# PEAKTOPEAK % Visitor's Guide %





### Carousel of Happiness: making dreams come true

There's a feeling of wonder when you enter the building Nederland's that houses Carousel of Happiness (COH). The 19th century organ pumps out intoxicatingly familiar melodies that mingle with the excited shouts and laughter of children and adults alike. The authentic and restored wooden carousel spins, and its menagerie of hand-carved and otherworldly animals creatures bob rhythmically in the magical dance that unfolds, brightening the youthful spirit and imagaination within all of

Nederland resident Scott Harrison acquired the empty frame of the carousel in 1986, carefully disassembling it and hauling home from the Great Saltair Park outside of Salt Lake City, Utah, where it had been left as an empty frame.

When Harrison was Marine in the Vietnam War, survived his horrific surroundings with the aid of a tiny music box and his own imagination. The sounds of composer Frederic Chopin's "Tristesse" would drown out the grim reality around him, and Harrison would transport himself to a peaceful mountain meadow, where he envisioned an old spinning carousel.

Once he had the carousel



A place to call home

Upon completion of the carousel, and with the help of the Nederland community, a non-profit was formed to help raise the \$700,000 needed to build a permanent structure.

bones home, Harrison began hand-carving wooden animals to help bring the carousel back to life. Harrison still carves to this day, and has created more than 50 unique animals for his vision, each with a story and a deeper meaning to their creator.

Once the Carousel of **Happiness** (COH) had restored, been completely Harrison created a nonprofit organization and, with help from the Nederland community, raised the

bones home, Harrison began \$700,000 needed to build the hand-carving wooden animals carousel its permanent home to help bring the carousel back on 20 Lakeview Drive.

The COH officially opened on Memorial Day weekend in 2010, and has since provided immeasurable joy and wonderment to residents as well as visitors from near and far. The Wurlitzer band organ and Looff carousel have been piping and spinning for over 100 years now.

Harrison's designs and the stories he crafts within them

Continued on page 5

### THE **MOUNTAIN-EAR**

### Meet our team!

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### ON THE FRONT: A wild ride in Ned

Making dreams come true for all ages, the Carousel of Happiness is one of the most visited spots in Nederland, attracting people of all ages to take a spin on the iconic ride. Photo by Sal DeVincenzo

# COLORADOPIESS ASSOCIATION NETWORK SEMPESSION SOCIALISTS SOCIALISTS SOCIALISTS SOCIALISTS

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### Central City has opera - and gaming!

WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

Central City was founded in 1859 along with Black Hawk and Nevadaville around one of the richest gold strikes during the Pike's Peak Gold Rush. At the time, it boasted the title "The Richest Square Mile on Earth."

After the gold rush was over, Central City became a tourist town and more recently has had a renaissance with gaming establishments. shops, restaurants.

Central City has a famous opera house, built in 1878, which is renowned worldwide for its elaborate frescoed ceiling and perfect acoustics. It is even more renowned for its summer opera season, active since 1932. A perfect activity for a summer evening in the mountains would include dinner at one of Central City's restaurants followed by a performance by the Central City Opera. Visit centralcityopera.



A view of the City of Central An arial view of Central City Colorado taken in February of

summer's operas.

City, with the Gilpin County Arts Association locating its gallery in historic Washington Hall on Eureka Street.

Learn about mining and the org for more information on this history of mining in Central camping at the Columbine

City with a tour at the Coeur The arts flourish in Central d'Alene Mine. The Hidee Gold Mine, just outside of town off the Central City Parkway, is a working mine where tours are available.

Central City also offers car

Campground west of town. There are dirt bikes and ATV trails around the campground.

The Denver West/Central City KOA Campground (koa.com/ campgrounds/denver-west) south of town on the Central City Parkway, which connects to I-70. The campground has connections for RVs and trailers. Call 303-582-3043 for reservations.

Central City has a historical museum that contains mining memorabilia from its boom days of the 1800s. Call 303-582-5482 for days and hours open.

Only 35 miles from Denver, Central City is close enough to Denver to have year-round residents who enjoy living in the mountains and working in town.

More information Central City can be found visitcentralcity.com centralcity.colorado.gov.





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SCAN ME



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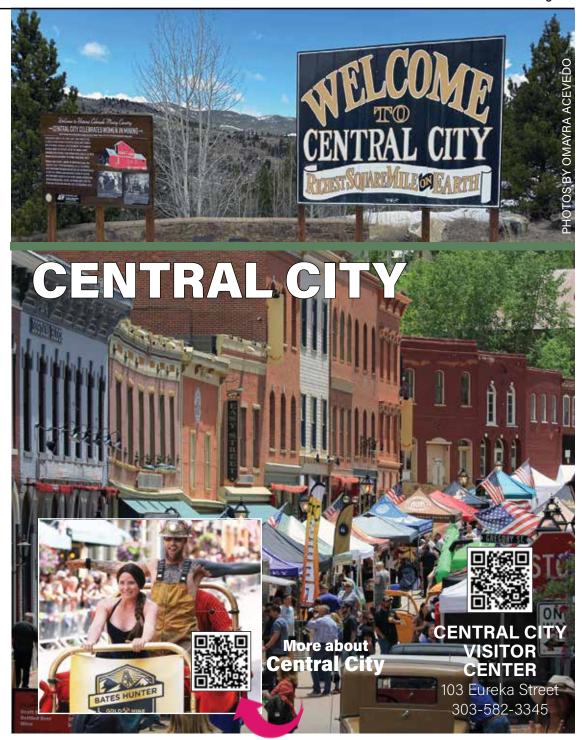
### Carousel

### Continued from page 3

embody the imagination's ability to help us cope and understand the traumas in our life. Delicate mirrors hang on the walls around the carousel; angels atop the mirrors represent those we've lost, over us and reflecting the carousel and the smiles it creates.

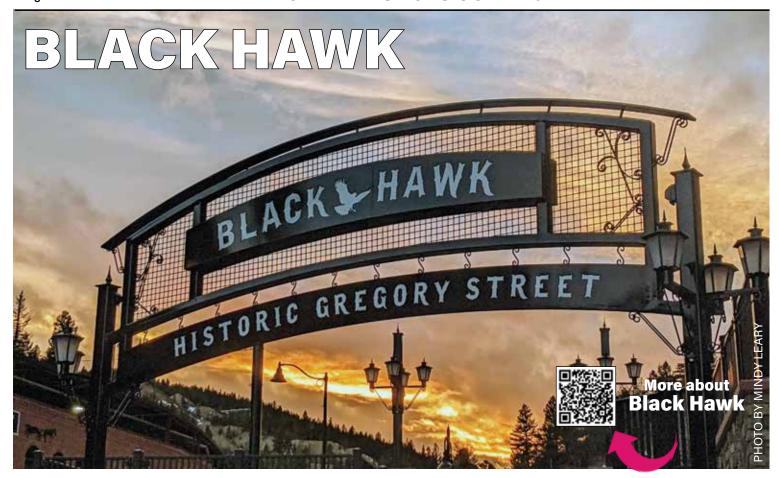
The Carousel's director explained, "After Scott was done carving the carousel he worked on the Somewhere Else wall. The idea is that everybody goes somewhere else when they pass away, and it's a space where we can recognize that difference; that they're not gone, they're still here, they're just somewhere else.... So you have all the animals peeking back and forth into the wall. The Tiger has a little white tail that comes out and the idea is that we're always kind of intermingling with the spirit world and it's ever-present with us here."

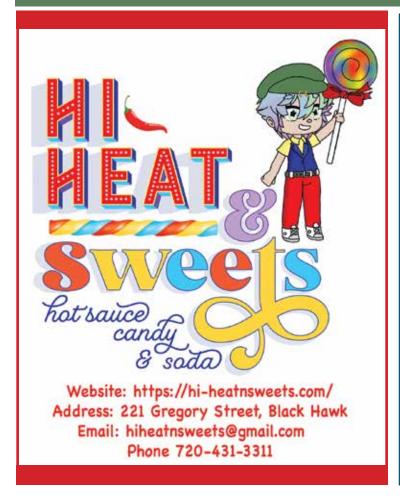
Harrison's vision for COH continues to bring thousands of smiles to the faces of those who visit, and the Carousel's caring staff are sure to mention that this mission, which was brought to life by Harrison, is continued through the valiant efforts of their staff and community volunteers.



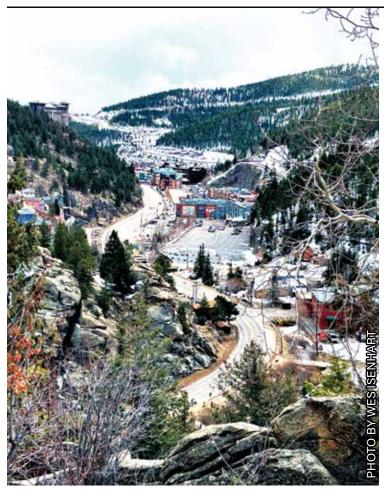












Birds eye view of Black Hawk Black Hawk, from the Maryland Mountain Open Space Park.

### DINE OR PLAY in historic Black Hawk

WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

Black Hawk was founded in 1859 during the Pike's Peak Gold Rush. During the 1800s, Black Hawk became the center of Mills."

Black Hawk's declined along with the mining activity in the area in the 1900s, but they were revived in 1990 the form of card games and slot activities. machines. Later, dice games and sports betting were added. what activities and packages Since then, Black Hawk has are available in Black Hawk, become known for its casino visit cityofblackhawk.org.

resorts and fine dining.

The resorts offer lodging packages for those who want to stay overnight. There is an area in Black Hawk known as the HARD District – History Appreciation and Recreation for ore processing in the area, Destination. This is where you which earned it the title "City can find good food, shopping, and events as you wander fortunes among historic buildings from Black Hawk's boom time. Black Hawk also maintains some mountain parks nearby with the arrival of gaming in for those who want outdoor

For more information on

### Varied night life in the mountains



Music on every corner

With a thriving scene and variety of music, Nederland continues the tradition of being the place to go for live music.

### CHRISTOPHER KELLEY PEAK TO PEAK

adventuring in the natural splendor of the Colorado mountains, before you retreat to your vacation rental or hotel room for the night, be sure to check out all of the exciting nightlife that the Peak to Peak has to offer.

From Black Hawk all the way to Jamestown, Highway 119 to 72, there's always something going on, from chaotic open mics to raucous or relaxing live music, comically competitive trivia events to oddly creative theme

Black Hawk offers all the bright and colorful nightlife you'd expect from a gambling city. Inside each resort and casino one can expect to find fine dining, such as the Monarch Chophouse and Roxy's in the Horseshoe Casino, as well as elegant live music venues.

Outside of the casinos, the city's restaurant and bar game is on point as well, with casual venues like Bar 8042, JKQ BBQ, and Dostal Alley in Central City serving satisfying pub food and fun vibes.

Maybe you're looking for After a long day of a different, more authentic mountain music experience. Jamestown Mercantile Jamestown, Gold Hill Inn in Gold Hill, and the Millsite Inn in Ward all offer unique, offthe-beaten path experiences, and intimate, or sometimes rowdy, live music from true locals.

> The Peak to Peak highway is also home to some of the best breweries in the state. Howlin Wind in Rollinsville serves delicious brews and often hosts a bluegrass "open pick," and Very Nice Brewing Company now slings their tasty libations at two different locations, in Gilpin County and in Nederland.

> For those looking for a stronger drink, Gold Dirt Distillery in Rollinsville is the gin joint you're looking for. If it's a bigger party that you seek, check out the Caribou Room in Nederland, the Peak to Peak area's premier live music venue. And check the latest issue of The Mountain-Ear for a complete listing of all the music in these mountains.



### Find your hoppy place.



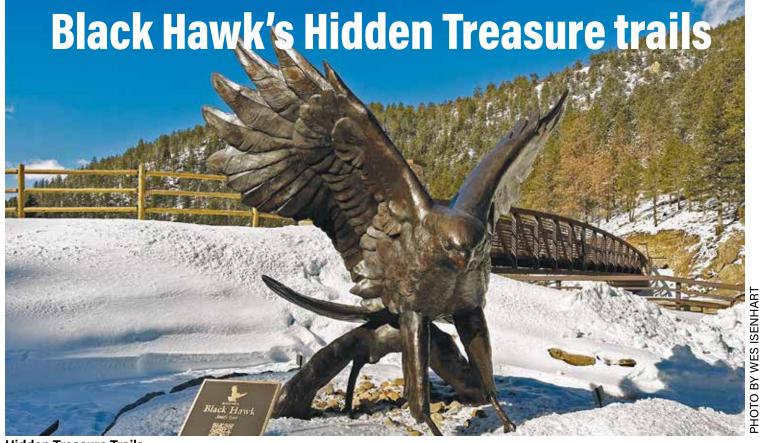
For the latest developments, visit ameristarblackhawk.com.

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100 Richman Street • Black Hawk, CO 80422 Gambling Problem? Call or text 1-800-Gambler.



#### **Hidden Treasure Trails**

Black Hawk sculpture at Hidden Treasure Trailhead. Maryland mountain is in the background and the bridge connects the trailhead parking to the trail system on the mountain.

### WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

Black Hawk's Maryland Mountain Quartz Valley Open Space Park is a free hiking and biking system of trails that was opened in 2020. Parking is at the Hidden Treasure trailhead, located north of the town of Black Hawk on Highway 119. There are about 15 miles of trails in the 600-acre park, with a mixture of terrain from easy to expert. The trail system is popular with mountain bikers who have access to two bikeonly, downhill-directional trails that descend over 1,000 feet. For hikers, there is the chance to climb Maryland Mountain with a summit of 9,200 feet, where there are views of Black Hawk, Central City, and the northern regions of Gilpin County.

In addition to the trails, there are some historical sites to



visit, including the Bonanza Mill, the Queen of the West Mine, and the historic narrow gauge Gilpin Tramway.

The park is open from dawn until dusk and requires that dogs be leashed. Taking along

water, snacks, and adequate clothing is recommended since the weather can change rapidly. Additional information about the park can be found at cityofblackhawk.org.

### Eat, stay, and play!

Plan your visit to Black Hawk, Colorado, one of the top destinations in the state. Known for its rich history and thriving casino gaming scene, Black Hawk offers a luxurious getaway with stunning scenery and a wide range of entertainment options.

Indulge in a variety of dining options, from casual fare to gourmet meals, while exploring all that Black Hawk has to offer. With over 1,500 quality hotel rooms, numerous casinos, and a wide selection of table games and dining choices, your stay in Black Hawk is sure to be unforgettable.

### MOUNTAIN MOONSHINE **GETTING INTO THE SPIRIT**

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY PEAK TO PEAK

Though a large portion of the Peak to Peak Highway - Highway 119 from Clear Creek Canyon to Boulder - wasn't established until the 1920s, it was a bustling corridor long before then.

The mining boom in the late 1800s brought with it growth for the area, and a determination by early dreamers and entrepreneurs to create travel opportunities across the Continental Divide.

Many of these early toll roads, such as Rollins Pass, west of Rollinsville, were created to supply the gold mines with workers from Denver as well as bring in farmers and homesteaders to create new settlements in the mountains, as detailed in B Travis Wright's book, "Rollins Pass: Past and Present."

It was American ingenuity that created the early days of commerce that built the Peak to Peak area that we know today, by connecting mining operations to shipping hubs and creating the framework of freight wagon and stagecoach travel, and later connecting Denver to Salt Lake City with the Rio Grande Railroad Company.

But was that same American ingenuity used to manipulate these monumental roads and rails, highways and byways, for the dubious distribution of that most infamous of illegal libations - moonshine?

In the days of Colorado prohibition, which was in effect from 1916 to 1933, illegal beer



"There was no product more authentic and sought after than "Sugar Moon," made exclusively in the Rocky Mountains."

and liquor was smuggled - often disguised as food products like olive oil and salad dressing - into Denver from Cheyenne, Wyoming, via various mountain routes, and from as far as Canada and Mexico, as chronicled in Colorado Magazine's 1973 article "Moonshine and Murder: Prohibition II.

Hansen reported that, while gangsters like the Carlino er's yeast, kept for ten days and

brothers out of Pueblo and Joe Roma of Denver fought over territory and their own moonshine distilling and bootlegging operations, there was no product more authentic and sought after than "Sugar Moon," made exclusively in the Rocky Mountains.

120 pounds of low-priced in Colorado" by James Hansen beet sugar, 50 gallons of pure mountain spring water, and one and a half pounds of bak-

then put into a steam cooker, created the mash for a cheap and effective beverage.

Early settlers and miners would use the equipment and tools of their trade to make improvised stills and create cheap alcohol from byproducts of their own farms.

When prohibition hit Colorado, those in Caribou, Rollinsville - all the way up to Idaho Springs - may not have really noticed a difference in their day to day lifestyle, except for maybe more traffic on the toll roads, and the smell of opportunity in the air.

In fact, in the early days, Gilpin was a dry county...partly.

According to the 2009 report "Documentation of Historic Properties along the Gilpin Tunnel Rail Corridor" prepared and published by SWCA Environmental Consultants, early mining settlements like East Portal and Rollinsville were deemed "moral zones" and places where miners with families could settle away from the rowdy saloons and rugged settlements. more Though this isn't to suggest that these moral zones never tasted Sugar Moon.

The 2009 report states that by the late 1920s and early 1930s, the mountains had become popular with Denverites and other tourists, who would travel by train into Tolland. They would visit local saloons to sample the whiskey that the miners drank, which would often contain strychnine or gunpowder for extra emphasis.

These saloons were known

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### MOUNTAIN MOONSHINE

### Continued from page 10

to get rowdy and violent, and these debauched saloon towns were often viewed as sanctuaries to illegal distillers and bootleggers. And though there are not many clues as to how many of these sanctuaries operated on the early Peak to Peak, there are some locals who remember the early, more mischievous days of the backcountry.

These old timers remember that those looking for unique mountain brews could take the train into Tolland and then hitch a wagon to Peterson Lake, up in the town of Eldora, where they would go and party at The Dixie Lodge.

As catalogued in The Mountain-Ear's archives from 1977, the "mansion,"

as it was called, was built in 1917 by Annie Morris as a summer estate for herself, her family and friends.

The lodge was designed and decorated in a traditional Japanese style, complete with pagodas and ornate bridges connecting the islands around the family's two private lakes, created by the laborers the Morris family hired to build roads, bridges, and dams in Eldora in an effort to bring power and water to the town.

After the Morris family sold the lodge in 1932, it was briefly used by the Boy Scouts of America, and was then left empty for several decades. Those area locals who remember it recall the unsanctioned parties there as being "out of control." The Dixie Lodge mysteriously

burned down in 1969.

Though some locals have distinct recollections of houses and sheds in Gilpin County and in Eldora that would have false front panels for "customers" to remove, take a bottle of moonshine and leave money in its place, these days it's much easier for those looking for a taste of the mountains to find what they seek.

The Peak to Peak area is home to several authentic saloons, many of them with their own storied histories and true western atmospheres, as well as new and creative breweries and distilleries who hold the traditions of mountain folk close to their hearts as they craft and concoct.

There's even a festival dedicated to the art of distilling. Central City's Stills in the Hills celebrates the end of prohibition every year with local craft distilleries offering up a wide variety of spirits.

For a mix of then and now, Gold Dirt Distillery offers the finest gin cocktails the mountains have to offer. Located in Rollinsville, once designated as a "moral zone," Gold Dirt is located right across from the famed Stage Stop, the historic old saloon that had served miners as far back as 1868.

The Covered Wagon in Nederland was once known as the Pioneer Inn, and was, for many decades, Nederland's beating heart. It was the miners' own watering hole and a local institution, and years later, in the 1960s and 1970s, it became infamous for spirited conflicts between locals, bikers, and hippies.

Walking into it today, you have to wonder which floor-boards could be removed to hide the illegal hooch, and what would happen if you asked the bartender for some Sugar Moon.

• OPERA

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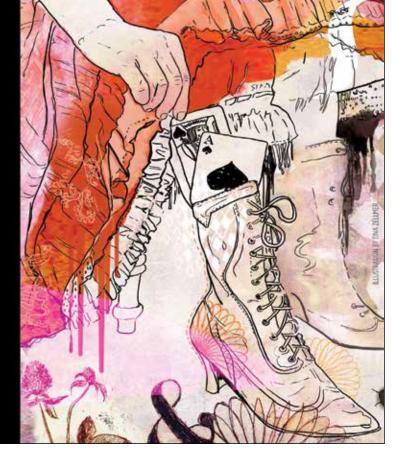
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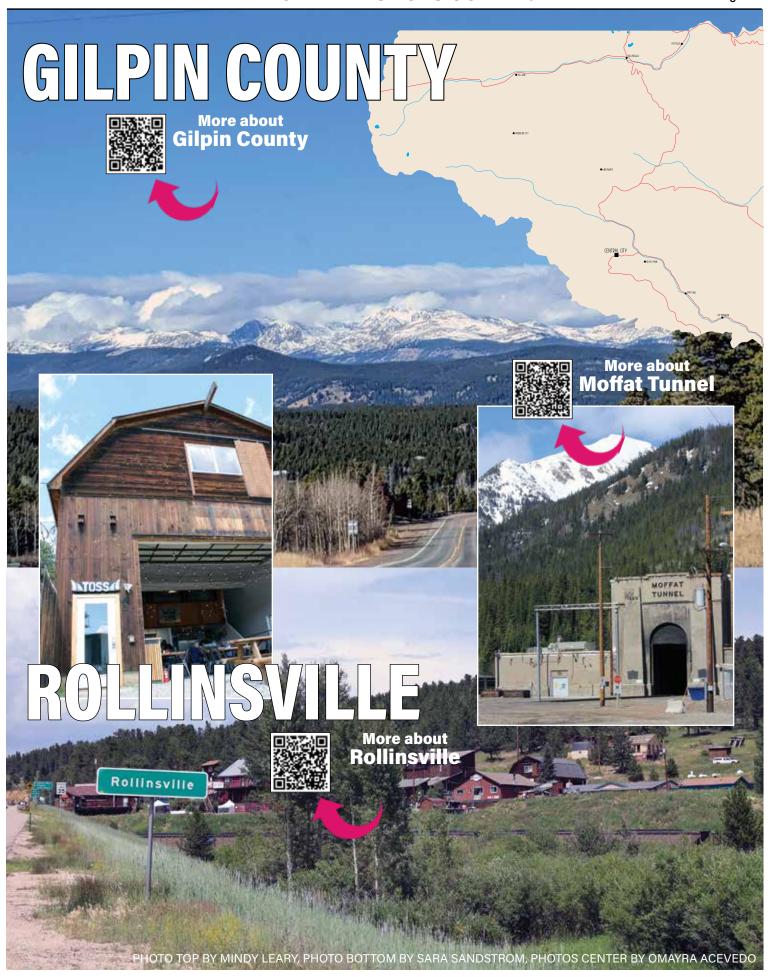




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### James Peak Wilderness

Above: Crater Lake in later September in the James Peak Wilderness. The ridge in the background is the Continental Divide. Below: Rogers Pass on the Continental Divide. James Peak is on the left and the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) is the foreground, winding up the side of James.

### WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

The James Peak Wilderness contains the section of the Continental Divide that extends south from Rocky Mountain National Park and the Indian Peaks Wilderness to Berthoud Pass. The wilderness is 17,000 acres east of the Divide, with several peaks over 13,000 feet.

Day hikes and backpacking are available year-round. Permits are not required to camp in the backcountry around Rogers Pass Lake and Heart Lake. Optional self-service

permits are free and available at the Moffat Tunnel Trailhead, but there are no provisions for car camping there.

The Moffat Tunnel Trailhead is right next to the Moffat Tunnel entrance in Gilpin County, and can be reached by turning off Highway 119 at Rollinsville and driving west on Tolland Road to the tunnel and the ghost town of East Portal.

The trailhead gets used extensively on weekends, but the parking lot has over 300 parking spaces. There is no fee

Continued on page 15

### Parks in the Peaks



Gilpin County Parks and Recreation 250 Norton Drive, Black Hawk 303-582-1453



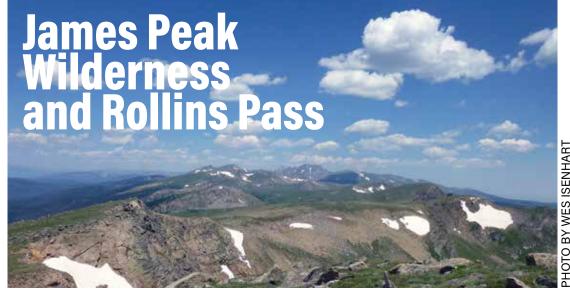
### Golden Gate Canyon State Park

92 Crawford Gulch Road, Golden 303-582-3707



Arapaho and Roosevelt
National Forests &
Pawnee National
Grassland Covering
Brainard Lake
Recreation Area and the
Peak to Peak Highway
Recreation

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#### James Peak Wilderness - Continental Divide

View looking north from Rogers Pass in the James Peak Wilderness towards the Indian Peaks Wilderness and Longs Peak in Rocky Mountain National Park.

### Continued from page 14

for hiking or camping in the James Peak Wilderness.

Fishing and hunting is permitted in the James Peak Wilderness subject to the regulations of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Roosevelt National Forest. Hunters must have appropriate licenses and tags.

The Moffat Tunnel area also has the Rollins Pass Road for off-road vehicles. Dirt bikes, ATVs, and four-wheel drive vehicles can drive Rollins Pass all the way up to the (closed) Needles Eye Tunnel on the Continental Divide. Vehicles are required to stay on designated roads and trails. In winter, snowmobiles can go up Rollins Pass.



### An awe-inspiring burst of color

Every year onlookers come up the canyon to drive the Peak to Peak Scenic Byway during the autumn months. Visitors stop for photos and to gaze at the aspens changing colors from green to yellow, orange and red.



### **BEARS, MOOSE, AND MOUNTAIN LIONS: GET TO KNOW THE LOCALS**

### CHRISTOPHER KELLEY PEAK TO PEAK

reasons for traveling across the Peak to Peak, whether your time is spent out on the trails or on a weekend in a picturesque home rental, is the chance to view the diverse and majestic wildlife that call this area home.

But such proximity to nature comes with the responsibility of being educated and prepared for encounters with some of the larger animals here in the mountains.

In the Colorado's black bears have returned from hibernation. Though these bears can be

hike with bear spray or an air

Bears are also classified as One of the most alluring lazy and opportunistic, which is why visitors to the mountains are warned to properly dispose "attractants," this includes food, toothpaste, and even deodorant - anything even remotely smell like FOOD. Be sure to properly clean and store BBQ grills, bird feeders, and trash containers, and not to leave doors or windows open, especially when cooking.

Moose are the largest, and possibly dangerous most summertime, mammal you can encounter in the mountains. Hikers are advised to make noise when approaching blind corners, skittish, it's still advised to because you never know when



Coal Creek Canyon 30509 Hwy 72 303-642-1900 Hours: Monday-Friday 6-4 Saturday and Sunday 7-4 Mention this ad to receive a cinnamon roll for \$1 with any purchase

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you might nearly walk into a 1200 pound moose.

Moose are most aggressive during mating season, from September through October, and during the calving season from May through June. Always keep pets on leash when out on trail, and try to remain up to 25 yards away from moose at all times.

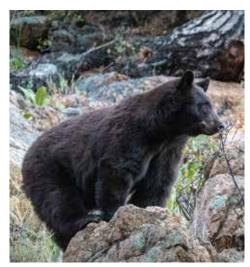
Moose perceive dogs as their most feared canids, wolves, and may charge even dogs on

If charged by a moose, try to keep trees and other obstacles between you and the animal.

Mountain lions can be up to eight feet in length, weigh 150 pounds, and are tan in color

Continued on page 17









### Continued from page 16

with black tips on their ears and long tail. They are found in areas that are thick with piñon pine, juniper, mountain mahogany, ponderosa pine, and oak brush, as well as areas with plenty of deer.

Mountain lions stalk prey from behind, are most active when the sun is down, and, in addition to hunting deer lion on trail, remain calm, through Friday from 8 a.m. to and elk, have been known to stalk livestock and domestic animals.

Always keep an eye on your pets when you are in the backcountry. Walk or hike in groups, carry a walking stick and pocket full of rocks, and keep children close.

If encountering a mountain at appear large, speak firmly, and use your rocks and walking stick if the animal gets aggressive.

Parks and Wildlife (CPW) if you witness any issues or aggressive behavior from local wildlife. CPW can be reached

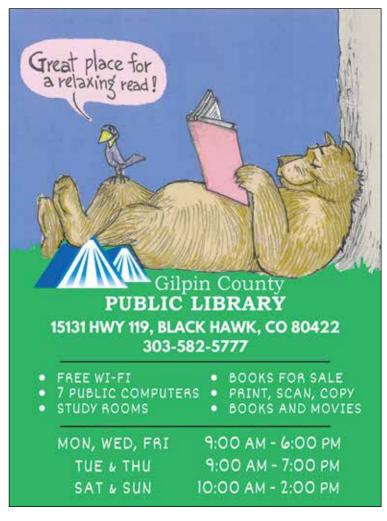
303-291-7227 Monday 5 p.m. For other emergency needs, you can contact Colorado State Patrol at 303-239-4501 at any time of the Please contact Colorado day or week. To anonymously report any illegal wildlife activity, call Operation Game Thief at 1-877-COLO-OGT.

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### TAKE A HIKE ACROSS THE PEAKS

### OMAYRA ACEVEDO PEAK TO PEAK

If you are traveling from Central City to Allenspark, or vice versa, you'll most likely be driving on the Peak to Peak Highway. The 55-mile highway offers breathtaking views and opportunities to enjoy the wilderness of the Rocky Mountains. Here is a list of trails outside of recreational areas and state parks:

### Brainard Lake Recreation Area

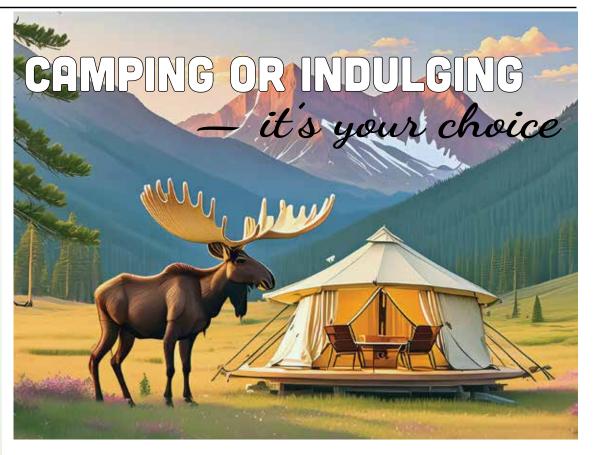
Brainard Lake Road, Ward.

Outdoor enthusiasts can live their dreams year-round and indulge in various activities near the town of Ward. The Brainard Lake Recreation Area offers endless outdoor fun, from fishing to hunting and hiking to picnicking.

Non-motorized boating and bicycling are among other activities that make the area ideal. Due to its popularity, reservations are required for parking and camping from June through October, even for pass holders.

During winter, the area is closed to vehicles, but parking is available at the Gateway Trailhead/Winter Parking Lot without a permit. Recreationists can access the area from there. Many hikes at the recreation area allow leashed dogs, but the more challenging hikes are not

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### CHRISTOPHER KELLEY PEAK TO PEAK

The most important question you can ask yourself when visiting the Colorado mountains is: what kind of experience are you looking for? And where you stay along the Peak to Peak can be the gateway to that experience.

Do you want to rough it out in the wilderness, or be pampered and lie in a hot tub under the stars? Either way, the Peak to Peak Visitor's Guide has got you covered.

If you're looking to be close to some exciting nightlife, as well as colorful local history, with plenty of delectable dining options, then you can't go wrong by staying in one of the several casino hotels in Black Hawk.

Stay in luxury accommodations and enjoy all-night gaming, as well as several enticing spa packages.

Or, why not stay right in the heart of downtown Nederland at the Boulder Creek Lodge?

Nederland features great dining and great breweries, and is a hub to several adventures across the region.

But perhaps you're more interested in a rugged experience out in the wilderness, or a bit of "glamping."

Golden Gate Canyon State Park is open year round and offers the most amenities, including picnic tables, fire rings, and showers, albeit for a higher price.

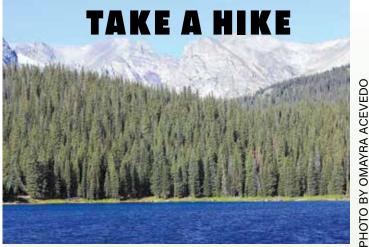
Rainbow Lakes and Brainard Lake are smaller state parks that are less expensive. They open by mid-May, and feature both camp hosts and fire rings, but there are no water hookups or showering facilities.

Keep in mind that admission to state parks requires reservations to be made through the state park's website, and that timed reservations fill up fast during the summer months.

Kelly Dahl and Pickle Gulch are also smaller but popular campsites along Highway 119 between Nederland and Black Hawk. There's also "open dispersed camping" at West Magnolia, off Highway 119, and Gordon Gulch, off Highway 72. However, these areas fill up quickly during the warmer months and often lack the presence of a camp host.

Backcountry camping on U.S. Forest Service land is not recommended for casual campers and is not typically advised to those without proper outdoor training. Camping on U.S. Forest Service land requires a permit for the specific zone in which you wish to camp.

When camping, please be aware of and adhere to any fire bans in the area. Be prepared for extreme weather and make sure you have enough camping fuel. Also, when ending your time in the great outdoors be sure that you've left no trace, which includes any trash, and especially be sure not to leave with a campfire that is still smoldering.



**Brainard Lake Recreation Area** 

### Continued from page 18

dog-friendly, and it is best to leave your pets at home. \*Dogs must be on a handheld leash at all times.

### **Mud Lake Trails**

From the Peak to Peak Highway, roughly two miles outside Nederland, turn onto Colorado Road 126 for half a mile.

Roughly two miles outside the town of Nederland is Mud Lake, a recreational area accommodating all levels of hiking and providing an ideal learning environment for naturalists of every age.

Ranging from 0.7 miles to 1.3 miles, several hikes reveal the area's natural beauty. Hikers and equestrians frequent Mud Lake for its accessibility and the various trails that let you decide if you want a short or long hike.

Trails at Mud Lake are:
Caribou Ranch Link
Kinnickinnick Loop
Tungsten Loop
Chickadee Trail
Sherwood Forest Trail
\*Dogs must be on a handheld leash at all times.

### Sourdough Trail

From the Peak to Peak Highway, turn onto National Forest System Road 298 toward the Colorado Mountain Research Station. Not long after turning, the parking lot will be on your left.

Between the towns of Nederland and Ward, near the University of Colorado Mountain Research Station, is the Sourdough Trail, an 11-mile outdoor adventure trail for hiking, birding, and horseback riding.

Sourdough The Trail is nestled in the stunning Roosevelt National Forest, exposing you to views of Mountain, Four Niwot Mile Creek, and Left Hand Creek. Though it isn't one of the highest trails, parts of the Peak to Peak Highway can be seen from the trail, leading you to believe that you are much higher than you are. \*Dogs must be on a hand-held leash at all times.

#### **Rainbow Lakes**

From the Peak to Peak
Highway, turn onto National
Forest System Road 298,
toward the Colorado
Mountain Research Station
and follow the sign to
Rainbow Lakes. Also in the
vicinity of the University
of Colorado Mountain

Continued on page 23





### Operating:

- NEDERLAND FOOD PANTRY
- THE CLOTHING CLOSET
- THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

When We Share Abundance, Everyone Thrives.

Every dollar donated helps feed and clothe our community. Just \$25 feeds an individual for a week.

We appreciate your support!



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Nederland - Boulder - Mountains



### **GILPIN COUNTY**

### Parks & Recreation



gilpincounty.colorado.gov

### We are here to serve the Gilpin community, but are open to all!

The Community Center has a gymnasium, cardio hall, weight room, fitness studio, 2 pools, indoor track, locker room & showers, youth camp room and multipurpose room. The fairgrounds include a community garden, nature trail and an indoor and outdoor arena. Pete Gones Memorial Park is across HWY 46 with sports fields and a playground.









































Licensed childcare ages 5-11 afterschool, all-day Fridays, and summer camp. Fre

Youth soccer, basketball and baseball. Adult pickleball, volleyball and softball

Yoga, Pilates, Senior Fit, Taekwondo, AquaFit

#### Arts

Pottery, Gilpin Stichers

Swim lessons, personal training, equipment orientations

Eagles Teen Program after school activities & field trips





















https://www.facebook.com/gilpincounty.org





### **Golden Gate Canyon State Park**

Panorama Point in Golden Gate Canyon State Park offers unparalleled views of the Continental Divide.

### WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

Golden Gate Canyon State Park is 12,000 acres of forests, meadows, and peaks. It has 35 miles of trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and winter sports for year-round outdoor activities.

The park is located along Highway 119 north of Black Hawk and south of Rollinsville. There is a fee of \$10/day/car, but Colorado residents who paid for a Keep

Colorado Wild Pass with their att vehicle registration are exempt is from the fee.

There are two campgrounds for overnight camping in the park, and backcountry campsites for hike-in camping. Additionally, the park has cabins, yurts, and a guesthouse that can be rented for groups. The main campground, Reverend's Ridge, has water and electrical hookups and waste disposal stations for RVs and trailers.

One of the most scenic

attractions in the park is Panorama Point, an observation deck with literally panoramic views of the Continental Divide and the Indian Peaks Wilderness. It's a well-known spectacular location for weddings during the summer months.

There is a Visitor Center on the southeast side of the park just off Highway 46, which is open year-round. Staff are available to assist with trail and campground conditions.

The park is renowned for

park its aspen groves in the fall, an one of the park's busiest trally times. Summer offers cool the temperatures at night and the warm days for a variety of . It's outdoor activities. Fishing cular and hunting are permitted in the park with the appropriate licenses.

The website for the park is cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/GoldenGateCanyon. Campground reservations can be made by calling 1-800-244-5613.



Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30pm

Beginners and walk-ins welcome

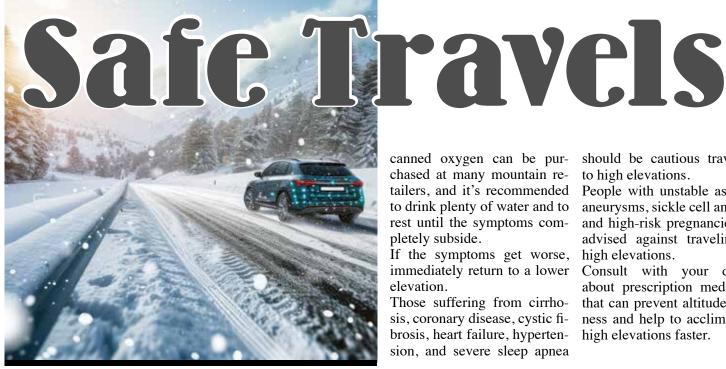
For men, women, and teens age 14 and up

NEDERLAND DEFENSIVE ARTS



Karl Zaunbrecher 518-637-3106 karlzaunbrecher @gmail.com





canned oxygen can be purchased at many mountain retailers, and it's recommended to drink plenty of water and to rest until the symptoms completely subside.

If the symptoms get worse, immediately return to a lower

Those suffering from cirrhosis, coronary disease, cystic fibrosis, heart failure, hypertension, and severe sleep apnea should be cautious traveling to high elevations.

People with unstable asthma, aneurysms, sickle cell anemia, and high-risk pregnancies are advised against traveling to high elevations.

Consult with your doctor about prescription medicines that can prevent altitude sickness and help to acclimate to high elevations faster.

### Life at elevation:

### extreme weather and altitude sickness

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY PEAK TO PEAK

When planning your adventures up at elevation, it's important to be prepared for what most visitors to the mountains don't expect...extreme weather and altitude sickness.

The mountains create exspecific slopes and elevations, which affect the rise and fall of air currents and drastically change local temperatures and humidity.

Basically – don't let that warm, shining sun fool you! The trail you wish to hike may have impassable snow blocking your trail, or the day could quickly turn to rain, or hail, or winds that can blow as hard as 70 miles per hour. Always pay attention to your local weather app, and bring an extra layer or two of clothing with you.

If on the trail and the weath-

er turns sour, turning back is your best option, especially if you're under-prepared.

The symptoms of altitude sickness can sometimes seem unrelated or innocuous, but when traveling to higher altitudes it's important to heed those symptoms, which include headaches, nausea, fatigue, treme weather due to their faster heart rate, and shortness of breath.

> When planning a trip up into the mountains, ascend gradually. If you drove into Colorado from sea level, it's best to spend a night or two in the mile-high city of Denver to acclimate. Once above 9,000 feet, consider day trips at higher elevations and sleeping at lower elevations.

> If you are experiencing the symptoms of altitude sickness, do not continue traveling to higher elevations. An over-the-counter pain reliever can be taken for a headache,

### In case of **EMERGENCY DIAL 911**

For all other non-emergency services, contact the appropriate department listed below.

#### **Central City**

Central City Fire Department 303-582-3473

#### **Black Hawk**

Black Hawk Fire Department 303-582-0426

Black Hawk Police Department 303-582-0503

### **Gilpin County**

Timberline Fire **Protection District** 303-582-5768

Gilpin County Sheriff's Office 303-582-1060

### **Coal Creek**

Coal Creek Canyon Fire Rescue 303-642-3121

#### Nederland

**Nederland Fire Protection District** 303-258-9161

Nederland Police Department 303-258-3250

#### Sugarloaf

Sugarloaf Fire **Protection District** 303-442-1050

#### **Gold Hill**

Gold Hill Fire Department 303-444-8003

#### Ward

Indian Peaks Fire Protection District 303-459-3452

#### **Lefthand Canyon**

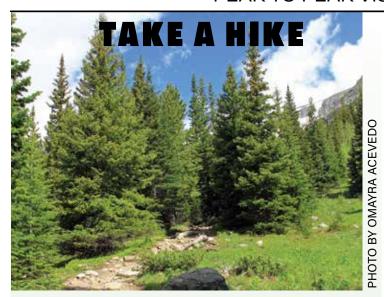
Lefthand Fire And Rescue 720-214-0560

#### Jamestown

Jamestown Volunteer Fire Department 303-447-1568

#### Allenspark

Allenspark Fire **Protection District** 303-747-2586



South Saint Vrain Trailhead

### Continued from page 19

Research Station is
Rainbow Lakes.
At 8.4 miles shorter than
the Sourdough Trail, this
2.6-mile out-and-back trail
usually takes a little
over an hour.

Aside from hiking, adventurers can enjoy camping and fishing. Though this trail is closed in winter near the Sourdough Trail and only opens when weather permits, it is heavily used. \*Dogs must be on a hand-held leash at all times.

### **South Saint Vrain Trailhead** 173 County Road 96, Ward

For a trail offering various easy-to-moderate lengths and is dog-friendly, the South Saint Vrain Trail makes it easy to decide if you want to hike one hour or several. It begins at Beaver Reservoir Road (County Road 96) and is 3.1 miles to the Sourdough Trail.

Opt for a longer hike and journey 5.9 miles to Brainard Lake. For loop options, combine this trail with segments of the Sourdough,

Waldrop, or CMC trails. Many hikers find this trail soothing as it follows the South Saint Vrain Creek. \*Dog-friendly

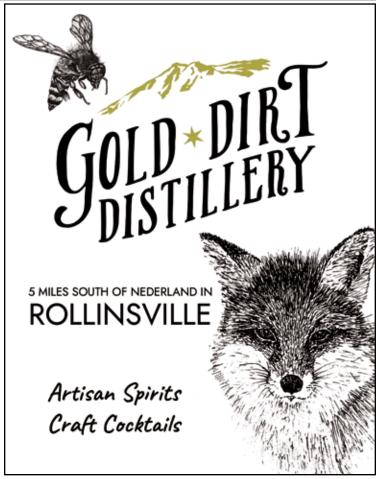
### Ceran Saint Vrain Trailhead

From the Peak to Peak Highway, turn on Overland Road. After 1.8 miles, turn onto Riverside Lane for 0.1 miles.

In just under two easy miles, everyone can enjoy the serene landscape of the Ceran Saint Vrain Trail. The path follows the South Saint Vrain Creek downstream for the duration of the journey. Because this trail offers an additional adventure on rugged terrain, leaving your four-legged best friend at home is best.

For rugged adventure seekers, the trail ends at National Forest System Road 252. This rough four-wheel drive road climbs 0.5 miles northwest to a four-way intersection. From there, a steep half-mile to the left up to Miller Rock, a scenic high-point, offers 360-degree views. \*Dogfriendly

Continued on page 30





### **CANNA-TOUR** through the Peak to Peak

MINDY LEARY PEAK TO PEAK

A Glimpse into Cannabis History in Colorado

Before we delve into the dispensaries of the Peak to Peak region, let's take a moment to understand the historical significance cannabis in Colorado. The state has been a trailblazer in cannabis legalization in the United States.

In 2000, Colorado became one of the first states to legalize medical marijuana, followed by the historic move to legalize recreational cannabis in 2012. This progressive stance has fostered a dynamic cannabis industry, attracting enthusiasts and entrepreneurs alike to the Centennial State.

Colorado's Peak to Peak area offers not only stunning vistas but also a thriving cannabis scene. With towns like Nederland, Black Hawk, and Central City anchoring this beautiful region, visitors have a variety of options to explore in the world of cannabis. Let's embark on a journey through this elevated enclave and uncover the dispensaries that define it.

Indubitably, Nederland has quite the selection when it



"Colorado's Peak to Peak area offers not only stunning vistas but also a thriving cannabis scene.

given its size!

Igadi, Nederland: Igadi means "the flowers that are cultivated in a garden," in Xhosa, a South African language. Igadi makes their own line of edibles as well, which are usually the best deal in the store. With a focus on quality and transparency, Igadi offers a variety of cannabis products. They're open from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to

comes to cannabis dispensaries 8 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can find them at 92 E. 1st Street, Nederland, or visit their website at igadiltd.com you covered with their great for more information.

> Silver Stem: Plenty of ongoing rotating sales, and of the best deals and product open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Silver Stem is a chain with several locations throughout Denver, but the mountain vibe is the right vibe! You can find

them at 1 W. 1st Street #1, Nederland. For special deals, check out their website at silverstemcannabis.com.

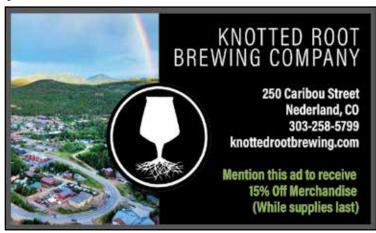
Kind Castle: With a unique atmosphere featuring drawbridge at their Parachute location and a King's Chair selfie opportunity at their Nederland spot, Kind Castle offers a royal experience. They're open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and located at 98 Highway 119 in Nederland. Visit their website at kindcastle.com for more details.

Whether you're seeking sativa gummies for a hike, premium indica products for relaxation, or just a unique cannabis experience, Nederland is where it's at.

If you are planning on gambling or dining in the towns of Black Hawk and Central City, the dispensaries in these slot meccas have selection and chill vibes.

The Green Solution: Some variety can be found at the Green Solution, Black Hawk's only dispensary. With bath bombs for sale, they even have

Continued on page 25





### CANNA-TOUR through the Peak to Peak

Continued from page 24

THC you can bathe in! With 22 locations statewide, they offer a vibrant points program with coupons and birthday bonuses. Find them at 231 Gregory Street in Black Hawk, open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. except on Christmas Day. Explore more, and for online ordering, visit tgscolorado.com.

Rocky Mountain Organics (RMO): Experience the laidback atmosphere at RMO in Central City. There is no pre-packed flower sold here - only the fresh, homegrown goodness Colorado that is known for. Their lobby features vending machines dispensing **CBD** accessories for your on-thego adventures. Located at 161 Gregory Street, they're open Monday to Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Contact them at 303-582-3991 for more info.

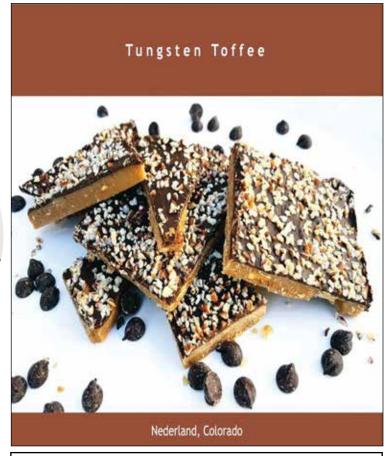
Central City Cannabis: Located in the same location as the very first dispensary in Colorado, Annie Oakley's, Central City Cannabis is lean, green, and on the scene. Since their grand opening in September of 2023, they've offering fantastic been promotions. Visit them inside Annie Oakley's grocery and liquor store at 135 Nevada Street in Central City. They're open Sunday and Monday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesday through Saturday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Stay updated on their latest sales via Instagram at central city canna or call 716-348-6275.



Igadi, Central City: Igadi still maintains some vertical integration with its local marijuana grows throughout the state. And with several locations in the mountains, including Nederland, you will not be left guessing where your next eighth of weed will come from. They have got all the cannabis products you need for your Colorado adventures, whether you're hitting the slots in Black Hawk or exploring Central City. Check out their website at igadiltd.com/central-city or visit them at 171 Lawrence Street. They're open daily from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Reach them at 303-582-3093.

Whether you're seeking relaxation or excitement, these dispensaries have you covered with their diverse offerings and convenient locations!

So breathe a sigh of relief and know the dispensaries of the Peak to Peak area excitedly await you with open doors and a warm Rocky Mountain welcome. Remember to consume responsibly and savor your journey through this high-altitude haven of cannabis retail shopping.









### **Central City to Allenspark**



Description:

With its rich history and endless outdoor activities, the 55-mile-long Peak to Peak Highway is one of Colorado's most beautiful scenic byways. It connects several mountain towns, each one with unique characteristics, and inspires travelers to explore and discover the gems in this region.

Follow our photo tour to unveil a world of possibilities. From photography to hiking and everything in between, let the majestic Rocky Mountains of the Peak to Peak take you on an adventure of a lifetime!

PHOTOS BY OMAYRA ACEVEDO



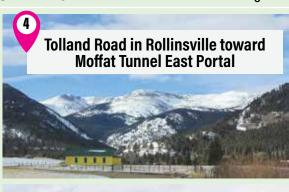




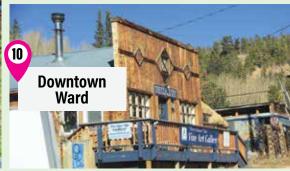


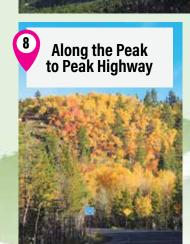


**Golden Gate** 



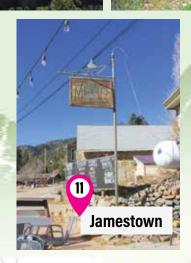


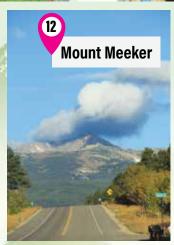




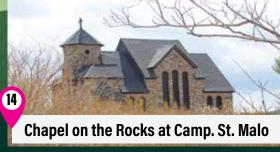
Coal Creek Canyon/ Gross Dam Reservoir

6











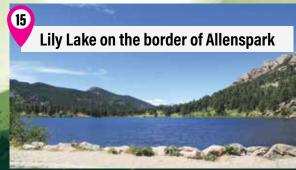








PHOTO BY JAMIE LAMMERS

### Oh, the places you'll see in Nederland!

JAMIE LAMMERS **NEDERLAND** 

Yes, the town of Nederland is a small town. According to its official website, the resident population consists of approximately 1,500 people. However, just because it's small doesn't mean there aren't plenty of things to do and places to see throughout.

Nederland contains many shops in its vicinity. There's Nature's Own, a local rock shop containing minerals, fossils, and jewelry, as well as books for all ages and toys for kids. There's Blue Owl Books and Boutique, a used bookstore that also happens to serve ice cream. There's The Rustic Moose, a retail gift shop with

Continued on page 31



Best place to start shopping in and about Nederland

Nature's Own rock shop located on the corner of First Street in Nederland has been a local favorite and destination spot for over two decades. Stop in to find something for everyone.



May 12 July 7

Sept 1 May 26 July 21 Sept 15

Party in the Peaks suntil 4pm Sept 29

June 23

June 9 Aug 4

10am-2pm 80 E. Second St

nederlandfarmersmarket.org







South Saint Vrain

Continued from page 23

### **Saint Vrain Mountain** and Meadow Mountain **Buchanan Pass Trail**

Head west on County Road 92 from the Peak to Peak Highway for about one mile. Take a slight right to stay on County Road 92. Continue onto Middle Saint

Vrain Road for 236 feet before turning left to stay on Middle Saint Vrain Road for 1.9 miles to reach Middle Saint Vrain Trail or proceed for another 1.7 miles to the Buchanan Pass Trail.

Nestled in the Indian Peaks Wilderness is the moderate to difficult Saint Vrain Mountain Trailhead. From the trailhead to Rock Creek Trailhead, the 3.9 miles can be the end of your trek. Hiking 6.5 miles, you'll find yourself on the Buchanan Pass Trail.

If you're willing to go 7.2 miles one way, you will reach the Middle Saint Vrain Trail. a popular hike for its varied landscapes from forest to above tree line. Sections of this trail are not open to pets, but equestrians enjoy a ride from time to time. \*Dogs are only allowed in areas that do not cross into Rocky

Mountain National Park territory and must be kept on a hand-held leash in many areas.

### **Allenspark**

Allenspark boasts much excitement as its sister town of Estes Park. Endless opportunities for outdoor activities and smalltown attractions make this mountain town a must-see on any Peak to Peak adventure.

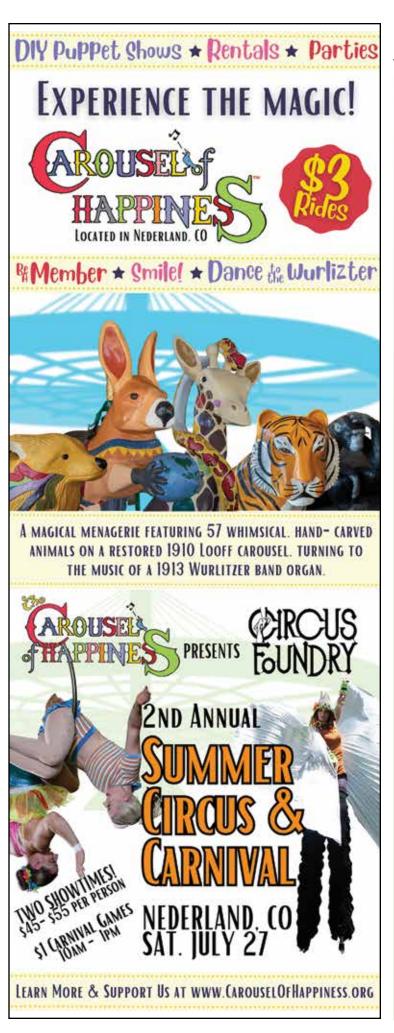
No matter what you're looking for, Allenspark has it all, including iconic Rocky Mountains scenery. Hike some or all of its trails and find yourself rejuvenated and excited all at once. The town is accessible via Estes Park. Lyons, or from the Peak to Peak Scenic Highway.

### Fox Creek and Rock Creek Loop

Northbound on Highway 7, before reaching The Old Gallery Visitor Center, you may notice many cars parked right off the highway. The attraction? The 3.8-mile Fox Creek and Rock Creek Loop.

Most hikers get through this hike in under two hours and with ease. From meadows to intertwining trails, this hike's best feature

Continued on page 37





Coffee and Kava in the most unique space

The Train Cars Coffee & Kava located in Nederland offers superb food and beverages in a fully restored train car.

### Continued from page 29

plenty of charming local items to buy for a loved one. There are even some music stores in town, with Brightwood Music selling instruments and providing lessons and Boogie Records offering vinyl, CDs, and stereo equipment.

If you're looking for a bite to eat, Nederland's got you covered there, too. Crosscut Pizza is beloved for its wood-fired pies, salads, and craft beers and wines on tap. Busey Brews gladly serves its customers fresh smoked meats, tofu, and of course house-brewed beer, along with wines and even non-alcoholic beverages. If you're looking for a small-batch craft brewery with a family-friendly pub-like atmosphere, look no further than Very Nice Brewing

Company. Nearby, there's even The Train Cars, a coffee, yogurt, and ice cream parlor made from, you guessed it, three historic train cars. Keep an eye out for local music playing at these venues, too, as well as at The Caribou Room. which also serves dinner before each of its shows.

Nederland also has plenty of places for families, especially kids, to enjoy. Many of the venues listed above family-friendly, but there are places designated particularly for kids. For those who find themselves fascinated with the outside world, be sure to check out Wild Bear Nature Center, an ecology center with a mission to educate and inspire kids (and families) about nature.

For those looking for a short escape from the stresses of the

world, head to the Carousel of Happiness, a hand-carved amusement ride dedicated to inspiring well-being in visitors. For those looking for an evening at the movies, go to the Backdoor Theater, a local venue that brings people together for two nights and one afternoon a week with a pre-movie raffle and a way to experience the latest releases with a close-knit community. Finally, for those interested in learning more about local history, there are opportunities to learn in both the Gillaspie House Museum and Nederland Mining Museum, which both allow guests to immerse themselves in the

There are even ways to get around Barker fallen and you're looking to ski

or snowboard, there's no better place than Eldora Mountain Resort to make that wish come

Community events are always happening in the area, including at Nederland Presbyterian Community Church Nederland and Community Library. There are so many ways for the community to gather together and celebrate with each other, whether it's baking events at the church or writing clubs at the library. During the summer months, people can visit the Nederland Farmers Market or the High Peaks Art Festival for local produce and artwork.

For such a small town, there is always so much to do, and those who still don't know where they want to start can always head to the visitor's center to ask for recommendations. There are so many other amazing locations haven't even mentioned above - Calvary Chapel, New Moon Bakery, Salto, Backcountry Pizza, Tadasana Mountain Yoga, and Mountain Man Outdoor Store, just to name a few. From local shops to historic destinations, from beautiful scenic trails to outstanding restaurants, there is so much that the town of Nederland has to offer. When you come to visit this small mountain community, you'll find something that piques your interest and encourages you to stick around!

outside if you're looking for some fresh air! You can bring your kids to Chipeta Park to run around in the playground or even fish in the nearby pond, and you can walk on various trails near Chipeta Park and Reservoir. NedRINK serves as a tennis court during the warmer months and a community ice rink during the colder months. Near the teen center known as Teens Inc. is Nathan Lazarus Skate Park, for those interested in skateboarding or rollerblading during the day. Mud Lake Recreation Area is also nearby, for those looking for a calm hike in a preserved area of wilderness. Finally, of course, when the snow has





In the shopping center, Nederland

### **Indian Peaks Wilderness**



### WES ISENHART PEAK TO PEAK

The Indian Peaks Wilderness was established in 1978 and is one of the busiest and most popular wilderness areas in the country because of its proximity to the Boulder-Denver area. The wilderness area gets its name from the 16 peaks in the wilderness that are named after Indian tribes.

The wilderness area is

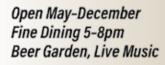
popular for outdoor activities like camping, hiking, fishing, and climbing. There are 28 trails covering 133 miles in the wilderness, with 50 lakes and six passes across the Continental Divide.

The Hessie Trailhead, west of the town of Eldora, is a popular access point for the trails in the southern part of the

Continued on page 33

### Clear or cloudy, awe-inspiring views

Top: View looking south from South Arapaho Peaks. The Continental Divide is on the right and runs through the James Peak Wilderness to Berthoud Pass. Bottom: October in the Indian Peaks Wilderness. View of Mount Neva on the trail to Arapaho Pass.

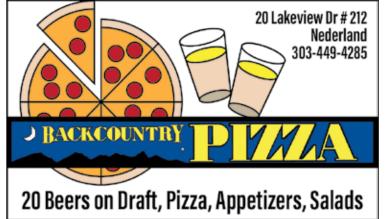




Check our website for events

303-443-6461 401 Main St, Gold Hill goldhillinn.com





### PEAK TO PEAK VISITORS GUIDE 2024





### Views from the top

Top: Celebrating on the summit of South Arapaho Peak. It is an 8.4 mile out-and-back trail from the Fourth of July Trailhead. Bottom: Jasper Lake can be reached from the Hessie Trailhead. Devil's Thumb is in the background.

### Continued from page 32

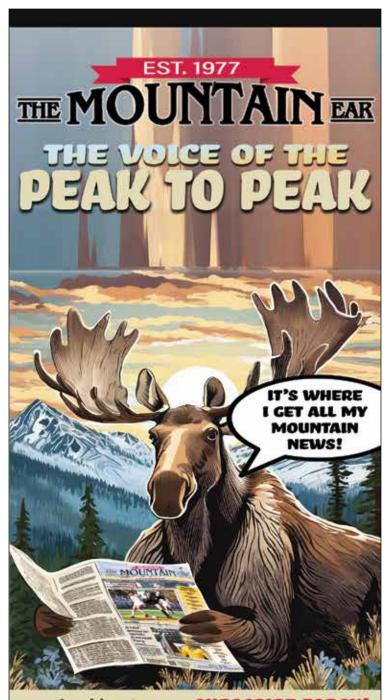
Indian Peaks. It is the start of a variety of hikes for all abilities and distances, all the way up to the Continental Divide. A shuttle bus runs from the Nederland Middle-Senior High School and RTD parking lots in the summer.

The Fourth of July Trailhead, also west of Eldora, gives access to Arapaho and Caribou Passes across the Continental Divide, and the summits of South and North Arapaho Peaks. There is no shuttle, so

getting a parking spot requires being at the trailhead early. Late June is the best time to see tundra wildflowers on the trail up to Arapaho Pass and the Continental Divide.

Camping in the Indian Peaks Wilderness is by registration only. The US Forest Service recommends downloading their mobile app (recreation. org) to register for a camping spot online.

There is car camping at the Kelly-Dahl Campground, south of Nederland along Highway 119.



Looking to stay informed about all things happening in the Peak to Peak area?

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Use the coupon code VISIT2024 for 10% off an entire year!

The Mountain-Ear newspaper is your weekly go-to source for breaking news, community happenings, and more. With our extensive business directory, up-to-date events calendar, and a podcast, we have all of your community news covered!

**WWW.THEMTNEAR.COM** 

### A tasty tour through the Peaks

OMAYRA ACEVEDO PEAK TO PEAK

The Peak to Peak region offers something for everyone, including great eats. With so many places to choose from, here are highlights – some of locals' favorite and frequently visited places to grab a bite to eat or drink.

The first stop is Central City's Dostal Alley. This brewpub and casino is family-owned and run. Who doesn't love a good pizza with handcrafted beer?! Dostal Alley also serves calzones and sandwiches, which pair well with any of their ales.

If you're craving breakfast or an afternoon snack, check out the Black Hawk's Bean and Cream, familiarly known as The B&C. A full espresso bar and baked goods aren't the only things you'll find at The B&C.

Freshly made burritos and quesadillas are among other treats you'll find at this café. In the heat of summer, you can treat yourself to ice cream! while you sip on a beverage and make new friends.

Coal Creek Canyon is another must-taste destination.

While roaming around scenic Rollinsville, don't forget to stop at one of their eateries. Gold Dirt Distillery is the perfect place for spirit enthusiasts. With nearly 20 altitude-made libations, choose wisely and responsibly.



From coffee to beer and pizza to cocktails, plenty keeps you entertained. Often, there's also live local music to enjoy while you sip on a beverage and make new friends.

Coal Creek Canyon is another must-taste destination. The Canyon Tavern is your home for a quintessential Colorado bar experience. Head to the Wondervu Café, where the carne asada and margaritas are to die for. Just remember to pace yourself.

Now, a tasty trip across the Peak to Peak region wouldn't

be complete without stopping in Nederland. There are many places to eat here and they are all good. But a top choice for a late afternoon/early evening drink after a long hike is at the Very Nice Brewing Company (VNBC).

If you're craving an adult beverage, Monks Phunk, a Belgium-style ale brewed with honey, is a local favorite goto beer. However, the brewmasters recommend sharing a flight if it's your first time at VNBC.

Past the town of Nederland,

off Gold Hill Road, is the historic community of Gold Hill. The Gold Hill General Store & Pub is one of the two eating establishments in town. From meals to desserts, and morning beverages to adult beverages, it's easy to visit in the morning and return in the afternoon.

Our last stop is at Rock Creek Tavern in Allenspark. The Brussels Sprouts appetizer is a good starting point. If you're sharing this experience with someone, go ahead and share a pizza. Rock Creek Tavern is famous for its pizza. If you're flying solo, get a personal-size pizza or a burger. Whichever you choose, don't forget to pair it with a tasty beer.

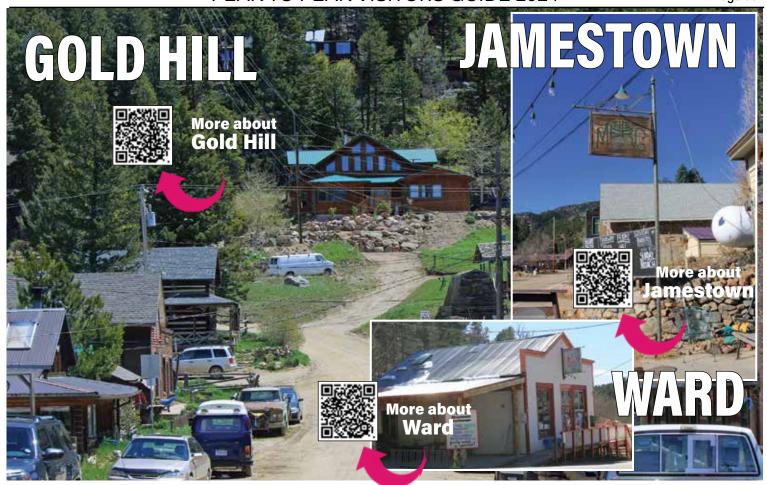
There you have it – some top faves across the Peak to Peak. It's challenging to try to choose among the many offerings in the area, so remember that there are more homes of fine food and drink than are mentioned here.

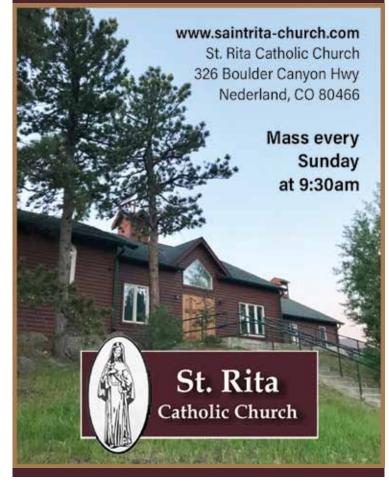
Welcome to the Peak to Peak region, where adventure isn't only found outdoors, but in a snug brewhouse or café.

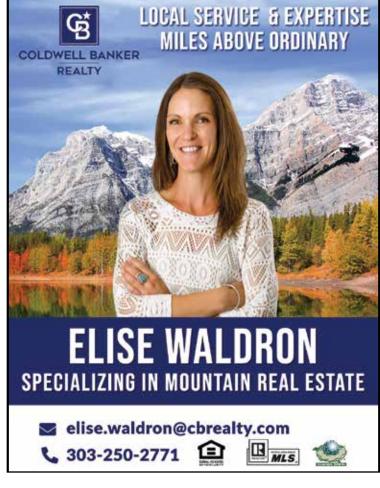
For more dining and drinking options, check out our Taste of the Peaks listing on the back of this visitor guide, or online and follow the prompts to the extended guide.

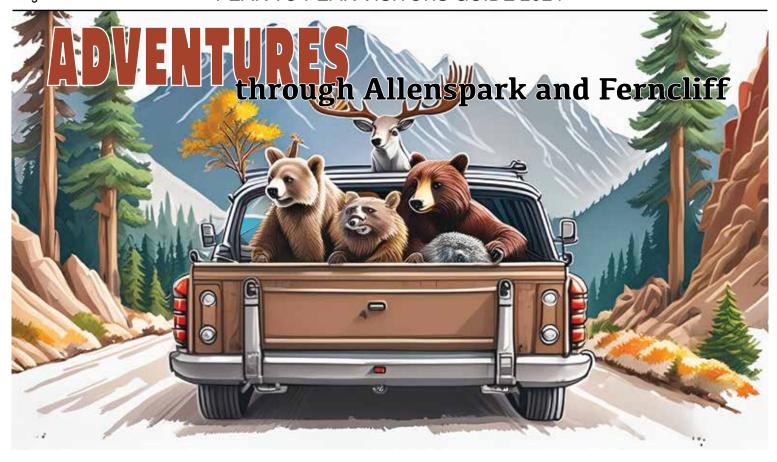












### **OMAYRA ACEVEDO ALLENSPARK**

Nestled near the foot of the 13.916-foot Mount Meeker is the mountain town of Allenspark, adjacent to Ferncliff and filled with hidden gems - something for everyone. A nice kickstart to any adventure is at the Tahosa Coffee House, where you'll not only find a warm cup of coffee but a warm welcome from the community.

From Tahosa, head south and make a quick stop at the century-old Meeker Park Lodge, where you can picnic or pick up a bag of ice for camping.

Further south from Meeker Park Lodge is The Old Gallery, Allenspark's Visitor Center and entertainment venue. From fine art to jewelry and live music to classes and Wi-Fi, you will find it all at The Old Gallery.

Once you've wandered through The Old Gallery, check out the Fox Creek and Rock Creek Loop hike, right off the highway a few yards from The Old Gallery. It's a popular hike, and there's plenty of opportunity to feel rejuvenated.

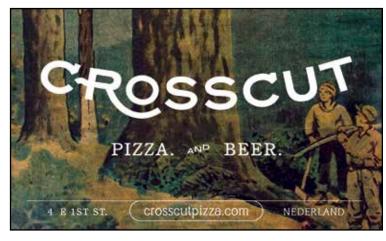
Across the street from The best pizza in town. Old Gallery lies Downtown Allenspark. Your first stop here should be at the Tree Huggers Trading Company, where you will find more local artisan crafts, kitchenware, clothing, and greeting cards, which you can mail across the street at the Allenspark post office.

Hungry? Rock Creek Tavern is one of three places you can sit down and enjoy a meal or share a snack. Rock Creek Tavern is known for having the

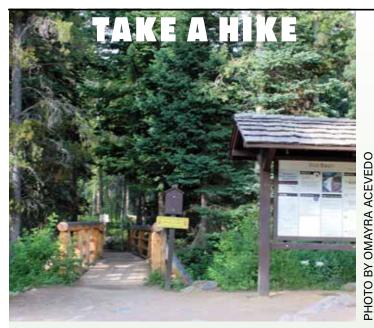
In the mood for a delicious homemade breakfast? Meadow Mountain Cafe is your go-to for mountain breakfast cooking, complete with muffins and your favorite egg dish.

If you're a fan of burgers, check out Ferncliff's new

Continued on page 42







Rocky Mountain National Park

### Continued from page 30

is the Fox Creek Grotto. Keep your ears open, listen for the soothing sound of water falling, and follow it for a unique experience.

Location: Highway 7, near The Old Gallery and Allenspark Business District

\*Dog-friendly; must be kept on a hand-held leash.

### Rocky Mountain National Park Hikes in Allenspark

From Highway 7, turn west on County Road 84 W for 0.4 miles. Turn right onto Highway 115 for two miles to reach the ranger station.

Rocky Mountain National Park is a familiar name to many outdoor enthusiasts, but did you know this national park extends into Allenspark? Though quieter during colder months, most hikes are accessible yearround and offer plenty of solitude.

Difficulty and length of the hikes in the Wild Basin area vary greatly but are considered moderate to extremely difficult. It's best to travel with expert hikers and climbers if you're exploring this part of the park for the first time.

Knowing what to pack and learning basic outdoor survival skills can be handy when exploring these hikes. Aside from the challenging routes, wildlife is abundant in the area and should not be approached or underestimated.

It's also important to note that many trails connect, and you may have to start on one trail before reaching your preferred hike.

Hikes you can enjoy in the Wild Basin area are:

- Calypso Cascades Trail
- Copeland Falls
- Ouzel Falls and Ouzel
- Lake Trail
- Thunder Lake Trail
- Finch Lake
- Saint Vrain Mountain
- Tent Rocks
- Sandbeach Lake Trail
- Snowbank Lake
- Bluebird Lake Trail
- Lookout Mountain Trail
- Pear Lake
- Lion Lake Trail

\*Not dog-friendly. Dogs are not allowed on Rocky Mountain National Park trails.





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# Taste of the Peaks

### The best in Colorado Cuisine across the Peak to Peak

Want to know all the best stops to eat, drink, and mingle across the Peak to Peak. Look below and follow the QRCode to check them out online.

### **Allenspark**

### The Mountain **Meadow Cafe** 441 Business Highway 7 303-747-2541





#### **Jamestown**

### The Jamestown Mercantile 108 Main Street 303-442-5847

#### Ward

Marrocco's **Family Dining** 8 Utica Street 303-459-0358

#### **Gold Hill**

**Gold Hill Inn** 401 Main Street 303-443-6461

**Gold Hill General Store** and Pub 531 Main Street 303-443-7724

### **Nederland**

### Augustina's Winery 20 East Lakeview Drive, Unit 103



回紧绞回

303-520-4871

20 East Lakeview Drive, Unit 212 303-258-0176





**Covered Wagon** Restaurant & Saloon

15 East 1st Street 303-258-7578

Crosscut Pizzeria & Taphouse 41 East 1st Street 303-258-3519

**Decent Bagel** 95 East 1st Street 720-882-6063

**Diner Bar** 121 North Jefferson Street 303-258-0614

Kaleidoscope

Kitchen 85 East 1st Street or 250 North Caribou Street 303-815-2242



303-258-1169

**Knotted Root** Brewing 250 North Caribou Street

720-248-7129

Mountain People's Co-Op

30 East 1st Street 303-258-7500

New Moon Bakery and Cafe

1 West 1st Street 303-258-3569

Salto Coffee 112 East 2nd Street 303-258-3537

Sweet Sue's 35 East 1st Street 303-874-4707

The Deli at 8236' 34 East 1st Street 303-258-1113

**The Train Cars** Coffee and Kava 101 Highway 119 303-258-0440

Gringos

**Ubon Thai** Cuisine 303-258-3194 **Very Nice Brewing** Company 20 East Lakeview

Drive, Unit 112 303-258-3770

### **Coal Creek Canyon**

Canyon Coffee 30509 Highway 72 303-642-1900



Wondervu Cafe and Gift Shop 33492 Highway 72

### 303-642-7197 Rollinsville

**Gold Dirt** Distillery 41 Main Street 773-540-9800

**Howlin Wind Brewing** and Blending 51 A Main Street 719-838-2181

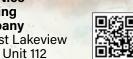
Melt Coffee 51 A Main Street 225-278-0977

**Toss Wood** Fired Eatery 63 Main Street

### **Mid-Gilpin**

Roy's Last Shot 17268 Highway 119 303-642-7870

**Very Nice** Brewing Company II 180 Jankowski Drive 303-258-3770































Tres

155 Highway 119







#### **Black Hawk**

### Ameristar Casino (hosting)

- Centennial Market
- Fireside Kitchen
- Timberline Grill
- Jinya Ramen Bar
- Modern Pantry
- Bar 8042
- Club 38
- Richman Beer Garden 111 Richman Street 720-946-4000

### **Black Hawk Bean and Cream**

135 Clear Creek Street 303-582-0306



5312 CO-119 303-582-3418

Crook's Palace 200 Gregory

Street 720-316-1361

Gilpin Casino

(hosting) - Lucille Malone's 111 Main Street 303-582-1133

### **Horseshoe Casino**

(hosting)

- **Brew Brothers**
- Dash Cafe
- Roxy's Restaurant & Bar

401 Main Street 800-843-4753

**JKQ Barbecue** 200 Gregory

Street 720-316-1361

**Lady Luck Casino** 

( hosting ) – TaCo Cantina 340 Main Street



### The Lodge Casino (hosting)

- White Buffalo Grille
- Jake's Deli
- 240 Main Street



### Monarch Casino (hosting)

- Bistro Mariposa
- The Buffet
- The Chophouse
- Twenty-Four/7 488 Main Street 303-582-1000



### **Red Dolly Casino** 530 Gregory Street

303-582-1100

### Saratoga Casino

(hosting) Main Street Cafe 101 Main Street



### 303-582-6100 **Central City**

### The Famous **Bonanza Casino**

- Stella's Cafe 107 Main Street 303-582-5914





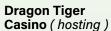
109 Eureka Street 720-357-7104



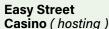
(hosting)

- Mid City Grill
- The Retro Deli and Tavern 102 Main Street 303-582-5050





Dragon Tiger Noodle Company 132 Lawrence Street 303-582-5623



– Millie's Restaurant 120 Main Street 303-582-5914

### **Grand Z Casino**

( hosting )

- The Grand Bistro
- The Grill 321 Gregory Street 303-582-0800



If you have a business in the Peak to Peak that belongs on this list, we want to know! To contact us, visit us at www.themtnear to submit your listing.























--Info

-- Carhartt

-- Darn Tough

Outdoor Gear

-- Maps & Books

www.MountainManNederland.com Summer Hours: 8-7 Daily 20 Lakeview Drive #111, Nederland, CO

OUTDOOR STORE

Nederland, Colorado



A purveyor of fine provisions suitable for a variety of outdoor endeavors.









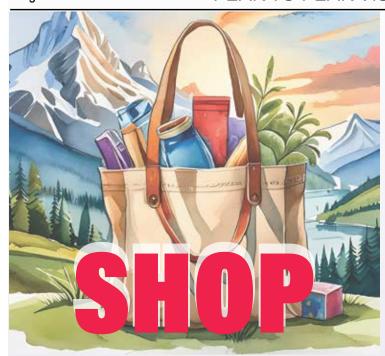












### ..the Peak to Peak!

### **Allenspark**

The Old Gallery 14863 Highway 7 303-747-2906

**Tree Huggers Trading Co.** 79 Highway 7 **BUS Unit 488** 

303-747-9177 Maxson **Designs** 

235 Highway 7 BUS 303-747-0434

#### **Ferncliff**

**Ferncliff Fine** Liquors 1083 Highway

7 BUS, Unit A 970-744-4007

**Ferncliff Food** & Fuel 1083 Highway 7 BUS

970-744-4007

### Ward

**Ward Mountain Exchange** 62 Utica Street 720-375-3137

The Glass Tipi 55 Utica Street 303-459-0376



**Ace Hardware** 74 Highway 119 303-258-3132



**Blue Owl Books** & Boutique

176 Highway 119 303-258-3695 **Brightwood Music** 

20 E. Lakeview Drive, Unit 109 303-258-8863

**Boogie Records** 150 N Jefferson Street, Unit B4 303-258-3081

Carousel of **Happiness** 20 Lakeview Drive 303-258-3457

**Dam Liquor** 303-258-9002

Kaleidoscope Fine **Arts Gallery** 20 Lakeview Drive, Unit 210 303-949-3590



Unit C 720-899-4188

**Mountain Man Outdoor Store** 20 Lakeview Drive, Unit 111 303-258-3295

Nature's Own 5 E 1st Street 303-258-3557

**Nederland Feed** and Pet 74 Highway 72 303-258-3411

**Nederland Visitors Center** 45 W 1st Street, Unit 1 303-258-3936

**One Brown Mouse Boutique** 35 E 1st Street 303-258-1200

O'Neil Rocky **Mountain Art, LLC** 20 Lakeview Drive 303-717-5794

**Peak Wine** and Spirits 150 N Jefferson Street, Unit B2 303-258-3334

Perry's Shoe Shop 114 E 2nd Street 303-443-4580

**Spinning Silica** 20 Lakeview Drive, **Unit 208** 720-240-8484

The Alpaca **Store and More** 30 W Boulder Street 303-258-1400

The Rustic Moose 26 E 1st Street 303-258-3225

The Shop 20 Lakeview Drive 303-517-0039



Wild Bear **Nature Center** 20 Lakeview Drive, Unit 107 303-258-0495





### **Coal Creek Canvon**

**Canyon Liquors** 30550 Highway 72 303-642-3200



#### **Rollinsville**

**Dusty Rose Boutique** 51 Main Street 720-417-2673



### **Mid-Gilpin**

**Mid-County** Liquors 17218 Highway 119 303-642-0906



Underground Liquor 15107 Highway 119 303-582-6034



#### **Black Hawk**

Basin+Bend 357 Gregory Street 833-276-6263



**Hearts** and Legends 221 Gregory Street 720-798-4203



Hi Heat and Sweets





Litwood and **Artisan Friends** 221 Gregory Street 720-756- 0465



**Mountain Poppy Boutique and Gift** 317 Gregory Street 720-669-0665



**Peak to Peak Market & Liquors** 7320 Black Hawk Boulevard, Unit 1A



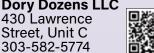
### **Central City**

**Central City Trading Post** 125 Main Street



**Dory Dozens LLC** 430 Lawrence Street, Unit C









20 Lakeview Drive, Unit 114













### SHOP ..the Peak to Peak!

Ermel's **Emporium** 111 Eureka Street 303-582-1797

**Gilpin County Arts Association** 117 Eureka Street 303-582-5952

**Gilpin Historical** Society 228 E 1st

**High Street** 303-582-5283

Grayson and Leigh's Reclaimed Goods 103 Eureka Street

920-860-6638



**Golden Rose Antiques and** Collectibles 107 Eureka Street 303-330-1682

Hawley Mercantile 121 Main Street 303-228-6926



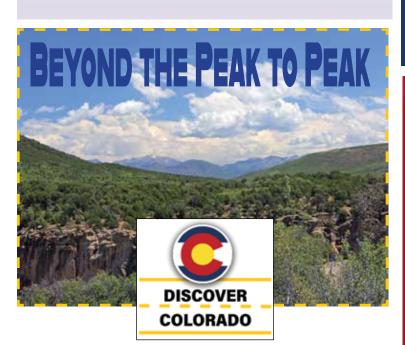
Visitor Center in Central City 103 Eureka Street 303-582-3345











If you're craving more Colorado adventure, check out The Mountain-Ear's "Discover Colorado." From museums to scenic drives

and hotels to festivals, will take you on a personal journey through the physical and spiritual beauty of the Colorado Rockies.

Read the complete series and stay up to date on new stories written by Omayra Acevedo











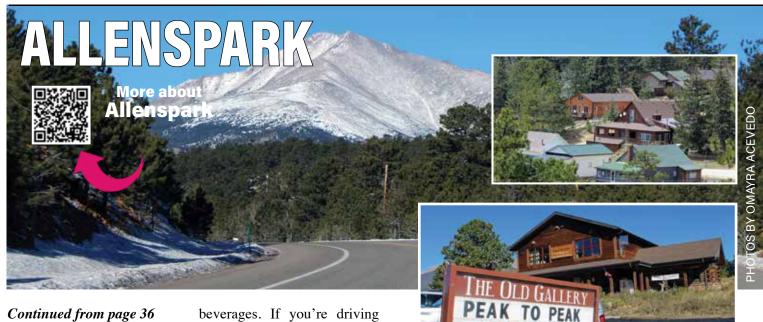
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Located at 1083 Hwy 7 Business in Beautiful Downtown Ferncliff, CO -

The Way The Rocky Mountains Used To Be!



restaurant, The Grill Guy, due to open in late spring 2024. Follow the road down from Meadow Mountain Cafe and you're there.

Thinking about a nightcap when you get home? A few steps from The Grill Guy is Ferncliff Fine Liquors, serving the community and visitors with all their favorite adult

beverages. If you're driving far, stop at Ferncliff's Food & Fuel to gas up and pick up a few last-minute items.

For more history and entertainment, check out the historical Bunce School and the Kelley House right off Highway 7 in Allenspark. Activities and entertainment vary throughout the year, but these two iconic Allenspark landmarks alone are worth the photo op.

### Your first stop when visiting Allenspark

STUDIO

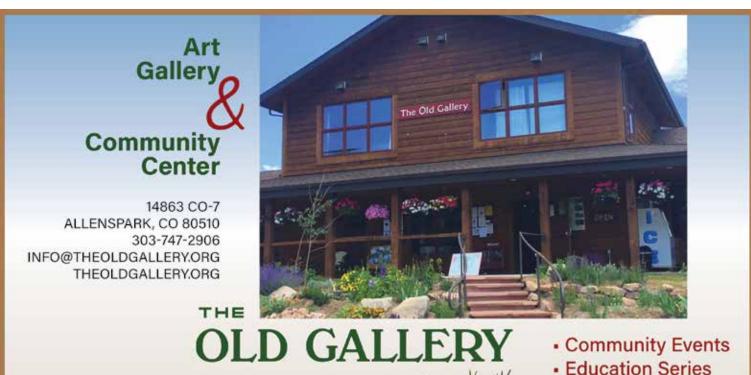
TOUR

22-24

The Old Gallery is located in Allenspark and was a top draw during the 2023 Peak to Peak Studio Tour. The gallery showcases dozens of local artists, offers a variety of classes and hosts many local events.

Wellness Activities

Event Rentals



at Allenspark

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