5 p.m. - Kirk Larson Trio  
 Friday, October 18 at 6 p.m. - Jesse Maclaine  
 Saturday, October 19 at 5 p.m. - David Tilmon  
 Saturday, October 26 at 5 p.m. - Reservoir Fog

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 28 at 5 p.m. - Mountain ReVerb  
 Sunday, September 29 at 5 p.m. - Rick Lobato  
 Friday, October 4 at 6 p.m. - Ravin' Wolf  
 Saturday, October 5 at 5 p.m. - Reservoir Fog  
 Friday, October 11 at 6 p.m. - David Tilmon  
 Saturday, October 12 at 5 p.m. - Jesse Maclaine  
 Friday, October 18 at 5 p.m. - Poorfree  
 Saturday, October 19 at 5 p.m. - d'Lovelies  
 Saturday, October 26 at 5 p.m. - Mountain Duo

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

Madi and Fern spend some quality time catching up on current and upcoming events!

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*.

# Fey for Gilpin County Commissioner

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am excited to share with you my platform for the Gilpin County District 1 Commissioner race. Over the past months, I've carefully considered the issues that matter most to our community, and my platform reflects our shared vision for a stronger, more unified Gilpin County.

On my Facebook page, shown below, you will find my goals and plans for addressing key areas such as public safety, economic growth, and community well-being. I invite you to review it, and I welcome any thoughts or questions you may have.

Here's how you can help:

1. Review the platform – Please take a moment to read through it.
2. Share your feedback – Your input is invaluable in making this campaign a reflection of our community.
3. Spread the word – If you support my vision, please share this with friends, family, and neighbors who care about the future of Gilpin County.

Together, we can shape a future that benefits all residents. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Find out more by visiting my Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jeremyfeyforgilpin>.

Jeremy Fey  
Central City



## 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.

## Thank you for supporting the Gilpin County Food Pantry

Dear Peak to Peak Readers,

I am writing to thank you for your generosity and participation in the Gilpin County Food Pantry on September 9.

You gave monetarily, with donations of food and personal goods and with clothing. All of these will allow us to continue to serve our community and support each other.

I also want to thank all of the volunteers for their time and effort. Without you we would not be able to

make these community drives a reality.

I would also like to thank all of the volunteers in the county including our amazing fire fighters, the historic commission, the Gilpin County Planning Commission, the Gilpin County Library volunteers and the many other volunteers that donate their time to make life in the county better for all of us.

Respectfully,  
Roxy Goss  
Gilpin County

# Everyone can help address the climate crisis

Dear Editor,

Sadly, residents of Colorado's mountain towns have already experienced many of the consequences of a changing climate—droughts, fires, floods, mud slides and more.

The question becomes what can be done.

The climate crisis is a global problem, but everyone can help. On a personal front, if you have the resources – investing in clean technologies like well-insulated homes and businesses, solar panels, home batteries, electric vehicles and heat pumps – this helps reduce carbon emissions and sets an example for others.

Not everyone can afford large investments, but everyone can make their voice heard to their local and state elected officials—and this helps a lot. When residents and elected officials

from Colorado's mountain towns speak out, it carries a lot of weight in state matters.

Individuals who care about climate change are encouraged to join (at no cost) the Colorado Coalition for a Livable Climate—a coalition of over 40 groups and many individual allies--by writing [info@colivableclimate.org](mailto:info@colivableclimate.org).

It is also very helpful to see if your community is part of Colorado Communities for Climate Action (known as CC4CA) which brings the voices of local governments to bear on the climate and energy issues facing our state and country. If your community has not joined CC4CA, see if you can get them to take that step.

Importantly, electricity is a large source of greenhouse gas emissions so try to learn what your electric supplier is doing to get cleaner electricity and reduce carbon emissions. If Xcel is

your electricity supplier, let them know that you want them to move even faster. Currently Xcel plans to continue burning coal at the big Unit 3 coal plant in Pueblo (the one Xcel calls "Comanche 3") until January 1, 2031. Pueblo gets the pollution, including particulates, acid gases and heavy metals like arsenic, lead and mercury, but almost none of the electricity. That's not fair!

It is unconscionable to be burning coal in the 21st century—and even worse, Xcel is earning significant profits from this big, polluting coal plant. It costs Xcel's customers over \$100 million a year to keep the Unit 3 coal plant in Pueblo operating. That money is quite literally going up the smokestack when it could be better spent building a low-carbon, reliable 21st century electrical system, including local solar and storage that can be relied on when the

"big grid" goes down.

If you don't want your energy dollars going up the smokestack at the Pueblo Unit 3 coal plant, tell your local Xcel representative and write [boardofdirectors@xcelenergy.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@xcelenergy.com).

Addressing the climate crisis will take everyone's help. Do what you can to make your voice heard and avoid leaving an even greater problem for future generations.

Leslie Glustrom  
Boulder

Leslie Glustrom is trained as a scientist but has spent the last 20 years working on climate and energy issues. She is part of several Colorado climate and energy groups and is a spokesperson for the Colorado Coalition for a Livable Climate. She can be reached at 720-341-3154 cell or <http://cleanenergyaction.org/>.

## Your Real Estate, Property Management & Vacation Rental Specialists



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**Emily Perry**  
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**Lynn Slinger**  
Associate Broker  
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## Deficit spending is bunk

Dear Editor and Readers,

The Gilpin County Commissioner Candidate Forum on September 20, 2024, brought together the candidates and community to hear about the candidate's backgrounds and their proposals for running the county government for the next four years.

While there was some good dialogue and thoughtful comments, there were also frequent assertions that the county was engaged in rampant "deficit spending".

For a family, taking money out of savings to fix the car is NOT deficit spending. Borrowing money to fix the car and then having to pay it back with interest would be deficit spending. When you are making enough to pay the day-to-day bills and are putting 8% of your paycheck into savings for rainy day expenditures, you are not engaged in deficit spending.

The County recovered financially after the pandemic and is spending money from their reserves for delayed maintenance. The County doesn't have any long-term debt or interest paying loans. They are proposing maintenance projects in 2025 to the tune of \$8

million that will be paid off with cash.

Web Sill was a competent commissioner who could work collaboratively with his peers for the benefit of ALL his constituents. In 2021, Sill supported Commissioner Hollingsworth's policy proposal of directing 8% of the yearly gaming revenue to the reserve account to replenish it.

The County is in great financial shape and can continue funding the Community Center next year at the current levels without surrendering our sovereignty to Black Hawk's non-negotiable IGA.

The question I would like to see the candidates answer is whether they intend to support and fund the proposed projects that will come out of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). This is where our real focus should be. I am voting for whoever pledges to figure out how to finance and implement these CWPP projects as fully as possible. I would consider deficit spending to achieve those goals.

Wes Isenhardt  
Black Hawk

## Axe and Snax Chair's letter to the community

Dear Editor,

I do not engage in social media but I'd like to clear up some misrepresentations being posted about the relationship between Axe and Snax and the Rudolph Ranch. Earlier this Spring Corey Marshall and I were chatting about the type of work Axe and Snax did for the Gilpin community.

After hearing of the services we provided and the needs Axe & Snax had, Corey offered his property for wood supply, storage and processing. He also suggested the use of his wood splitting equipment and all ranch facilities to Axe and Snax volunteers in their community service. He never asked for anything in return and nothing political was ever made of the relationship. As Axe and Snax Chair, I recognized Corey's offer as a unique opportunity to satisfy several of our needs. The Rudolph Ranch provides: 1) a sorely needed site to store green wood generated from our mitigation activities; 2) a valuable mid-Gilpin County firewood and green wood storage location, and 3) a large area for the noisy process of

firewood preparation away from county residences.

After seeing the opportunity Corey was offering, I brought the issue up with the Axe and Snax Board and it was unanimously accepted as something to benefit our mission. An agreement was signed which included harvesting some of the Rudolph Ranch trees for our wood supply and a token one-dollar per year lease payment. Since signing the agreement, we have been utilizing the property for green wood storage, firewood preparation and stacking with full unhindered access from the Marshalls. Any communication Corey Marshall has made regarding his relationship with Axe & Snax have only been factual, and nothing more has been represented or suggested.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that the Rudolph Ranch is, and will be, a critical asset to the services Axe and Snax provides to the Gilpin County community and I want to thank Corey Marshall for his generosity in making it happen.

Steve Mornis  
Axe and Snax Chair

## 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).

## Don't fall for the same old tricks

Dear Editor,

There are regular strategies involved in being the party in the opposition. They are tried and true and have been seen in every election cycle for years. Let's recognize them for what they are and see how they are in play in this election cycle for county commissioner.

First, when you are in opposition you do not have to have a vision for the future, just a list of complaints about the present. So you don't have to do the work to come up with specific plans on what to do about issues the county is facing. Instead, rely on platitudes like "maintain a rural or a western way of life". Another is "no new taxes". The problem is without vision then the candidate has to rely on someone else's vision, like another governmental body, on how to resolve the issue. Just take the million dollars even though the county can't force other entities to comply with the intergovernmental agreement. Vision also relies on knowledge and foresight regarding all of the issues facing the county, not just one.

Second, misrepresent the facts. According to one candidate the cost of the food pantry has risen from the 1.3 million dollars as budgeted to 1.5 million and then 1.85 million with no changes made in the budget. Also this number does not reflect the \$650,000 grant approved to help pay for the new annex. Another candidate refers to deficit spending in the budget that might lead someone to believe that the county is in debt. In fact, it is one of only three counties in the state that is not in debt. Deficit spending on capital

improvements now will save money on repairs later that have been put off for years.

Third is projection, or say the other side is guilty of what the opposition side is doing. Push that there is a lack of transparency while holding separate meetings with Black Hawk that other commissioners aren't invited to. Complain about not being on vital community projects that an open invitation is given to attend and participate. Complain that information is not shared when reports have all been shared. Vote against a budget when three months of work sessions were held on the budget and no input given. "I voted against something" is a poor substitute for I worked for something that was important to me and reached a compromise that benefits all. One is politics, the other is good governance.

Then just lie. Sandy Hollingsworth has never said she believes that gaming is a net negative for the county.

When it comes to voting for the Gilpin County Commissioner, don't fall for the same old tricks. Vote for the candidate that will explain how the process is working and listen to your concerns. Vote for Sandy Hollingsworth. While you are at it, vote for the straight shooter that will fight for your interests, Jeff Aiken. They represent good government, not politics as usual.

Greg Petty  
Black Hawk

## Axe & Snax does not endorse any candidate

Dear Editor,

In early July Axe & Snax held a wildfire mitigation event at Rudolph Ranch, owned by Commissioner Candidate Corey Marshall. The project was done as part of a written agreement with the Ranch in exchange for space to store donated wood for future processing into firewood that A&S would distribute free to low-income residents of Gilpin County.

Mr. Marshall has never volunteered with Axe & Snax or contributed without

compensation. Despite our request that Mr. Marshall remove any reference to Axe & Snax in his campaign materials, as of this writing it continues on his website.

To be clear Axe & Snax is a charitable institution with 501(c)(3) status and as such does not endorse or give the appearance to endorse any political candidate.

Julia Shaw  
Co-founder and Board Member of Axe & Snax



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# Economic development, deficit spending and candidate forum

Dear Editor,

The recent candidate forum was an excellent opportunity to dig deeper into the positions the GOP Commissioner candidates are staking out in this election.

First, they are all in with letting the City of Black Hawk dictate to Gilpin County about taxation policy, presenting the IGA with the City as a no-brainer. Take the \$1 million then if the County decides it no longer works, renege on the agreement, as if the County could do that without a \$1 million dollar hit to County revenue plus a hit to the County's reputation as a good faith actor. The RE-1 school district has an almost identical IGA with the City and has been in velvet handcuffs since 2008.

Second, Mr. Marshall thinks that using the excess reserves the County has built up over the years to pay off capital and maintenance expenses is "deficit spending". Any smart money manager will tell you that keeping excess money in a savings account when you have capital expenses that are growing year-over-year because of inflation is not a good strategy. In 2023 the County had more than \$33 million in reserve funds, the 2024 reserve estimate is \$29.9 million after spending on needed capital and maintenance. The 2025

reserve is estimated to be \$21 million after additional spending on capital and maintenance. After 2025 capital expenditures drop to a sustainable level, leaving at least \$20 million in the reserve fund including a six-month reserve and \$4 million for emergency response. This is not deficit spending; it is smart spending.

Third, Mr. Marshall proposed mining and logging as viable options for economic diversification in the County. I wonder how many residents want logging trucks on the roads in the County or how either of these activities would preserve the natural beauty of the County or contribute to its coffers? That was not explained.

On the other hand, the Democratic candidates are focused on improved infrastructure in commercial areas (Rollinsville in particular), small businesses, services for the aging, creative corridor tourism, the recreation industry (bike trails, gear rentals, guided outdoor recreation trips, trail and ski area shuttles), workforce housing to support employment, and other small mountain county compatible economic development.

Sincerely,  
Eric Douglas  
Chair, Gilpin County Democrats



## Gilpin County Seniors

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

**October 2** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Social time

**October 3** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

**October 4** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Vaccine clinic 2 - 6 p.m.

**October 7** - Closed

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

**October 10** - Grocery shopping at Wal-Mart

**October 11** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Social time

**October 14** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

**October 16** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Birthday Party!

**October 17** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park King Soopers

**October 18** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

**October 21** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

**October 23** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

**October 24** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

**October 25** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Social time

**October 28** - Free Senior Fit class 11 a.m.

**October 30** - Free Senior fit class 11 a.m., Lunch 12:15 p.m., Halloween Party!

Foot Clinic, please RSVP

**October 31** - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park King Soopers

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.

## 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>.

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

### 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.

### 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.alwayschoosedventures.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.



**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 [vagabondhikersclub@gmail.com](mailto:vagabondhikersclub@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 County 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.

Fourth Friday: Art, music, specials, artist demonstrations, snacks, treats for the kids, special vendors, carousel rides and more! In the Caribou Village Shopping Center located at 20 Lakeview Drive in Nederland from 5 to 8 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! 2:30 to 5:30 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.

**Monday, September 30**

**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, October 1**

**Quirky Quilters:** Bring your current project and join fellow quilters for a quirky time! Meet in the Nederland Public Library Community Room from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**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 and 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>.

**Mountain Strong Families:** Designed to help build warm family relationships and boost children's social-emotional skills. Includes free family childcare and dinner. Go to <https://teen-sinc.org/mountain-strong-families> to sign up. 5:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Nederland Elementary School.

**Wednesday, October 2**

**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 located at 15131 Highway 119.

**Thursday, October 3**

**Art at the Center Fall Reception:** Celebrate the beauty of fall with art, music and refreshments. Enjoy stunning local pieces, and meet the artists behind them. Don't forget to vote for your favorite artwork! 5 to 7 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center located at 200 Highway 72.

**Friday, October 4**

**CCCIA Open Mic:** On the first Friday of every month from 7-9 p.m., the Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association puts on an Open Mic event to showcase the talent of the canyon. Folks are welcome to perform through music, song, poetry, comedy, stories, and more! Sign up at <https://www.coalcreekcanyon.org>. Takes place at 31528 Highway 72.

**Saturday, October 5**

**Fall-O-Ween:** Gilpin Grateful Acres invites you to enjoy fun activities including a scavenger hunt, caramel apple and cookie decorating, pizza skulls, a haunted trail through the woods, and more! This is an all-ages event hosted from 4 to 8 p.m. at 32 Elk Meadow Lane in Black Hawk.

**Gilpin County Farmers Market:** Enjoy local vendors and live music! From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Gilpin County Community Center located at 250 Norton Drive in Black Hawk.

**Calvary Chapel Harvest Festival:** Join us for harvest games, prizes, and candy, as well as Navajo tacos and jewelry! Fun for the whole family. 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 275 Highway 72 in Nederland.

**Sunday, October 6**

**Harvest Fest:** Come out for the last Nederland Farmers Market of the year! Enjoy more than 60 different vendors including art, beer and spirits, foods, and crafts. There will also be live music from Atomga and Melt & the Family Band. 10 a.m. to 4 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 26 at 3 p.m. - Homecoming Powderpuff Game  
 Friday, September 27 All Day - Cross Country at Longs Peak Invite  
 Friday, September 27 at 3 p.m. - Homecoming Pep Assembly  
 Friday, September 27 at 4:30 p.m. - JV Volleyball vs Twin Peaks  
 Saturday, September 28 at 11 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  
 Monday, September 30 - No School - Teacher PD Day  
 Tuesday, October 1 at 4 p.m. - V Boys' Soccer vs Addenbrooke  
 Tuesday, October 1 at 4:30 p.m. - JV Volleyball vs Addenbrooke  
 Tuesday, October 1 at 5:30 p.m. - V Volleyball vs Addenbrooke  
 Thursday, October 3 at 6 p.m. - PTA Meeting  
 Friday, October 4 at 5:30 p.m. - JV Volleyball at STEM Highland Ranch

Friday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. - V Volleyball at STEM Highland Ranch  
 Saturday, October 5 All Day - Cross Country at Foothill League Championship  
 Sunday, October 6 All Day - Mountain Bike Race at Fruita

## Gilpin County School

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  
 Tuesday, October 1 at 4 p.m. - HS Volleyball vs Front Range Christian  
 Tuesday, October 1 at 4:30 p.m. - MS Football vs Fitzsimmons MS  
 Thursday, October 3 at 4 p.m. - MS Volleyball at Fitzsimmons MS  
 Saturday, October 5 All Day - HS Volleyball at Strasburg C Tournament TBA  
 Saturday, October 5 at 9 a.m. - MS Football 8 Man Jamboree  
 Saturday, October 5 at 1 p.m. - HS Football vs Clear Cree

# Statepoint Crossword

THEME: NBA

**ACROSS**

- 1. Port city in Japan
- 6. \*Team ride
- 9. Nordic native
- 13. Equipped with feathers
- 14. Cigarette deposit
- 15. \*Arena, e.g.
- 16. Not odds
- 17. Hawaiian welcome wreath
- 18. Bone hollows
- 19. \*NBA headquarters location
- 21. \*Bill \_\_\_\_ NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award
- 23. "Roses \_\_\_\_ red ..."
- 24. \*NBA centers typically have long ones
- 25. Tarzan the \_\_\_\_ Man
- 28. Cry like a baby
- 30. 3.26 light-years
- 35. "Off The Wall" shoe
- 37. Living quarters
- 39. Shop \_\_\_\_ slogan
- 40. "I'm \_\_\_\_ you!"
- 41. Got some shuteye
- 43. Comme ci, comme ça
- 44. Brandish
- 46. Ski hill ride
- 47. Contractor's work order
- 48. \*Basketball blocking move
- 50. Swedish shag rugs

- 52. Member of a "benevolent and protective order"
- 53. Kind of cola
- 55. Thrice-repeated dance step
- 57. \*Power \_\_\_\_ position
- 61. \*NBA team with most championships
- 65. Deprive of armor
- 66. Genetic acronym
- 68. Plural of ostium
- 69. Junk yard stuff
- 70. Geisha's sash
- 71. \*Nickname for 61 Across
- 72. Ooze
- 73. \*NBA Sixth \_\_\_\_ of the Year Award
- 74. Type of leaf cabbage, pl.

**DOWN**

- 1. Bun baker
- 2. "\_\_\_\_ me a seat"
- 3. From square one
- 4. Tanzania's northern neighbor
- 5. Not absorb, nor repel
- 6. Refuse to comply
- 7. Wear and tear
- 8. Bake an egg
- 9. Sunglasses "glass"
- 10. Casino chip
- 11. Not knit

- 12. Church sound
- 15. Lord's subordinate
- 20. Good \_\_\_\_, book lovers' app
- 22. Strike caller
- 24. High school math class
- 25. Declares to be true
- 26. Sweat-inducing attack
- 27. Come in!
- 29. \*The Stilt's first name
- 31. David Schwimmer on "Friends"
- 32. Breadth
- 33. Art support
- 34. \*Shot \_\_\_\_, NBA countdown timer
- 36. Cobbler's concern
- 38. Fix a dog
- 42. Vanish without this?
- 45. Abscond
- 49. Conjunction that joins alternatives and negatives
- 51. Inferior goods
- 54. Read-only disc
- 56. Away from port
- 57. Much ado
- 58. One time
- 59. Like pink steak
- 60. Sandwich alternative
- 61. Abel's big brother
- 62. It will
- 63. Give a ticket
- 64. Fresh talk
- 67. \*Commissioned by Adam Silver

## 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 19

## 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	
T	A	K	A		O	P	U	S		A	C	R	I	D	
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	
					U	L	T		A	B	A	S	E		
	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 19

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19						20			21	22				
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60						61			62	63	64
65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



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

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

# Gilpin School board focuses on Board guidance



PHOTO BY WES ISENHART

### Listening intently

Fifth grade student council members (Caden McLain, Jace Parten, Catherine Motchan, Catherine Pirkle, and Blakeley Parten) conversing with school board members.

### WES ISENHART GILPIN COUNTY

The major business at the Gilpin County RE-1 School Board meeting on September 17, 2024, was to meet with the district lawyer in an

executive session to get guidance concerning board member legal roles, responsibilities, and authority.

All the board members were in attendance, with board President Sarah Swanson presiding over the proceedings. Students participated in

the meeting, with freshman Cadince Willis as the student of the month and the fifth-grade student council discussing leadership with the board.

Elementary Principal Patrick Linnehan reported that the new Bridges Mathematics curriculum has been well received by both staff and students.

Linnehan said that the First Annual GCSD Color Run is scheduled for Thursday, September 26. Nearly \$5,000 has been raised to date. The 100 Elk field trip for 4th and 5th graders is scheduled for October 1 through 3.

Secondary Principal Sarah Reich's report highlighted homecoming activities and professional learning (PL) opportunities for staff.

One PL meeting focused on implementing Tier I interventions, like community building circles, building relationships with students, and positive behavior incentives. Reich stressed that the goal is to provide high levels of support for students as well as high levels of accountability.

Superintendent David MacKenzie reported that he is focused on the rollout of the new student information system (PowerSchool). MacKenzie said that he is working with the vendor and staff to make the new system available to students and parents.

The next RE-1 Board of Education meeting will be on October 1, 2024, in the school boardroom at 7 p.m. It will be a Dialogue and Study Work Session. The principals will present 2024 accreditation reports, and the Board will meet and confer with staff.

At this point, the Board adjourned into executive session.

*The agenda and documents for this meeting are on the RE-1 website (gilpin.k12.co.us) under the Board of Education Agendas for September 17, 2024. There is a video of the September 3, 2024, meeting on the GCSD YouTube channel. Click on the link on the agenda to access the video.*

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# Quality volleyball every year



continued from page 1

If those in attendance thought that the Buffaloes were going to surrender peacefully, they were mistaken. Showing grit and determination of their own, Bishop Machebeuf played their way to a 6-point lead. A timeout was called by the Eagles to regroup and discuss strategies. Whatever was

said on the sideline must have worked as Gilpin battled back to tie the score at 15 apiece. Every point hotly contested in a back-and-forth affair, the teams found themselves tied at 24-24. With the pressure on, Gilpin scored twice more to win 26-24. Coach Rouse observed that “The girls were tough and came through. Sometimes you have to win ugly.”

The third set played out more like the first: with cohesiveness, very few unforced errors, and dominance at the net. 25-17 was the final score, wrapping up a 3-0 match victory.

Lizzie Westbrook, Makenzie Marr, and Elise Vincent received serve 14, 15, and 16 times respectively. Overhand hits by the opponent were dug 10 times by Makenzie Marr and 11 times by Elise Vincent. Serving percentages were typically high, with Annabelle Aloel, Faith Ramsey, Joie Sutton, Lizzie Westbrook, and Elise Vincent making major contributions. Elise Vincent and Jiselle Osteboe attacked the net relentlessly, and Joie Sutton was credited with 19 assists.

With no time to rest on their laurels, the Gilpin Eagles headed to Union Colony the very next night, achieving a 3-0 victory. The Eagles record now stands at 5-3 for the season.



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON



### A 3-0 victory

Left: Elise Vincent practicing her sets during warmup. Top, middle: Serving is one of Gilpin’s strengths. Top, right: Jiselle Osteboe at the net. Bottom, right: Joie Sutton bumps the volleyball. Bottom, left: Makenzie Marr in action.



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SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

# Gilpin coach sees successful season ahead



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON



### A 42-12 victory

Top, left: Landon Church heads for the endzone. Top, middle: Mason Sechler grinds the ball up field. Top, right: An Eagle slows down a South Park runner. Bottom, right: Drew Starkey ticks off more yardage.

*continued from page 1*

Marr and Starkey would finish the game with over 100 yards rushing. Score at halftime: Gilpin 36, South Park 6.

Landon Church and Drew Starkey each intercepted the football in the third quarter, thwarting South Park drives. Ryan Hanssen, Ben Bushey, and the rest of the defense stood tall, blanking the opponent during the period. Neither team scored in the third quarter.

For his second interception of the evening, Landon Church picked off the ball in the endzone for a touchback in the fourth quarter. South Park scored a touchdown to make the score 36-12, Eagles. An 80-yard drive by Gilpin capped by a Mason Sechler touchdown run sealed the victory. Final score: Gilpin 42, South Park 12.

From Head Coach Craig Ball: "Our team's recent victory is the result of months of dedication and hard work, beginning with a summer camp in Nebraska where our players laid the foundation for success. The determination and discipline they've shown, on and off the field, have been exceptional, and it's paying off.

"This season, we've added three key coaches who have helped take our team to the next level. Coach Jones, leading the defensive line, has instilled toughness and grit in our linemen. Coach Knudson, working with wide receivers and defensive backs, has sharpened our speed and agility. Coach

Stranally, as our defensive coordinator and linebackers coach, has brought a strategic edge to our defense, elevating the unit's play to new heights.

"Our returning coaches, Coach Sechler with the offensive line and Coach Tanner leading special teams, have continued to push their groups, emphasizing fundamentals and the relentless pursuit of improvement. The strong coaching staff has set the tone, but it's the players who have truly embraced the challenge.

"With increased senior leadership (largest group of seniors since 2017), our captains have a shared understanding that 'Pressure to perform is a privilege.' This team is more focused and driven than ever, and understands hard work in practice translates to success on game day.

"The players are committed to leveling up their skills each week: With 27 players on this year's roster, we have many new players to the game of football. This year's team has a unique prospect of allowing player development by adding a few JV games during the year.

"Our community should take pride in these young men, not just for the wins, but for the countless hours they've put into preparing themselves for success. We are confident that, with their dedication, this season will be one of continued success and accomplishment."

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# Life in Nature: Antlers at dawn

JAMES DEWALT  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL  
PARK

Last week I took the opportunity to get up early and head up to the high country for one of my final visits of the season before the first snow flies. I greatly enjoy the Old Fall River Road in Rocky Mountain National Park, exploring the valley towards the top, and spending time with the elk herd that calls the area home. They are an interesting herd as they are currently being studied because they prefer mostly to stay higher all year round. They don't often leave the park boundaries if they even come down that far at all.

My hopes for the morning were to be up towards the top for sunrise, and while I was a little later than I'd initially planned, I was still out of the car just after the sun crested the eastern foothills. As I was driving up, I had a debate on whether or not to stay low, exploring in the trees, or to head up high and investigate the Krumholtz.

I opted for the high country, and as I was pulling the car into a parking pull-out, I noticed that my call was correct on activity: there was a harem of about 20 or more cows and a few bulls in the scrub willow marsh just below the Alpine Visitors Center on Trail Ridge Road.

Not wanting to get too close and disturb them, but also hoping to anticipate their movement and gain a good angle for photography, I decided to stay high and try to circle above them. As I headed out onto the northern flank of the cirque, my eye was caught by an unexpected sight. There, above the elk and right in my chosen path, was a small herd of mule deer, mostly bucks, with one or two does in tow. While I've encountered lone mule deer that high on occasion, it was surprising to see this small group up there together, especially at this time of the year.



PHOTO BY JAMES DEWALT

I stopped to take in the activity, as while I had been working my way through the thick Krumholtz pines on my approach, the elk harem was being pushed up high by the alpha bull, in an effort to move them away from the other smaller bulls who might try to show some competition. Not trying to be stealthy in my approach, I noticed that all the eyes of the mule deer were cautiously locked onto this lone human emerging from the stunted trees. Since they were well over 100 yards away, they soon deemed me not to be a threat, and continued their meandering morning graze.

I came upon another thick stand of pines, and as I once again emerged on the other side, about 80 yards from the deer, I saw that two of the bucks had decided to square off on a large patch of bare dirt

and began to spar.

I've enjoyed being in the company of many mule deer in my time here in Colorado, and have even had some pretty unique rut encounters with my former muley neighbors on Sunnyside, but I'd never witnessed the bucks sparring or battling. While they were still a few weeks or more away from the beginning of the mule deer rut, like all members of the deer family this time of year, they were obviously a little antsy and anxious.

Like most sparring, it was mostly gentle pushing, but after a few minutes they got a little more "heated" and aggressive. As I've mentioned before, their sparring is just like human sparring, and not typically intended to do harm. Often it is just practicing head/antler placement and moves, with little actual pressure on each other. After one last haughty push from the uphill buck that was a bit more heated than the rest of the encounter, the two split up and resumed their breakfast.

This activity was being carefully watched by two younger bull elk, who were left behind after the alpha drove the harem up the cliff, and they decided to enjoy a bit of play themselves. They too squared off and began their own practice rounds. While the elk rut is in full swing, they showed no real signs of aggression and simply practiced moves.

I came across one of them later on in my trek and learned what I hadn't noticed during their sparring: he had non-typical antlers which left him with only the left antler full, his right just a deformed stump that had grown downward in front of his face. This explained the lack of vigor, and also left me wondering if this might be the same non-typical bull I've encountered a few times in the same valley over the last three or four years.

I continued my journey, leaving all of the previous characters on the grand stage to continue their dawn rituals and headed higher in search of more. While the morning was ultimately not as photographically rewarding as I had hoped, it was still a spectacular time spent with the stunning wildlife who call the high cirque home.

We are truly blessed to be able to enjoy such intimate encounters with our wild neighbors right in our own back yard (or "North 40," as I like to call the national park). Take some time of your own this fall to get out and observe this amazing show of the season that is the elk, deer, and moose ruts!

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

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# Coal Creek Canyon's Fall pancake breakfast

JOHN SCARFFE  
COAL CREEK CANYON

The Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association hosted its annual fall pancake breakfast at the CCCIA Hall at 31528 Highway 72, beginning at 7 a.m.

The attendees enjoyed the pancake breakfast until 10 a.m. The festive meal included pancakes, sausage, and eggs with coffee and orange juice. About 60 people enjoyed the delicious breakfast treats.

Breakfast cost members \$10, non-

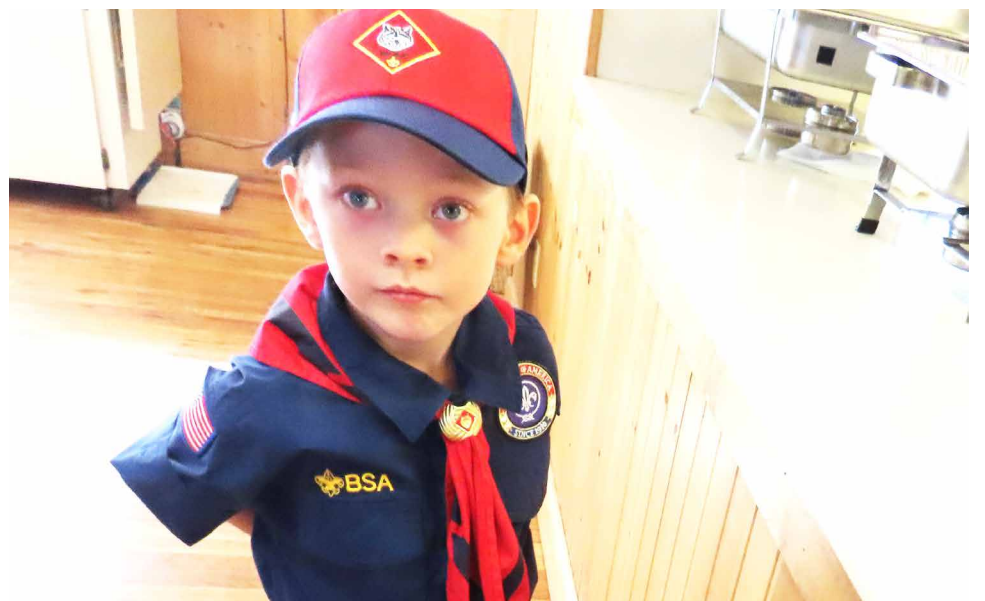
members \$12, and kids \$5. Servers included Bruce Goodwin, Julie and Kerry Sorlie, Norma Cassin and Jeremy Turnmeyer.

The next event at CCCIA will be Octoberfest on October 17 from 5 to 7 p.m., featuring bratwurst and German potato salad. The organization will celebrate Halloween with a movie night on October 26 from 5 to 7 p.m.

*For more information about the CCCIA and its events, go to [CoalCreekCanyon.org](http://CoalCreekCanyon.org).*



PHOTOS BY JOHN SCARFFE



### Fall pancake breakfast

The Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association hosted its annual fall pancake breakfast at the Coal Creek Hall on September 21. Above: Servers included from left Norma Cassin, Bruce Goodwin and Julie Sorlie. Top, right: Servers Norma and Julie with Jeremy Turnmeyer. Below, right: Cub Scout Jude Aron helped serve his community at the pancake breakfast.

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  <p><b>156 Rocky Knob Ln Nederland, CO</b> 3 BED   3 BATH   3,360 SQFT <b>\$1,395,000</b></p>	  <p><b>155 Kelly Rd E Boulder, CO</b> 4 BED   4 BATH   4,664 SQFT <b>\$1,495,000</b></p>	  <p><b>280 Dory Lakes Dr Black Hawk, CO</b> 3 BED   3 BATH   2,386 SQFT <b>\$969,000</b></p>	  <p><b>1861 Karlann Dr Black Hawk, CO</b> 3 BED   2 BATH   2,234 SQFT <b>\$775,000</b></p>

# Studio Tour Recap

## Gilpin Arts Association



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY

### Colorado artists shine at Gilpin Arts

Artwork by Colorado artists decorates the rustic walls of Washington Hall, home of the Gilpin Arts Association. There is every kind of medium here: 3-D, 2-D, mixed media; blown glass, jewelry, fiber arts, photography, etc. The Gilpin Arts Association is currently showcasing its Members' Show, featuring a diverse array of local talent, and is part of the Peak to Peak Studio Tour.

## Amy Hager Artist & Beekeeper



### Wildflowers and rustic wood

A primarily self-taught artist, Hager is upcycling in unusual ways. Her canvas is often reclaimed wood planks, on which she lays floral designs. "Living in the Rocky Mountains over 9000 ft in elevation, the summers are short and the winters are long. I've learned to savor the summer, which includes gardening and foraging botanicals that I save for creating artwork throughout the winter in my studio."

## Litwood & Artisan Friends



### Fractal art

Located in Black Hawk, Jason Flesher sells his fractal art and shares studio and shop space with other maker friends.

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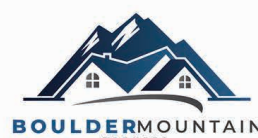
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# Peeping art among the leaves

## Kaleidoscope Fine Arts Gallery



**Just one mandala**  
Local artist WANDERWEIRD has their colorful, nerd culture-inspired mosaics on display at Kaleidoscope Fine Arts Gallery in Nederland.

## Nederland Community Center



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

**Art for the people**  
Just one of the many beautiful pieces to be shown at the Arts at the Center Art Exhibition on October 3, from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center.

## Brent Bishop Art



PHOTOS BY SARAH BANKER

**Translation onto canvas**  
Brent Bishop believes that "anything you can think can be expressed through paint." So it's no surprise that Bishop's studio space, where he displays his minimalist surreal landscapes, is a work of art. He hopes his art inspires people to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us at all times.

## Spinning Silica Art



**Bri Rashbaum loves teaching art**  
Brianna Rashbaum poses with a piece designed by one of her five-year-old students at Spinning Silica Art Collective.

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# Studio Tour Recap Nathan Eigenfeld

## LOLO-Laurence Delaunay



PHOTOS BY BETHANY HAAS

**Laurence Delaunay - Lolo** - has been a professional painter in Nederland for nearly 20 years. She enjoys painting animals and landscapes on large canvases "in a semi-abstract, semi-realistic style." She combines colors, and uses strokes that leave room for the eyes to travel and imagine. "Big Bears and Hummingbirds are my favorites!" she declares. Delaunay hopes Lolo's Atelier is a place "to gather among friends, artists, and art lovers. I am so grateful to live in such a beautiful place called Nederland, surrounded by the most beautiful nature" - inspiring Delaunay every day.



### EigenVision

He calls it "my art through photography from Turtle Island." Nathan Eigenfeld describes himself as "a 3rd generation mixed race adoptee - a Black European-American photographer." After a long journey as an engineer, a heli-ski guide and an off-grid pioneer, Eigenfeld finally settled in our Colorado mountains. As you can imagine, wild landscapes are his specialty. He tells us that "The least I can do is capture my experience as I have felt it, to heal and grow, and inspire others to do the same through my work."

## POETRY CORNER

Some words for the week

green pine  
white sky  
low morning  
yellow dawn  
the splintered heaven  
of light falling through clouds  
I stand in the dirt  
and I look out at the mountains  
and I feel the thin  
ponderosa breeze  
I smell the air and it is sweet  
I'm not sure whether  
to smile or cry  
I used to walk the woods  
and look for answers  
but I was wrong  
for there's no need to look  
to linger to long for  
there is only here  
between the quiet clouds  
and the blush of red  
on the aspen tips

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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# Studio Tour Recap The Ward Art Market

## The Old Gallery



PHOTOS BY OMAIRA ACEVEDO

**Studio Tour Allenspark**  
Artist Malena Hirschfeld poses next to a handful of her paintings near the second floor inside The Old Gallery.

OMAYRA ACEVEDO  
PEAK TO PEAK

The Peak to Peak Studio Tour started with a bang at The Old Gallery in beautiful Allenspark. From 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 21, and Sunday, September 22, visitors explored the amazing work of the gallery's many artists. Live demonstrations and refreshments were among the up close and personal experiences.

## Kathy Bremers paints

LYNN HIRSHMAN  
COAL CREEK CANYON

Kathy Bremers has been painting for many years, expressing her love for the beauty of the Peak to Peak area since 1979. Inspired by "the abundant beauty here in Colorado and the desire to help others connect to our natural world; to foster a deeper responsibility within all of us to take care of our home with love and respect," she's always pleased to share her love of nature. She loves seeing people connect to nature as they view her work. See her work at her studio at 635 Copperdale Lane in Coal Creek Canyon.

*Water color is her passion. Her works are on display in Nederland at Wild Bear, the Train Cars and Kaleidoscope. She can be reached at klbremers@gmail.com and 303-815-3255.*



PHOTO BY JOHN SCARFFE

**Nature and Watercolor**  
Bremers works from her home studio in Coal Creek Canyon



**Ward Art Market**  
The Ward Art Market was underway bright and early with colorful artwork amidst a backdrop of autumn gold.

OMAYRA ACEVEDO  
PEAK TO PEAK

The aspen leaves were not the only bright objects displayed during the Peak to Peak Studio Tour. The town of Ward celebrated the changing seasons with spectacular views inside and outside.

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# Nederland Food Pantry making moves

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY  
NEDERLAND

There's a lot on the horizon for the Nederland Food Pantry (NFP). The Pantry, Community Gardens, and the Clothing Closet – while the community that they serve has grown, they have also seen their efforts energized, their production increased, and have made a three-year commitment to a new location.

The Peak to Peak area is home to many experiencing poverty to some extent, and as rent and the cost of food continue to exceed cost of living increases in salaries, those earning below national average can experience food insecurity and some may even become unhoused.

But just as food banks across the country are seeing a rise in their served communities' populations and to the amount of food delivered to those communities, they're also experiencing a surge in harvest and in donations. The need for such support is ongoing in order to meet the growing demand.

Just this August, NFP served a total of 1,058 individuals, harvested 186 pounds of produce from their gardens, and received 908 pounds of donated food. They also collected 158 cereal boxes and \$378.24, raised in the Love Your Neighbor Cereal Drive organized by the Nederland Community Presbyterian Church.

This outpouring of community support emboldens the volunteers at the nonprofit to continue their efforts in carrying forth the NFP's mission: to relieve hunger and provide basic needs support to the Peak to Peak Community.

And in much the same vein, the opportunity to enter into a three-year lease at 196 West 1st Street allows NFP to continue their mission not merely unhindered, but bolstered. While the inevitable reconstruction of their previous home in the old West Wing of the Nederland Community Center slightly altered the flow of the Pantry's operations, the move to their new location provides a stable foundation for the organization.

Over the course of four days, the contents of the Pantry and Clothing Closet were moved in shifts by NFP Board members, staff, and volunteers – from heavy equipment, to shelving units, to everything to be stored on those shelves. Refrigerators and freezers were scrubbed down and sanitized, while crates upon crates of food and various necessities were stored in their rightful places.

Clothes and shoes from the Clothing Closet's operation at the Community Center were bagged right off of the racks, packed into trucks and vans, and taken on a quick ride down Highway 72 to the new location, to be unpacked and put back on the rack again.

Building 1, on the left side of

the property, is the new home for the pantry; straight ahead on the property is Building 2, which holds the administrative offices. Building 3 on the right is the new home for the clothing closet.

A garden is being discussed for the property, though anything that is constructed must be done so under the provision that it can easily be removed in three years. A generator is also being sought for the NFP's new location.

Additionally, NFP is accepting donations through ColoradoGives for an outdoor walk-in cooler.

For more information go to: <https://www.coloradogives.org/story/6o7r3f>.

With thanks to the many volunteers

who dedicated their time, and to property owner Christian Vanek for his generosity, the NFP is now open for business in their new location, ready to continue to serve those in need across the Peak to Peak.

*The Nederland Food Pantry is located at 196 West 1st Street and is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon. For more information go to: <https://www.nederlandfoodpantry.org>.*

*If you or someone you know is experiencing a food emergency after operating hours, call 720-418-0892 for assistance.*



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KEELEY

### Teamwork makes the dreamwork

Above: Board members and volunteers worked together to move the entire operation. Below, right: The Nederland Food Pantry's new campus is planned to include an outdoor garden space and a walk-in cooler. Below, left: Volunteers got creative to help move the Clothing Closet's many racks.



**NEDERLAND FARMERS MARKET**

**UPCOMING MARKETS**

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# United Power hosts Coal Creek open house



PHOTOS BY JOHN SCARFFEE



### A gathering of neighbors

United Power hosted an open house event at the Coal Creek Canyon office on September 21. Above: New Mountain Area Manager Travis Rodlin has been at the Coal Creek Office for four months. Top, right: United Power chief operating officer, Jen Kulmeann, center attended the event with directors and staff. Center, right: United Power trucks cover the Coal Creek area. Bottom, right: A moose wandered into the United Power parking lot during the event. Bottom, left: Steve Whiteside has been a director for three years.

### JOHN SCARFFEE COAL CREEK CANYON

United Power hosted an open house at their Coal Creek Canyon office on September 21 to introduce their new Mountain Area manager to residents. The open house took place from 9 to 11 a.m. at the office at 5 Gross Dam Road.

For the event, United Power set up a tent outside the office with tables, information about United Power, and free blankets. New Mountain Area Manager Travis Rodlin stood behind the tables, saying that this was primarily a meet and greet to get to know him.

Also attending were Director Steve Whiteside, a director for three years, who lives off Gross Dam Road; Tamara Waltemath, director for eight years; Stephen Douglas, who also is mayor of Commerce City; and Jen Kulmeann, Chief Operating Officer. Douglas pointed out that it is important for United Power to put on events where the people are.

While Rodlin has been with United Power for 18 years, he has now been at the Coal Creek Office for four months.

He went to Brighton High School and started working for United Power in high school doing meter readings. He then became a lineman and journeyed out in 2016. In 2022, he became an operations assistant and in June of 2024 came to Coal Creek.

Rodlin said that United Power has a total of 200 employees and covers 6,923

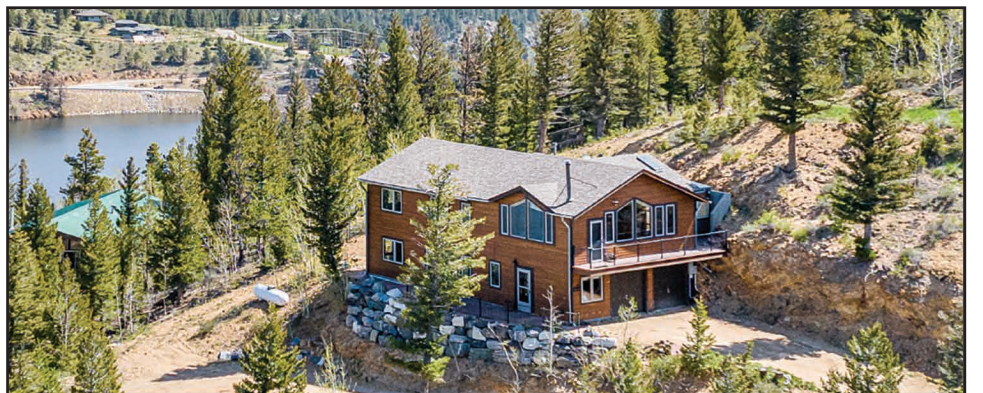
square miles. He has seven employees in the Coal Creek Office, with one four-man crew. No one is in the office full-time, but he has a part-time project coordinator, Heidi Story, who is the Communications Director. He likes to get communities involved in their efforts to keep the power flowing.

United Power is also trying to inform members about the innovative fire mitigation strategy the cooperative has been implementing over the past several years, and the latest improvements to the plan. They try to keep members and their property safe from potential fire hazards. "The peak up here is in the winter, when people are running their heaters," Rodlin noted.

He continued, "Our trimming is never done. We don't have the resources." United Power will trim 10 feet to each side of a power line. They just finished a project in Lincoln Hills replacing old conductors with plastic ones. This should keep lines from starting fires if trees fall on them.

United Power recently celebrated its 85th anniversary. The Union Rural Electric Association first started in 1936. In 1946 and 1947, the first distribution lines were set up in Coal Creek Canyon. The Crescent Village office opened in 1973 in the former post office and store.

For more information about United Power, go to [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com).



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# Clara Brown's legacy honored in Central City



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY

### Honoring Clara Brown's legacy

Top, left: Central City Opera singers perform scenes from *Gabriel's Daughter*, an opera based on the life of Clara Brown. Bottom, right: A visitor is captivated by the history of St. James United Methodist Church. Bottom, left: Central City Mayor Jeremy Fey proudly reveals the new street sign, Clara Brown Way, on September 21, 2024.

### MINDY LEARY CENTRAL CITY

In a touching ceremony on Saturday, September 21, 2024, Clara Brown, one of Colorado's most significant historical figures, was honored with the renaming of County Road Street to "Clara Brown Way."

The event, held in front of a small crowd near St. James Church, was led

by Central City Mayor Jeremy Fey, who proudly unveiled the new street sign. The gesture marked a symbolic acknowledgment of Brown's enduring legacy as a former enslaved woman who became a community leader, philanthropist, and one of Colorado's earliest African American pioneers.

Mayor Fey climbed onto a chair to remove the black cloth, revealing the shiny new sign.

The proclamation praised Brown's "incredible spirit, perseverance, and generosity," recognizing her success in business and real estate, and her efforts to support the community and help formerly enslaved individuals settle in Colorado.

The crowd applauded as "Clara Brown Way" was officially revealed, replacing the rather prosaically named "County Road Street."

Brown arrived in Central City during the Gold Rush and established a successful laundry business. Through her hard work, she became one of the wealthiest women in the region.

Her contributions extended far beyond business; she played an essential role in building up the community, even helping to establish what would become St. James Church in 1859, the oldest Protestant congregation in Colorado still using its original building.

According to Pastor Jack Van Son, who has led St. James Church since 2022, Clara Brown wasn't just a member of the church, but a driving force behind its construction.

"She funded nearly half of the building costs and rallied the community to support it," Van Son explained during the ceremony. He noted that Brown, along with fellow former slave Jeremiah Lee, laid the foundations – both financially and spiritually – for the church, a legacy that still resonates today.

After her freedom, Brown worked tirelessly to reunite with her family, help former slaves relocate to Colorado, and contribute to her community. Her generosity made her a beloved figure, not just in Central City but across the state.

Following the unveiling, attendees gathered at the nearby Teller House garden for a special performance by the Central City Opera. The opera company performed scenes from *Gabriel's Daughter*, a production inspired by Brown's life.

The opera captures her incredible journey from enslavement to entrepreneurship, as well as her faith and determination. Composed by Henry Mollicone, *Gabriel's Daughter* debuted at the Central City Opera in 2003 and tells the powerful story of Brown's quest to find her daughter and her role as a symbol of hope and resilience during Colorado's early days.

Mayor Fey expressed deep pride in renaming the street and said that Clara Brown's life is woven into the fabric of Central City.

The street renaming, along with the opera performance, served as a profound reminder of Brown's lasting impact on Central City and Colorado as a whole.

With the new street sign now standing tall, Clara Brown's name will be a visible reminder of her enduring legacy for all who pass through – ensuring that her story will never be forgotten.



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Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6

**15TH ANNUAL CREEPY CRAWL**  
Friday, October 11, Saturday, October 12, Friday, October 18, and Saturday, October 19

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**SPOOKY STROLL**  
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# Moratorium approved for large house applications

JOHN SCARFFE  
BOULDER COUNTY

The Boulder County Board of Commissioners approved a six-month moratorium on applications for houses in unincorporated Boulder County with a proposed size over the median residential floor area for a defined neighborhood during their regular meeting on September 17, 2024, at the Boulder County Courthouse.

Commissioners attending were Chair Ashley Stolzmann, County Commissioner Claire Levy and County Commissioner Marta Loachamin.

The Board addressed the request for a six-month moratorium on applications for houses with a proposed size over the median residential floor area for a defined neighborhood in unincorporated Boulder County. Due to concerns about the impact on sustainability and assessed values of increasing house sizes in unincorporated Boulder County, the Board considered changes to the Site Plan Review (SPR) regulations to help address neighborhood character, sustainability and affordability.

Currently, the Land Use Code allows residential development up to 125 percent of the median residential floor area for a defined neighborhood and, in some cases, development over this presumed size limitation. The temporary moratorium will provide for certain limited exceptions, to include allowing applicants who are already in the process to continue their review, and permitting property owners to rebuild a residential structure that has been damaged or destroyed by causes outside of their control. The moratorium will remain in effect while staff update the existing SPR regulations.

The Commissioners heard a Community Planning & Permitting Department request for authorization of the Boulder County Land Use Code for Text Amendments. Boulder County staff member Ethan Abner, long-range planner for the Planning

and Permitting Department, asked how can we use this tool as they develop this specific amendment.

In response, he was told that the department can get public comment and community engagement. They can have a zoom webinar posted ahead of time.

Commissioner Loachamin said this is very important, and it is important to continue to look into this. Commissioner Levy said that this authorizes staff to get a lot of data. People want to know what the rules are. This is important because of the size of the house and its cost.

The Board approved the request.

The County Attorney's Office wrote "Staff intend the text amendments to address concerns with increasing home sizes in unincorporated Boulder County. The temporary moratorium will allow time to formulate and publicly review necessary amendments to the code regarding residential structure size in the unincorporated county while avoiding development which may run counter to the purpose and intent of the proposed amendments.

"The moratorium is proposed to begin immediately on the date of this hearing and remain in place for six months, or until code amendments are adopted or the moratorium is extended by further resolution. Per the proposed moratorium, the Community Planning & Permitting Department will not accept building permit applications or applications under Article 4 of the code after today's date.

"Staff request BOCC approval of a temporary moratorium on processing new applications for residential development over the median Residential Floor Area within the defined neighborhood in the unincorporated county pending consideration of the Boulder County Land Use Code amendments."

Ethan Abner and Assistant County Attorney Erica Rogers presented the request for the moratorium. Rogers said that with the proposed moratorium,

the text amendments will address time to do research. The moratorium will begin immediately and continue for six months. They are requesting approval.

Abner said the moratorium will apply only to applications over the median. If an application has already been submitted, then "you are good to go." The amendment would allow people to go through Site Plan Review.

Levy asked if staff does regular check-ins for people who are active. Abner said they don't do that; it's up to the property owner. The department gets 100 to 110 applications per year. The best guesstimate – conservative estimate – is that they will receive 30 to 45 applications from now to the end of the year.

Abner said the effective date can change to give applicants a month to come through the process if they have had pre-app conference. The entire process can be completed in six months.

Loachamin said the timing is complicated, but she is interested in January 17 through March 17, which would give six months if the community wants to be involved.

Chair Stolzmann said we are all on the same page. The discussion was fantastic, she said, and we should change the effective date.

She moved to approve the temporary moratorium per the resolution, but to change the effective date to January 17, 2025. Loachamin seconded it.

Levy said she can't support it. It doesn't give applicants a fair opportunity. She supports the project and goals but doesn't like the way this is worded.

*The motion passed on a 2-1 vote. For more information, go to Public Meetings and Webstream - Boulder County.*

*There is someone out there that still remembers you because you were kind to them when no one else was. Never stop being that person.*

## Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

Online sermons are available at

<https://www.nederlandpres.org/>

210 N Jefferson St, Nederland  
303-258-3579



## 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://bouldercountyyaa.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://bouldercountyyaa.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://bouldercountyyaa.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://bouldercountyyaa.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.*



**COLORADO**  
Hazardous Materials  
& Waste Management Division  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE: COMMUNITY MEETING FOR CENTRAL-CITY CLEAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency will be hosting a public meeting on **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).

## Timberline correction

In our report on the August 13 meeting of the Timberline Fire Protection District Board meeting, we said “Ondr also recognized Firefighter Johnny May, presenting him with his ‘Black Hat’ ... Fire Chief Schimanskey gifted him a practice stethoscope and p-cuff (performed cuff for taking blood pressure) that once belonged to the

late Firefighter Tony Snow, to whom Station 8 is dedicated.”

In fact, the stethoscope was not a practice one, but a real one, and it and the BP cuff were presented by John Arendt, not Schimanskey. And the late firefighter in whose honor these were given was Tony Stone, not Snow.

*The Mountain-Ear* regrets the errors, and apologizes to all involved.

# Who will be the next Gilpin County commissioners?

MINDY LEARY  
CENTRAL CITY

Curious about who's running for Gilpin County Commissioner and what their visions for the county's future entail?

On September 20, 2024, *The Mountain-Ear* hosted a candidate forum at the Historic Courthouse at 203 Eureka Street, providing Gilpin County residents an opportunity to hear from commissioner candidates for District 1 and District 3 – the seats up for election this November.

Moderated by Managing Editor Barbara Hardt, the event featured questions submitted by the public, covering topics such as economic development, budgeting, and public service. Candidates had five minutes for introductions, and then responses to questions were kept to three minutes.

### District 3 Race: Corey Marshall vs. Sandy Hollingsworth

Corey Marshall, a long-time Gilpin County resident and owner of a horse-boarding ranch, said, “It’s about controlling costs and keeping our taxes low,” and later mentioned that unincorporated Gilpin does not have a sales tax. He advocated for using a business-minded approach to County governance.

Incumbent Sandy Hollingsworth pointed to her first-term accomplishments, including eliminating the County’s debt and maintaining \$30 million in reserves. She stressed the importance of fiscal responsibility, particularly in managing the County’s budget, and her role in establishing a \$4 million fund for wildfire mitigation.

Among other accomplishments,

Hollingsworth emphasized her participation on the task force to open Clinica Health Clinic.

### District 1 Race: Marie Mornis vs. Jeremy Fey and Jeff Aiken

The District 1 race sees incumbent Marie Mornis facing challengers Central City Mayor Jeremy Fey and Central City Councilman Jeff Aiken.

Mornis is originally from Michigan, where she acquired her engineering degree. She later worked for Shell and Excel, but is now retired.

Jeremy Fey’s platform focused on restoring trust in government through a radical transparency program. He believes that increased openness and accountability will bridge the gap between residents and local government. He also encouraged residents to volunteer for various agencies in the county and become leaders in foster care.

Jeff Aiken said he would commit himself full-time if elected to the position of commissioner. He volunteers at the jail, providing counseling for drug addicts. He said he loves serving the community.

### Black Hawk IGA proposal

One of the most discussed topics was the proposed IGA with Black Hawk, which involves a \$1 million contribution to fund the Community Center, and whether the candidates would endorse the proposal.

Aiken expressed opposition to the agreement, arguing that it favors Black Hawk and limits the County’s financial flexibility. He said that the City of Black Hawk is the major factor in the

*continued on page 28*

# Moose Meadows mitigation a successful symphony

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY  
NEDERLAND

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (PROSAB) met on Thursday, September 19, 2024, to receive an update about the success of their first volunteer event, which focused on mitigating the new Moose Meadows open space.

Board member CT Hutt discussed the results of the first forest mitigation focused volunteer event, held at Moose Meadows on Saturday, September 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hutt was sure to note that, though only eight people had communicated on the day before the event that they would be there, almost 30 people showed up to work.

“At one point there were 15 chainsaws operating in the area,” Hutt reported excitedly to the Board. “It was a symphony.”

Hutt thanked all those that assisted in the success of the event, including all the volunteers, fellow Board members, the Parks Department and other Town staff, the Boulder Watershed Collective, the organizers of the original Saws and Slaws volunteer effort, and Wildfire Partners, who helped supply equipment and professional sawyers.

“I was really touched to see so many hardworking people take an extra day out and really throw down,” Hutt said. “Some people like to shake their fist and say nothing ever gets done in this town; we’ll, they’re dead wrong and the community really proved that.”

Despite the success of the event, it was noted that there is still mitigation work to be done, not just in Moose Meadows still, but on other parcels owned by the Town of Nederland.

Parks Department Manager Dunn specified that grants are being sought to tackle mitigation projects around NedRINK and the Old Town neighborhood. The Mile High Youth Corps is scheduled to assist in efforts to clear cut three feet around every fire hydrant in Old Town, and mitigating some of Town’s smaller parcels.

There was discussion of planning another volunteer event with the focus on the Wingate property, which is between the Town’s cell tower and the Big Springs neighborhood. The property was gifted to Town and has been indicated by the Nederland Fire Protection District as a high priority for mitigation efforts.

Town Administrator Jonathan Cain warned PROSAB that an Authorized Volunteer Program will need to be created before any other volunteer

events are planned. The authorized program is required to properly cover volunteers and protect the Town from liability, as dictated by the Town’s insurance company.

Cain admitted that the requirement impedes a lot of Town projects, including a volunteer driver program, and that a solution is being developed which may take months to implement. Cain assured the Board that he will update them as progress is made.

Parks Department Manager Dunn delivered her staff report, which highlighted a busy, but successful, summer season, and included updates on upcoming projects, as well as projects currently in development, such as the River Walk project.

The River Walk, which is a project funded by the Nederland Downtown Development Authority, involves improvements of the trail that leads from the covered bridge to Chipeta Park, running creekside behind the Boulder Creek Lodge.

The improvements will include trail widening, new benches, the creation of access points to the creek, including rock features and ADA compliance, and an S-curve ramp from the trail to the bridge for wheelchair access.

Dunn acknowledged the work of the Parks Department over a very busy August, which included more special events than usual, including the Summer Concert Series, Ned 150th, and the Jazz and Wine Festival.

In highlighting the Parks Department’s upcoming projects, Dunn noted that the NedRINK’s conversion from tennis and pickleball season to ice rink season is planned to be completed before Halloween. It was expressed that starting in late November last year resulted in complications in the process.

PROSAB Chair Alex Zabiarek led fellow Board members in a presentation about the August 20, 2024 Work Session concerning the Big Springs Emergency Egress project.

Trustees, members of the Planning Commission and Nederland’s advisory boards, representatives from engineering consultants JVA, and from the Nederland Fire Protection District (NFPD), met to discuss three new proposed egress routes and hiked the Big Springs subdivision in order to fully assess the ecological concerns and geological considerations for each route.

Cain provided an update on discussions that have occurred since the Work Session. JVA, Dunn, Streets Department Supervisor Joshua Davis, met with Cain in the

*continued on page 25*



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## 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. For more information, please call at 303-582-0161.



continued from page 24

affected neighborhood to ascertain the engineering concerns of the entrances for each proposed route.

It was noted that representatives of the NFPD will provide their input on how the route must provide room for their service vehicles, and then an extended period of public engagement will be needed before a route can be selected.

Outreach to those private property owners who may be affected by the proposed routes will happen first, in order to inform the viability of each route. Cain expressed that he would at that point like the Town to host an engagement meeting with the entire Big Springs neighborhood so a preferred route can be chosen and presented to the Board of Trustees for approval by Christmas.

The Board was tasked with recommending for appointment either Caroline Gezon, James Navratil,

or Nellie Mahto to the vacant Board Alternate position. PROSAB interviewed those applicants present about their knowledge of the Board's goals and projects, about maintaining work/life balance, managing volunteer efforts, and about being involved in Nederland's community.

After Gezon's interview, during which she described her interests as running, biking, and skiing, and her current career as a public sector consultant, Navratil withdrew his application, stating his belief that Gezon would be perfect for the position.

*PROSAB voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Trustees appointing Gezon to the position of Board Alternate.*

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Public Notice

**The Board of County Commissioners  
County of Gilpin, Colorado  
203 Eureka St., P.O. Box 366  
Central City, CO 80427  
Regular Meeting of the Board Held  
August 2024**

GENERAL (FUND # 1) -  
Accessibility Consulting - Prof Svcs 12300.00  
All Copy Products - Lease/Mtn Contract 1985.91  
Amazon - Computer Items/Supplies/R&M/Gcart/Medical/Donation Expense/Investigative/Uniforms 6572.96  
API Outsourcing - Mnt Contract 1463.75  
Arrowhead Scientific - Investigative 142.01  
AT&T Mobility - Phones 3964.06  
Avenu Insights - Mnt Contract 4296.00  
Bishop-Brogden Associates - Prof Svcs 6725.76  
Boulder Chrysler Dodge - R&M 94.40  
Bowman Consulting Grp - Capital Outlay 11287.50  
Caraghar/Anna - Mileage 268.00  
Carrier Corporation - R&M 1226.00  
Carver, M.D. John - Autopsies 2600.00  
CEBT - Insurance 216022.75  
CenturyLink - Phones 5.11  
Charm-Tex - Supplies 856.24  
Cintas - Uniforms/Med Supplies 147.97  
City of Central - Utilities 202.87  
Clean Designs - R&M 1180.04  
CO Assoc Chiefs - Emp Testing 960.00  
CO Bureau of Investigation - Prof Svcs 458.00  
CO Dept of Public Hlth - Dues&Subs 85.00  
CO Dept of Revenue - Payroll Tax 25718.54  
CO Natural Gas - Utilities 1823.52  
Coremr L.C. - Medical 800.00  
Corporate Communications - R&M 242.00  
Corvinus Group - R&M 355.00  
Corwin Toyota Boulder - Vehicle Purchase 37089.20  
CRA - Retirement 88468.25  
Eaton Sales - R&M 1640.24  
Ecolab - R&M/Mnt Contract 747.81  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 396.90  
Employers Council Services - Prof Svcs 287.91  
Enney/Robert - Meals 57.09  
Express Toll - Travel 25.65  
Foothills Vegetation Mgm - Weed Eradication 6380.84  
FYI Screening - Emp Testing 240.75  
Galls - Uniforms 3653.74  
Gilpin Ambulance - Ambulance Svc 51964.72  
Gilpin Car Wash - R&M 92.00  
Gilpin County Parks & Rec - Donation Expense 241.40  
Grainger - R&M/Supplies 1021.50  
Great Plains Communications - Phones 1389.80  
Healy/Margaret Anne - Mileage 145.19  
Hinkle & Company - Prof Svcs 22600.00  
Home Depot Credit Service - R&M 267.73  
HR Green - Capital Outlay 7756.30  
Indian Peaks Ace Hardware - Supplies 58.83  
IRS - Payroll Tax 171489.04  
Jefferson County Treasurer - Toxicology/Morgue Facility/Contract Labor 75877.50  
Kronos SAASHR - Mnt Contract 700.33  
L.N. Curtis & Sons - Ammunition 617.10  
Lakewood Police Department - Training 15000.00  
Language Line Services - Interpretations 483.91

Leisure Time Awards - Supplies/Emp Recognition 133.50  
Lorenz/Mary - Phone/Supplies/Mileage 270.10  
Mahoney/Kristina - Meals 94.80  
Major Heating - Capital Outlay 87445.00  
McDonald Farms Enterprises - Water 793.00  
Motorola Solutions - Mnt Contract 1626.12  
NAPA Auto Parts - R&M 83.77  
Newhoff/Dennis - Mileage 169.51  
Nicoletti-Flater Associates - Emp Testing 250.00  
Omni-Pro Cleaning - Janitorial Contracts 2650.00  
ORC LLC - Mnt Contract 2271.55  
Peyrouse/Sharon - Mileage 34.17  
Phil Long Ford of Denver - Vehicle Purchase 61462.15  
Professional Compliance - Emp Testing 274.00  
R. Jortberg Associates - Contract Labor 3660.00  
Safe Restraints - Medical 1187.12  
Southern Health Partners - Medical/Grant Expense 34896.86  
Springman, Braden, Wilson - Sheriff Fees 15.99  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 4355.62  
Sternlicht/Melissa - Lodging 632.22  
Stevinson Chevrolet West - R&M 442.80  
Sullivan Green Seavy - Prof Svcs 2301.50  
Summit Food Service - Meals/Supplies 32383.64  
SWCA Environmental - Grant Expense 40452.74  
Sweet/Dorothy - Mileage 134.00  
Teryx - Contract Labor/Computer Items 10023.50  
The Mountain-Ear - Ad/Legal Notices 276.08  
Transunion Risk - Investigative 75.00  
UBEO Business Svcs - Mnt Contract 117.70  
Uline - Investigative 126.90  
UMR - Medical Claims 442.37  
UMR - Medical Claims 22754.87  
United Power - Utilities 8948.66  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 1794.67  
US Imaging - Grant Expense 5456.06  
Volunteers of America - Meals/Transports 430.31  
Waldron/Elise - Mileage 235.84  
Wells Fargo - Lodging/Fuel/Emp Recognition/Prof Svcs/Emp Testing/Supplies/Dues&Subs/Training/Airfare/Meals/Postage/Grant Expense/Telephone 9662.23  
Western Paper - Supplies 1291.00  
Wholesale Flooring - Capital Outlay 7075.00  
Wiretap Telecom - Phones 32.87  
Xcel Energy - Utilities 1757.85  
Xerox - Mnt Contract 941.37  
Zayo Group - Phones 1411.64  
Zoom - Dues&Subs 199.92  
FUND #1 TOTAL - 1141551.12

PUBLIC WORKS (FUND # 2) -  
Amazon - Tools/R&M/Supplies/Safety/Equipment 2371.14  
AT&T Mobility - Phones 176.04  
Blackwell Oil - Fuel 21201.46  
CEBT - Insurance 2057.13  
Cintas - Uniforms/Supplies 1903.12  
CO Dept Rev - Payroll Tax 4140.86  
CO Natural Gas - Utilities 1572.51  
CRA - Retirement 13950.48  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 59.00  
Envirotech Svcs - Dust Suppressant 28070.30  
Ferguson Waterworks - R&M 1374.40  
Front Range Driveline - R&M 379.38  
Goodyear Commercial Tire - Tires/R&M 11561.70  
Grainger - Traffic Mtls 554.72  
IRS - Payroll Tax 25703.17  
Napa Auto Parts - R&M 1198.57  
Rush Truck Centers of CO - R&M 61.80  
Safety & Construction - Traffic Mtls 3861.35  
Senergy Petroleum - R&M 2844.32

Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 899.94  
United Power - Utilities 1767.37  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 404.40  
Utility Notification Center of CO - Prof Svcs 19.35  
Vendor - State Disbursement 704.75  
Wagner Equipment - Communications/R&M 4227.17  
Wells Fargo - Dues&Subs/Supplies/R&M-Asphalt 2918.45  
Whisler Bearings & Drive - R&M 399.35  
Xerox - Mnt Contract 240.08  
FUND #2 TOTAL - 134622.31

LIBRARY (FUND #3) -  
Amazon - Programming/Supplies/Op Mtls/R&M/Grant Expense 945.81  
Brodart - Supplies 166.79  
CEBT - Insurance 254.35  
CenturyLink - Phones 0.07  
CO Dept of Public Hlth - Dues & Subs 85.00  
CO Dept Rev - Payroll Tax 872.01  
CO Natural Gas - Utilities 81.09  
CRA - Retirement 1623.32  
Demco - Supplies 97.27  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 43.95  
Ingram Library Svcs - Op Mtls 938.16  
IRS - Payroll Tax 5244.71  
Kanopy Inc - Op Mtls 149.00  
Lowe/Lance - Cleaning 730.00  
McDonald Farms Enterprises - Water 964.50  
Meridian Fire & Security - Mnt Contract 387.50  
ORC LLC - Mnt Contract 798.90  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 122.73  
Thinktanks - Capital Outlay 12903.45  
United Power - Utilities 583.02  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 54.20  
Vonage - Phones 156.29  
Wells Fargo - Programming/Supplies/Computer Items/R&M/Website/Dues&Subs 982.71  
Xerox - Mnt Contract/Lease 183.73  
Zoom - Dues&Subs 29.98  
FUND #3 TOTAL - 28398.54

HUMAN SERVICES (FUND #4) -  
Amazon - Donation Expense/Supplies 246.92  
AT&T Mobility - Phones 392.48  
Axiom - Mnt Contract 55.00  
Bowman Consulting Grp - Capital Outlay 2529.87  
CEBT - Insurance 869.90  
CGHSFOA - Dues&Subs 350.00  
City of Central - Emergency Assistance 536.94  
CO Dept Revenue - Payroll Tax 1860.02  
Columbia Sanitary Services - Emergency Assistance 115.00  
CRA - Retirement 5734.84  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 30.95  
Gilpin County Clerk & Recorder - Donation Expense 13.03  
Gold Mountain Village - Emergency Assistance 1902.46  
Grand County Housing Authority - Housing Choice Voucher 1583.30  
IRS - Payroll Tax 10744.77  
Law Office of Jeffrey Timlin - Prof Svcs 107.30  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 375.29  
United Power - Utilities 273.40  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 103.40  
Wells Fargo - Emp Recognition/Donation Expenses/Supplies/Internet 896.23  
Xcel Energy - Emergency Assistance 378.51  
Xerox - Mnt Contract 272.09  
FUND #4 TOTAL - 29371.70

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY (FUND # 5) -

Amazon - Supplies 168.17  
AT&T Mobility - Phones 93.07  
CEBT - Insurance 294.45  
CO Dept Revenue - Payroll Tax 732.74  
CRA - Retirement 1963.88  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 18.00  
Enviro Sciences - Grant Expense 602.25  
Hach Company - Supplies 155.56  
Idexx Distribution - Supplies 1011.47  
IRS - Payroll Tax 4732.34  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 164.55  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 61.33  
Wells Fargo - Grant Expense/Conference/Dues&Subs/Internet 1603.59  
FUND #5 TOTAL - 11601.40

SOLID WASTE (FUND #6) -  
Air-O-Pure - Portables 375.00  
ATTP - R&M 46.82  
BFI- Foothills - Landfill Fees/Recycling Rev/SS Recycling 12512.84  
CEBT - Insurance 157.50  
Cintas - Uniforms 197.55  
CO Dept Rev - Payroll Tax 634.88  
Colorado Tire Recyclers - Tire Disposal 904.75  
CRA - Retirement 1474.31  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 41.95  
IRS - Payroll Tax 4353.34  
MHC Kenworth-Denver - R&M 1026.32  
Napa Auto Parts - R&M 52.52  
Republic Services - Recycling/Revenue 366.20  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 78.25  
United Power - Utilities 58.97  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 94.00  
Wastequip - Capital Outlay 6310.00  
Wells Fargo - Prof Services 250.00  
FUND #6 TOTAL - 28935.20

PARKS & REC (FUND #8) -  
Air-O-Pure - Portables 799.00  
Always Choose Adventures - Supplies 750.00  
Amazon - Ball Fields/Trails/Youth Grant/Supplies/Donation Expense/Aquatic Exp/League Exp 2475.25  
Aqueous Solution - Aquatic Expense 700.63  
Bowman Consulting Grp - Capital Outlay 4600.00  
Briggs/Steve - Instructor 1344.00  
CEBT - Insurance 623.70  
CO Dept Rev - Payroll Tax 2575.28  
CO Dept Rev - Special Programs 25.00  
CO Natural Gas - Utilities 6900.88  
CRA - Retirement 4685.28  
Douglas/Linza - Instructor 250.40  
Eldorado Artesian - Water 32.50  
Gibbs/Lynn Rae - Instructor 69.60  
Holistic Homestead - OBH Youth Grant 44.24  
Indian Peaks Ace Hardware - Supplies 65.97  
IRS - Payroll Tax 14955.87  
Lincoln Aquatics - Aquatic Expense 1002.61  
Schwettman/Steven - Instructor 316.80  
Standard Insurance Company - Insurance 282.25  
United Power - Utilities 5951.97  
Unum Life Insurance - Insurance 39.20  
Wells Fargo - Emp Recognition/Supplies/Postage/League Exp/Fair/Dues&Subs/Uniforms/Youth Grant 6506.08  
Xerox - Mnt Contract 557.84  
FUND #8 TOTAL - 55554.35

TOTAL ALL FUNDS 1430034.62  
JOE ALLAIRE  
COUNTY OF GILPIN

# Transportation plan rounds final bend



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

using a portion of their land adjacent to the Highway 119 and Eldora Road intersection for the creation of additional lanes, or a potential roundabout. It was also mentioned that, through public outreach, it was determined that the second bridge would be for emergency use only.

Regarding pedestrian traffic, the draft MTP recommends installing better and more cohesive wayfinding signage, improving sidewalks and trails throughout town, upgrading all pedestrian crossings to all-weather crosswalks, and instituting other traffic calming techniques, such as redesigning certain roadways, narrowing driving lanes, adding center medians, and installing speed cameras.

Many of these improvements are currently in progress, such as the trail-building efforts managed by the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board, and the Safer Main Streets project, which is expected to bring new sidewalks and crosswalks to some areas of downtown Nederland.

It was stated that Parks and Recreation Manager Nicki Dunn assisted Fehr & Peers with identifying which crosswalks should be prioritized in the plan.

The recommendations concerning Nederland's parking situation were constructed with the aim of shifting the town into a "park-once community." To achieve that goal, time-restricted parking, curbside pickup parking spaces for businesses, more clear and consistent signage and parking space striping, and a paid parking plan were suggested.

These measures are intended to manage the flow of turnaround parking to benefit businesses and ensure more focused foot traffic around downtown. Cain has stated that Nederland's paid parking plan must be focused on quality of life for local workers and residents, so as to avoid having parking sprawl into residential areas.

For public transit considerations, the recommendations are to coordinate with regional partners, including Boulder County and neighboring municipalities, to expand regional transit, create intra-Nederland transit, and improve bus stops with amenities like proper enclosures, trash cans, and maybe even heat.

The Task Force provided their final input on the recommendations in order for Fehr & Peers to assess any detrimental feedback that may alter those recommendations, and to include any essential partners that should be approached regarding any private property concerns.

Reis suggested that more up-to-date engineering estimates on the cost of certain roadway alterations should be provided in the plan, alongside cheaper alternatives, considering the delicate balance of Nederland's budget.

Cain stated that the plan will be available to view on Engage Nederland and through the Town of Nederland's website. It will also be presented to both the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees during the public process.

The final draft of the MTP is expected to be completed by early November and to be voted on in December.

## Plan completion on the horizon

Representatives of the NDDA and Nederland Planning Commission discuss the recommendations for transit improvements.

### CHRISTOPHER KELLEY NEDERLAND

On Monday, September 23, 2024, the third and final Task Force of community stakeholders for the Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP) met to discuss its final phases as the plan heads to the Board of Trustees for approval. Representatives for Fehr & Peers, the firm contracted by the Town of Nederland to develop the plan, showcased the changes made to the plan as a result of their community outreach.

The MTP, funded through the Denver Regional Council of Governments, contains recommendations for medium- to long-term solutions for pedestrian, bicycle,

and vehicle transportation by means of new policies, projects, and programs.

These recommendations directly reflect community outreach, and were adjusted accordingly. Since the last Task Force meeting in May, representatives from Fehr & Peers and members of Town staff have engaged with over 100 residents at public events, including the Nederland 150th Anniversary celebration, and at several Nederland Farmers Markets over the summer.

An online survey was also released to the public, which elicited up to 64 responses.

Transportation Planner and Senior Associate Carly Sieff of Fehr & Peers led the Task Force meeting, which was

attended by Natalie Duplessy, President of the Peak to Peak Chamber of Commerce; Katrina Harms, of Peak to Peak Housing and Human Services; Jim Reis of the Nederland Planning Commission; Steve Rowntree, the Director of Business Operations at Eldora Mountain Resort; and Nathan Skalak of engineering consulting firm JVA.

Public outreach indicated prioritization of Nederland's attention and funds, listing as the top priority that of addressing concerns about the intersection of Lakeview Drive and Bridge Street. This was followed by maintaining and improving area trails while also building new ones.

Instituting traffic calming measures was listed by community members as the third priority, followed by improvements to the roundabout and attending to the intersection of Highway 119 and Eldora Road.

The pedestrian crossing from the Visitor's Center to East 1st Street was listed by the community as the lowest priority, though Mayor Gibling and others agreed that dealing with traffic flow and traffic calming should start at that crossing, rather than at the roundabout or other intersections.

The recommendations for Nederland's roadways include increasing the size of the splitter islands leading into the roundabout and adjusting them; creating "turning pockets" and "receiving lanes" for the two previously mentioned troublesome intersections; and narrowing the choices for a second bridge across Middle Boulder Creek.

Rowntree noted that Eldora was open to discussing the possibility of

## Pet of the week

Imagine me and you, I do  
I think about you day and night, it's only right  
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  
For all my life...

Come find me at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley, ask for Max:  
<https://boulderhumane.org/animals/?animalid=56572302>



### -QUOTE OF THE WEEK-

*The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart!*  
– Helen Keller

# Timberline's plan for better fire response in our community

MINDY LEARY  
GILPIN COUNTY

The Timberline Fire Protection District Board met on September 17, 2024, to discuss important updates, including the district's aging deployment truck, Brush 52, and ongoing issues at Station 5.

## Out with the Old: Time for a Truck Upgrade

Brush 52, the fire department's trusty 2004 truck, has been on the road for 20 years and has racked up about 70,000 miles. While it's been a solid vehicle, it's showing signs of wear and tear. The cramped seating makes long trips uncomfortable for the crew, and the truck's reliability is becoming a concern.

Fire Chief Paul Ondr explained that instead of buying a brand-new truck, the district plans to give Brush 52 a makeover by replacing the chassis and keeping the existing fire equipment. This upgrade would cost between \$90,000 and \$110,000, with the new chassis alone priced at just over \$63,000.

The team is still deciding whether to pay for the upgrade this year or include it in next year's budget, depending on when the chassis arrives.

## Comfort and Safety Come First

The Board stressed that the upgrade isn't just about fixing the old truck – it's also about making life easier for the crew. A new double cab will provide more space, making long deployments more comfortable and ensuring everyone can do their job safely. But there's a potential downside: the longer vehicle could



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

## Timberline upgrade

Brush 52: The trusty fire truck that's been serving the community for over 20 years, now in need of an upgrade for improved comfort and safety during deployments.

be harder to maneuver, so the team is looking at different options to make sure the new setup works well in tight spots.

Ondr suggested more signage and solar lights to increase safety for traffic surrounding Station 5, next to Taggert's gas station.

## Brush 57: Ready to Sell

The Board also voted to sell another old truck, Brush 57, a 2008 GMC that has not fit in well with the rest of the fleet. They have had trouble finding parts for it, and it hasn't been as useful as expected. A company has offered \$45,000 for the truck, including some old equipment. The Board is still deciding how to best use the funds

from the sale.

## Station 5: Fixing the Flooding Problem

Station 5 has been dealing with water pooling issues for years, despite efforts to fix it. Water from nearby roads and businesses keeps flooding the driveway. The Board is moving forward with a \$18,000 solution to install a drainage system to redirect the water, which should help protect the station and the driveway.

## Saving for the Future

A motion was made and seconded that Timberline contribute \$24,781 to the pension fund, which was agreed

upon by the members present. They also approved the minutes for June 18, 2024.

## Stage 1 Fire Ban in Place

There has been an increase in calls, and the Chief said there may be some confusion over the difference between Stage 1 and Stage 2. To be clear, Stage 1 means that you can have a fire in a permanent fire pit at a campground or on private land. Hunting is allowed.

## What's Next?

The board will continue discussing the truck upgrade and other projects at their next meeting on October 7, 2024, at Station 9, located at 7469 Virginia Canyon Road, Central City.



## SEPTEMBER RECIPES



### Creamy Salmon Pasta

This is decadent, and a bit expensive if you opt for smoked salmon, but it is completely worth it. We'd have it every week if we could.

#### Ingredients

- 12 oz pasta – your choice: short or long
- 1 lb salmon fillet, skin removed
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 minced cloves garlic
- 1/2 cup white wine (optional)
- 1 cup heavy cream (sour cream or Greek yogurt would work as well)
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 2 tablespoons fresh dill or parsley, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Lemon wedges for serving

#### Directions

Cook the pasta: Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil and cook according to

package instructions. Drain and set aside.

In a large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium heat. Season the salmon with salt and pepper, and cook for 3-4 minutes on each side, or until the salmon is cooked through and flakes easily with a fork. Remove from the skillet and set aside.

(Note: I made this with a hot-smoked salmon fillet, which is already cooked. It was delicious!)

In the same skillet, add the minced garlic and sauté for about 1 minute until fragrant. Pour in the white wine (if using) and let it simmer for 2 minutes, reducing slightly. Stir in the heavy cream or other dairy and bring to a very gentle simmer.

Stir the grated Parmesan cheese into the sauce, allowing it to melt and thicken. Add the lemon zest and juice, then season with salt and pepper to taste.

Flake the cooked salmon into bite-sized pieces and add it to the sauce.

Toss the cooked pasta into the skillet, gently stirring to coat the pasta and salmon in the creamy sauce. Add fresh dill or parsley and toss again.

Plate the creamy salmon linguine, garnishing with extra herbs if you like, and a squeeze of fresh lemon juice. Serve with lemon wedges on the side.

## Calvary Chapel's Annual Harvest Festival

Saturday October 5th

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# Who will be the next Gilpin County commissioners?

continued from page 24

costs associated with the county jail, which now takes up almost a third of the county budget.

Fey stated that, while not perfect, the agreement offers real money for services and could be beneficial until further negotiations take place or until they are no longer eligible. He suggested volunteering to lower the costs of operation.

Hollingsworth, meanwhile, noted that the proposal had some concerning elements, such as limiting taxes in special districts, which she said is beyond their power to mandate. She said \$1 million would not cover the full operation of the Community Center 7 days a week, but might help them get to 5 or 6 days a week, an improvement from the current 4 days a week.

The proposal prohibits a transportation district tax, which Hollingsworth said goes against their work on the Mountain Rail. She also said she wished the Black Hawk council could have met with the commissioners to discuss the proposal.

Mornis and Marshall both said they

would sign the agreement, which was evident by their verbal statements of support at a recent Black Hawk City Council meeting. Mornis stressed that the agreement can be terminated at any time and is a good-will offer, not a deceptive tactic.

Marshall said that it does not prevent the County from raising taxes for things other than the Community Center. He said the only reasons for not accepting the IGA would be because of an intention to raise taxes or from a perceived negative relationship with the City of Black Hawk.

### Other topics

A question about the budget and the County's reliance on gaming prompted Marshall to discuss his plans for economic diversification, including exploring industries like mining reclamation and skiing.

Marshall pushed for long-term financial planning and said the County does not have enough long-term projections. He said deferred expenses will cost the County more in the long run, due to inflation. He said assets should be managed better.

Fey cited Central City's potential and the new residential/commercial developments. "We need to become another hub of hospitality in Colorado," he stated.

Mornis said Gilpin should aim to be more than a one-industry town. She echoed Marshall's sentiments about mining reclamation.

Aiken said that if budget cuts were necessary, he would take a ten percent reduction in his salary. He said he would be open-minded toward working with the County Manager and Board, if elected.

Hollingsworth said that the County does in fact have long-term budget plans. She noted that the County's reserves are being used to fund deferred maintenance and essential services, including public safety. She said that their Finance Director instructed them not to keep too much in reserve, and to be mindful of TABOR laws.

She said one effort to bring industry to Gilpin County is to ensure that the infrastructure, like internet, health care, housing, water, etc. are sufficient and in place.

"Government is really about serving the community," she said.

### Questions from one candidate to another

Jeff Aiken wished to ask the candidates, "Are you willing to make this job 100% your only job for the next 4 years?"

Fey said, "It's about how good you are at your job. That's where I'm very confident that I'm the right man for this job or I wouldn't be running. I would never run for a position of community service where I didn't truly believe that I was the best man for that position. So that's why I'm running. As far as the incompatibility of offices, and maybe you can give me more than three minutes, the two offices of mayor and county commissioner are absolutely compatible. If your mindset on either of those positions is, 'I'm going to do what's best for this community,' and that's adverse to what's best for that other scale of community, you're really going to roll very differently than I am."

"I'm looking at what's the best thing for our community, of 800 in Central City, 6,000 in Gilpin County.

"It's complementary. I would never put this community that I want to spend the rest of my life in, in bad stead for some personal ego trip. I'm running for County Commissioner because I think, I believe, and I know I will be the best County Commissioner."

### Questions from the Audience

As the forum concluded, audience members had the chance to ask their own questions. Former Commissioner and Senator Jeanne Nicholson asked whether the candidates would support a County resolution to create a Colorado-owned business enterprise that would fund a comprehensive, affordable health plan.

Fey, Mornis, and Aiken all expressed interest in learning more about the proposal, though they emphasized the need for more information before committing.

The forum also touched on the funding of the Recreation Center and the food pantry. Hollingsworth defended her position on the 1A tax initiative proposed last year, which would have increased taxes to fund the Recreation Center.

Although the tax was not passed, she explained that it was important to let the voters decide.

Another audience member questioned Hollingsworth on the allocation of \$1.8 million for the food pantry while the Recreation Center faced budgetary challenges. Hollingsworth clarified that she never advocated for closing the pool and that her support for the food pantry was based on community need. She also explained that the 1A tax proposal was introduced at the request of County staff and ultimately left to the voters to decide – and ultimately the voters said no.

### Closing Thoughts

The forum gave Gilpin County voters a detailed look at the priorities of their candidates. As Election Day approaches, residents will need to weigh the experience of incumbents like Hollingsworth and Mornis against the fresh ideas proposed by challengers such as Marshall, Fey, and Aiken. Economic diversification, public safety, transparency, and budget management are all likely to play pivotal roles in shaping the county's future trajectory.

To hear the entire recording of the forum, click the link here to The Mountain-Ear YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4d91PVubWc>

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# Regional firefighters chop it up in Nederland



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

### Chop Shop results

The NFPD hosted a vehicle extrication training and practiced on cars donated by residents.

### CHRISTOPHER KELLEY NEDERLAND

The Nederland Fire Protection District (NFPD) Board of Directors met on September 18, 2024, to discuss the success of the district hosting the annual multi-jurisdictional vehicle extrication training, Denver Chop Shop. The Board also looked at the challenge in their draft budget for 2025: a significant salary discrepancy for many of its paid positions.

Captain Wheelock, along with Captains Nick Faes and Conor Moran and District Administrator Sherry Snyder, organized the Denver Chop Shop, a vehicle extrication class hosted by the NFPD this year. 27 people from Central City, Cheyenne Wells, Timberline, and Nederland Fire Districts attended the class to practice using extrication tools, supplied by Holmatro, on derelict cars donated by members of the community.

Lieutenant Candidate Bobby Swanson organized several firefighters on September 11 to walk through the entirety of downtown Nederland dressed in full gear, carrying the American flag. The act honored those who served on that day in 2001, those who have fallen, and those who serve today.

Fire Chief Charlie Schmidtman reviewed the NFPD's draft budget for 2025, which indicated that, even with adding a \$20,000 boost to salaries, the district is still far from closing its pay gap.

A salary survey had been conducted, based on an extensive survey completed by Timberline Fire Protection District, which reviewed up to 30 different job descriptions and their pay rates, and compared those rates to those of over a dozen peer agencies.

The survey results show a salary discrepancy for a number of positions within the NFPD, including those of Captain, Paramedic, Fire Marshal, and Administrator. Lucy Zamarripa, Human Resources for NFPD, suggested returning to the Board with more thorough salary data to highlight the District's need for salary increases

in their budget.

Schmidtman presented his monthly report to the Board, which outlined the calls of significance that have occurred since mid-August. NFPD firefighters responded to eight illegal campfires and managed several medical calls, including a walk-in patient suffering from a fish hook stuck in their eye.

Firefighters trekked up to Nederland Elementary School on three separate occasions for fire alarms. Medical personnel also responded to a child who had ingested five marijuana edibles, and attended to an eight-year-old patient who experienced multiple seizures.

NFPD members attended two days of Fire Ground Communications training, as well as Mass Casualty Incident training. Six new recruits were offered positions with the NFPD and attended an open house, hosted by Captain Glen Wheelock. Recruit Academy has already begun, with Lieutenant Candidates Scott and Mandi Papich and Firefighter Tara Sergo teaching the first two nights.

Fire Marshal Andrew Joslin submitted his report to the Board, which detailed the inspections completed since mid-August, starting with TEENS, Inc. having resolved an issue with their life safety systems (alarms, sprinklers, extinguishers, etc.).

The new Ignite Adaptive Sports building at Eldora Mountain Resort also passed the final inspections of their life safety systems, including their hood system and elevator. The building is expected to pass its final fire safety inspection in time to be open to the public at the start of this year's ski season.

According to the Marshal's report, a self-inspection program is currently in development, which would allow businesses to submit forms and photos pertinent to their inspection, as well as to self-report any issues with their life safety systems. Businesses will be able to submit their own inspection reports once a year for two years, with the NFPD to complete an inspection in person in the third year.

Joslin indicated in his report that he

has been assisting homeowners with the mitigation requirements imposed by their insurance companies.

"I meet with them at their homes, make recommendations on how to meet the requirements, then write a letter to the insurance company once the work has been completed," Joslin wrote in his report. He also stated that he will ensure that the requests from insurance companies are reasonable

and in conjunction with "recognized standards and guidelines."


*The Nederland Fire Protection District Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of every month. Meetings can be attended online via Microsoft Teams. Their next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 7 p.m.*

*For more information go to: <https://www.nfpd.org>.*



### Never forget

Firefighters carried the flag through town in full gear to honor those who served on 9/11.



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# Gilpin appoints new County Attorney



PHOTO BY MINDY LEARY

**New leadership**

Gilpin County has appointed Jack Reutzel, from Fairfield and Woods, as its new attorney, succeeding Brad Benning in the role of County Attorney.

**MINDY LEARY  
CENTRAL CITY**

At the September 24, 2024, Gilpin County Commissioners meeting, all commissioners – Susan Berumen (Chair), Marie Mornis, and Sandy Hollingsworth – were present, along with key officials, including Deputy Clerk Kimberly Kaufman, County Manager Ray Rears, and newly appointed County Attorney Jack Reutzel.

Reutzel, who replaces Bradford Benning, brings 34 years of experience working with government agencies. Fairfield & Woods, P.C., the firm chosen to provide legal services, was selected for its broad resources and expertise.

Jennifer Cook from CSU Extension presented the first reading of the County’s Noxious Weed Plan, granting the County the authority to remove noxious weeds from private property and issue fines between \$500 and \$1,000 for repeat offenses.

Mornis opposed the fines, voting against at the first reading, stating that the fines were “too severe.” She asked for more time to consider adjusting the fine/fee structure.

The Board clarified that enforcement would be driven by complaints and would prioritize education and collaboration with landowners before any fines are imposed.

Edits will be reviewed during the second reading on October 22 at 9:30 p.m.

Coroner Zane Laubhan introduced a formalized policy for handling cash found on deceased individuals.

The policy requires that any cash exceeding \$300 be deposited with the County Treasurer, with receipts issued to the Coroner and funds to be returned to the next of kin. In rare cases, such as cash contaminated with drugs or bodily fluid, the Federal Reserve will handle disposal. The Board approved the resolution unanimously.

Treasurer Mary Lorenz presented the Treasurer’s Report for August 2024, noting that tax collections are slightly lower than in 2023.

Commissioner Hollingsworth confirmed

that the County had approximately \$39 million in cash on hand at the end of August. This continues an upward trend, with last year’s balance at \$36 million, 2022’s at \$30.5 million, and just \$24.5 million in 2021.

The commissioners approved an 8.5% increase in medical plan rates through CEBT for 2025.

Other resolutions passed included support for NoCo Places’ Conservation & Recreation Vision, the repeal of a temporary stay on processing 1041 applications, and the addition of Jennifer Cook as the County’s representative to the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association.

A budget work session was scheduled for October 2, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and another for October 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Courthouse. A third session will take place on October 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center to review the draft budget.

Rears provided an update on the South Beaver Creek Road Improvement Project, noting that two public outreach sessions will be held – one before the end of 2024 and another in the first quarter of 2025.

Additionally, Rears announced a work session scheduled for October 1, covering topics such as the Human Service Emergency Assistance Grant Policy, Treasurer’s Office update, and ADA report, along with discussions on zoning code updates and Conex shipping containers.

The Board then recessed into executive session. After returning about 45 minutes later, Hollingsworth moved to authorize the County Manager to purchase real property up to \$1.25 million, subject to County Attorney approval. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned immediately afterward.

*The next regular meeting of the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for October 8, 2024, at 9 a.m. and will be held in person at the Historic Courthouse, 203 Eureka Street, Central City and online via Zoom.*

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## Help Wanted

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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>

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### 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.



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## Beetlejuice Beetlejuice

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.

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# Mountain bike race in Eagle brings drama

JOELLE WISLER  
EAGLE

It was an eventful day in Eagle for the Nederland High School Mountain Bike Team—with dusty conditions, corkscrew turns, and the varsity riders getting evacuated mid-ride due to lightning.

The freshman, sophomore, and JV girls had to find their sprinting legs when their races were shortened to one quick lap due to the unpredictable Colorado weather. Despite all the obstacles, most of our Ned riders had their best race of the year: the team took third place again in Division 2.

Our podium finishers in this race included Laila Waldron, who nabbed third in varsity girls; and Amika Begin, who finished fourth for sophomore girls. Codi Waldron took 11th in

freshman girls and Johnny Moss moved up 12 spots in freshman boys. Grayson Shurr had a fast few laps and was in 18th place when he was pulled off the course with the other varsity boys.

Shurr states, “It was a strange feeling to have my mind ready to sprint up that final hill, to suddenly getting pulled off the course and then chatting all friendly with the other riders who I wanted to beat just seconds before.”

Again, we’d love to thank our sponsors who made the new team jerseys happen—Eldora Mountain Resort, Justin’s, Rudi’s, Peak to Peak Endurance, and Reboot Mindfulness.

*Regionals for the Nederland Mountain Bike Team are in Fruita on October 6.*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NORA RAINBOW SHURR



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEDERLAND MOUNTAIN BIKE TEAM

### Racing in Eagle

Above, Amika Begin starting her one-lap sprint race where she grabbed fourth in the sophomore girls race. Left, Our two varsity riders, Grayson Shurr and Laila Waldron, after being pulled off the dusty course due to lightning.

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# HARVEST FEST

OCTOBER 6

10AM-4PM

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