

News with Altitude

THE MOUNTAIN EAR

Locally owned and operated since 1977

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Nederland, Colorado

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



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Gilpin girls knock it out of the park

Defending their home court

Kailee Starkey leads her team onto the basketball court for their matchup against league rival Union Colony on February 6. See story on page 8.

Gilpin Rec hosts annual Father Daughter Dance

ANNA THOMASON
GILPIN COUNTY

On February 10, the Gilpin County Recreation Center held its highly anticipated 21st Annual Father-Daughter Dance. This cherished event has been a beloved tradition since the Gilpin Recreation Center first opened its doors in 2003. To everyone's delight, a record-breaking 106 girls were registered to attend this year's dance.

The atmosphere of the event was brimming with excitement, as the lively melodies of early 2010s pop music filled the air. The recreation center was beautifully adorned with

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PHOTO BY ANNA THOMASON

It's time to dance

Fathers and daughters spent the evening dancing and having fun at the Gilpin County Recreation Center in celebration of Valentine's Day.

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We touch lives. Together we
build strength in communities
and mountain love.



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SATURATION

- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect." ~Mark Twain

THE MOUNTAIN-EAR

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Letters

We welcome thoughtful, local letters to the
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or by email to info@themountainear.com.
Letters may be edited for length (less than 500
words) and content (rude, vulgar or obscene).
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available edition. We reserve the right to
refuse to print letters.

Ownership

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

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Staff

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



IN LOVING MEMORY

Gregory "Toastie" Neil Post

November 2, 1956 – January 21, 2024

Gregory Neil Post went home to be with the Lord on January 21, 2024. He was born on November 2, 1956, in Storm Lake, Iowa, to Richard Neil Post and Beverly Joan Findley Post.

Greg was the second born of their four sons. As young boys, they grew up in Hillsboro, Oregon, and Storm Lake, Iowa. Living near and fishing in Storm Lake. The family would also vacation in the mountains of Colorado, especially the Poudre Canyon, which prompted his love of Colorado and fishing in the Poudre River.

Greg loved fishing and lived in Nederland, Colorado, for over 30 years. He worked at Lone Star Steel in Fort Collins, then made roofing his trade when he moved to Nederland.

During his life he also enjoyed bowling, playing the guitar, singing, and crafting stained glass. Greg was affectionately known as "Toastie" to many of his friends.

He was welcomed into his Heavenly home by his father, mother, and brother (Steven Post). He is survived by his two sons, his three grandchildren, his brothers David Post and Jeffrey Post, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Cremation has been entrusted to Howe Mortuary of Longmont, Colorado.

Condolences and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.howemortuary.com for the Post family.



WANTED:

Mountain DJ's, storytellers, and aspiring podcasters

CYNTHIA DAVIS
PEAK TO PEAK

By now, everyone knows we have a podcast in conjunction with the newspaper. We launched a new season in January, and this year, we want to try something different.

Listeners may have already noticed a change in the way we release our segments. Long before we launched the podcast, *The Mountain-Ear* was tagged as the "voice" of the Peak to Peak since 1977. For our podcast, we have decided to take that tagline and apply it directly to how we are approaching our 2024 season.

To begin, we no longer release just one show a week. Listening in now, you will notice a variety of shows published throughout the week, each by an individual storyteller. We combined an old-school radio show with a community newspaper



and then presented it in a podcast. And it tripled our listeners in one month.

This is where all of you come in. We would like to invite anyone interested in hosting a show on the podcast to reach out and see if it might be a fit. The podcast has room

for more hosts and more versatility and our mountain community wants to listen.

Some of the things we are looking for include; segments interviewing local business owners, highlights for upcoming events, narrators for audio news segments, and anyone looking to educate or share information pertaining to mountain living.

So, if you have always wanted to podcast, and would like a perfect place to start, reach out today! You can follow the QR Code printed below, or feel free to email us directly at info@themountainear.com.



The "true" meaning of Valentine's Day

ANNA THOMASON
GILPIN COUNTY

In recent times, Valentine's Day is predominantly seen as a day to celebrate love and affection toward partners and friends. However, the meaning of Valentine's Day can vary depending on the individual you speak to.

Historically, the significance of Valentine's Day has evolved over time. This holiday is associated with St. Valentine, a Catholic figure known to have been martyred on February 14, around 269 C.E. While the details of St. Valentine's life and deeds are debated among historians, he is commonly associated with love and romance due to various legends and stories. Today, we mostly see Valentine's Day as a day to celebrate

kindness, love, and affection.

In my experience, Valentine's Day has been perceived as a combination of genuine love and capitalist propaganda disguised as love, a sentiment shared by many in my generation. To explore this further, I spoke to individuals at Gilpin County High School to hear their thoughts on the holiday and create a modern understanding of the meaning behind Valentine's Day.

When asked about the meaning of Valentine's Day, some individuals at the school expressed a rather nihilistic view. For example, when asked what she thought the meaning of the holiday to be, high school senior Lynda Icenogle replied, "Nothing, it's a (terrible) holiday" (although I will admit, she used much more crass language).

On the other hand, many others had a more positive outlook. Senior Skylar Webb stated, "For me, it's not so much about lovey-dovey stuff, 'cause my mom would give me presents. So it's more like celebrating people you love in general instead of just one person (you love romantically)."

Other responses from individuals who would rather not be named included "Hanging out with the people you care about" and simply "Chocolate" (me too, dude, me too).

Overall, the meaning of Valentine's Day changes with both the passing of time and the individual you speak to. Whether you celebrate the saint himself, the love in your life (romantic or platonic), or choose not to celebrate at all, I hope you all had a very happy Valentine's Day!

Peak Perspectives: The work we love

BARBARA HARDT
BLACK HAWK

Many of you know I write my column almost every week while sitting at home, working on the final design, listening to a meeting of some sort or another. Tonight, I write this while listening to a work session of the Nederland Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission about the preliminary PUD application by local developer Ron Mitchell. This plan has been a work in progress for decades. So I listen, and write, and listen (when I can because the sound isn't working right).

This week I have had a bad cold. Like "stay home and not go anywhere" kind of cold. Not Covid (I've tested multiple times). But it's knocked me down. This is not what I need this week. I'm pulling 14-hour days to get work caught up and close out a ton of year end things. I finished filing all of what needed to be put into folders and have organized it carefully into the file cabinet. Whew, one task checked off my list.

I am so thankful to have so much help with the paper these days. I wanted to offer some of my gratitude this week.

I'm exceptionally thankful for our graphic designer, Joyce Robinson, for taking on the newspaper design. She completes about 80% of it before handing it back to me on Tuesday afternoon.

And I'm thankful to Sara Sandstrom and Lynn Hirshman, who truly take care of all of the editing to get the paper complete. Both of our editors have an incredible job, sorting through so many different works by so many journalists

with different styles and levels of skill. And every week, they get it taken care of in time for your news to be finalized. Sara also manages our intern program, among many other tasks.

I'm beyond thankful that I don't have to do much with the podcast, to make it happen. The podcast TEAM has grown a lot over the last year. Cynthia Davis grabbed the reins and ran with it. All these new podcasts about local news, history of the region, music, interviews, and more, are raising the bar on what we are creating for you. Thank you to Jamie Lammers, Dango Rose, and Marianne Rosen for their hard work on the podcast as well. We're even adding to our podcast team (see article in this edition).

Beyond our above staff, I want to recognize some of the journalists you see in print every week: Omayra Acevedo, Christopher Kelley, Mindy Leary, and Wes Isenhardt. Close to every week you see stories by John Scarffe and Dave Gibson. Every week you also see poetry by Alexander Joseph and pet of the week by Denise Boehler. Did you know dozens of dogs and cats have been adopted because of these weekly submissions, just in the last year? Yeah, like that.

Omayra Acevedo has also stepped in to take on content organization for special sections, as well as gathering stories and listings for each one. She organized our first ever staff brainstorming meeting and keeps us all on track with special deadlines. It's impossible to put into words how important this role is.

And we can't forget the weekly work of our circulation team. Thank you Terri Vernon, Sarah Banker, Tanya Unger,

Rick Rudstrom, and occasionally Doug Armitage still heads to the Ned office to complete labeling and distribution.

And Tanya, my goodness, you're my left hand at this point. From web development, to automation of our processes, to organization of data, to digging deep to remedy old problems I simply haven't found solutions for. You know more about the entire business than anyone else. You know all of the working pieces and parts that make it happen every week. Thank you.

This brings me to a huge thanks to Bethany Haas, our Marketing & Advertising Coordinator. Every week she is out there meeting with advertisers, finding out about upcoming events, sharing info about what we do and how we can help get the word out! She jumped into this position last summer and she has been in contact with hundreds of you for the newspaper and special sections, since then!

Thank you to Natalie Duplessy and Brittney Wagner for running the front desk at our Nederland office.

Big thanks to our interns and volunteers as well (look for several intern articles this week).

I can't forget all of the other staff that make this paper happen each week. They're all listed in this newspaper in our staff box. I wanted to recognize some of the people that contribute above and beyond, every week, every time. We couldn't do it without you. All of you.

The Mountain-Ear is YOUR community source for news, created by locals, for locals! Contact us at info@themountaineear.com or 303-810-5409.

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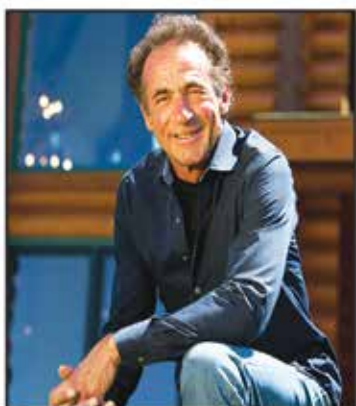
- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect." ~Mark Twain



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Did you know that if you volunteer for movies, you get free admission to the movie, and free popcorn or candy and a soft drink? Volunteer today! The Backdoor Theatre is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit group of locals who volunteer to make these shows happen.

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

750 Highway 72 North
inside Nederland
Community Center

Music of the Mountains

Where to be and what to see

JAMIE LAMMERS
NEDERLAND

Emmit Scully and Victoria Smith both grew up in the town of Nederland but didn't technically grow up together. Scully went to Boulder High, and Smith went to Nederland Middle-Senior High, and even though their dads worked together, they didn't know each other very well at first.

Their lives initially went in different directions, with Smith studying English, literature, and philosophy at CU Boulder and Scully studying at Front Range for two years. However, eventually, Scully had a dream about Smith and decided to track her down on Facebook. They reconnected and ultimately became a couple. They started playing together to mesh their artistic skills, with Smith focusing on singing and Scully playing guitar.

The Rollinsvillians (a Disney-villain-esque name for Rollinsville citizens) were eventually given an amp by Doug Brightwood, which allowed them to perform additional backing tracks to sound more like a band than a duo.

They started performing together at various open mics, and recently, they performed at The Train Cars for Nederland's Day of Art. This performance, in particular, has encouraged them to play out more, including at Busey Brews, another reconnection between Smith and Kyle Busey, who used to work together. For their day jobs, Scully works as a dealer in Black Hawk, and Smith works as a hairstylist.

Scully's guitar playing is heavily influenced by blues music, with



Stevie Ray Vaughn being a massive influence on his sound. The two also cite ZZ Top and Santana as important influences on their sound. While Smith grew up in an eclectic musical household (listening to everything from jazz to classical to comedy music), she says that blues is the heart of both of their musical tastes. The two primarily perform acoustic and electric covers of classic and alternative rock songs ranging from Jimmy Buffett to Foo Fighters, although they do have a couple of originals that they throw in every once in a while.

The two believe that getting out and performing is a great way to work on team-building in their relationship, and particularly at open mics, they love being able to perform

with other people who are just as passionate about music as they are. They encourage audience members to have fun with the variety of music that they play, and they hope that they walk away having had a good time.

You can see The Rollinsvillians performing at Busey Brews, 70 East First Street in Nederland, on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at 2 p.m.

Music Events

Busey Brews

Sunday, February 18 at 2 p.m. - Windy Pines

Sunday, February 25 at 2 p.m. - Rollinsvillians

Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m. - Shawn Cunnane

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

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

Location: 70 E. First Street, Nederland.
Phone: 1-855-633-2739

Diner Bar Ned

Tuesdays at 9 p.m. - DAMN Jam: Open Jam Night

Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. - Karaoke

Fridays at 9 p.m. - DJ Friday

Sundays at 6 p.m. - Open Mic Night

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095276740341>

Location: 121 N. Jefferson Street, Nederland

Eldora Mountain Resort

Friday, February 16 at 11 a.m. - Friday Timbers Taphouse: Eric Richard Stone

Friday, February 16 at noon - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: Erin Stereo

Saturday, February 17 at 9 a.m. - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: Short Circuits DJs Garrett and Dirty Dale

Saturday, February 17 at 1 p.m. - Fireside in Timbers Lodge: Will Whalen

Sunday, February 18 at 9 a.m. - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: Short Circuits DJs Garrett and Dirty Dale

Sunday, February 18 at 1 p.m. - Fireside in Timbers Lodge: Gratefully Acoustic

Friday, February 23 at 11 a.m. - Friday Timbers Taphouse: Eric Richard Stone

Friday, February 23 at noon - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: Pomegranate Sounds

Saturday, February 24 at 9 a.m. - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: Yololo

Saturday, February 24 at 1 p.m. - Fireside in Timbers Lodge: Sarah Banker

Sunday, February 25 at 9 a.m. - DJs in the Woodward Boombox: DJ Worm

Sunday, February 25 at 1 p.m. - Fireside in Timbers Lodge: NoGo TwoBillies

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

Website: <https://www.eldora.com/>

Location: 2861 Eldora Ski Road, Nederland

Continued on page 5

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Music Events

Continued from page 4

Gold Hill General Store

Thursday, February 15 at 7 p.m. - Nicky Diamonds

Saturday, February 17 at 7 p.m. - Hundred Pound Housecat

Saturday, February 24 at 7 p.m. - Something Slight

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

Howlin Wind Brewing

Saturday, February 17 at 5 p.m. - Austin Quattlebam Duo

Saturday, February 24 at 4 p.m. - Goldie & The Grindstones

Sunday, February 25 at 4 p.m. - Open Bluegrass Jam

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/howlinwindbrewing>
Website: <https://www.howlinwindbrewing.com/>

Location: 51 A Main Street, Rollinsville
Phone: 309-825-5245

Jamestown Mercantile

Thursday, February 15 at 7 p.m. - Chris Weist (Wood Belly) and Friends

Sunday, February 18 at noon - Mike Lamitola

Wednesday, February 21 at 5 p.m. - Open Mic

Thursday, February 22 at 7 p.m. - Lucy Moore and Friends

Friday, February 23 at 7 p.m. - Poorfree

Sunday, February 25 at 10 a.m. - John Sheperd and the Front Porch Posse

Thursday, February 29 at 7 p.m. - Grant Livingston

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

JKQ BBQ

Friday, February 16 at 6 p.m. - Duey

Saturday, February 17 at 5 p.m. - Duey

Friday, February 23 at 6 p.m. - Jon Ridnell

Saturday, February 24 at 5 p.m. - Jon Ridnell

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

Knotted Root Brewing

Friday, February 16 at 5:30 p.m. - Daft Phish (pre-party for Dopapod at The Caribou Room!)

Saturday, February 17 at 5 p.m. - Derek Dames Ohl

Friday, February 23 at 5 p.m. - Danny Shafer

Saturday, February 24 at 6 p.m. - Gratefully Acoustic

Sundays at 5 p.m. - Jazz Sundays

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

Location: 250 N. Caribou Street, Nederland

Phone: 720-248-7129

The Caribou Room

Friday, February 16 at 7 p.m. - Dopapod with Sicard Hollow

Saturday, February 24 at 7 p.m. - Big Mountain with Selasee Music and The FaFa Family

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

Website: <https://www.thecaribouroom.com/>

Location: 55 Indian Peaks Drive, Nederland

Phone: 303-258-3637

Very Nice Brewing Co.

Friday, February 16 at 6 p.m. - d'Love-lies

Saturday, February 17 at 5 p.m. - Ella Wren

Friday, February 23 at 6 p.m. - Mountain ReVerb

Saturday, February 24 at 5 p.m. - Dan Williams

Facebook: www.facebook.com/verynicebeer

Website: www.verynicebrewing.com/
Location: 20 E. Lakeview Drive, #112, Nederland

Phone: 303-258-3770

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

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Republicans did it again

Dear Editor,

The Republican Party caved again to the wishes of Mr. Trump. Talking out of both sides of their mouths, they blustered that they would hold up Ukraine aid until and unless they got what they wanted on border security.

Then Mr. Trump began to fulminate behind the scenes. This was a winning issue for him in the upcoming election, and he didn't want any attempts to fix the problem. The bill included aid for Ukraine, Israel, Pacific allies as well as aid to the Palestinians. The proposal would have also invested \$20 billion in border security. The bill would have raised the standard for migrants to pass an initial asylum screening, hired thousands of added border personnel, hired 100 more judges to hear asylum cases, purchased 100 new machines for detecting fentanyl, and expanded legal immigration by small amounts.

It had no concessions about the

"Dreamers" path to citizenship. It would allow the president to close the border if over 5,000 migrants attempt to cross in a single day. Considering that in December there were over 300,000 migrants attempting to cross, over 10,000 per day, this would be an added tool to reduce the incentives for migrants to attempt to come to the United States.

Make no mistake, this is a hemispheric problem. Massive numbers of people are on the move because of political instability in their countries, climate change making it impossible to survive where they are, crime and corruption. *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial board, a noted conservative leaning newspaper, on February 6 published an editorial, part of which is transcribed here.

"By any honest reckoning, this is the most restrictive migrant legislation in decades... The Senate bill is a major improvement over the status quo, as the Border Patrol union said Monday in endorsing it.

The bill would go far to reduce the incentives for illegal migration and provide new tools to the executive branch to control it. Oklahoma Sen. James Lankford, who negotiated for the GOP, deserves thanks for digging into the policy nuances and writing a bill that Mr. Trump never came close to getting when he was President. Yet the signs are that many Republicans in Congress may heed Mr. Trump's current orders and reject this policy victory. They will point to this or that detail to justify opposition, all of which are minor in the context of these consequential reforms. House Republicans could also work to improve the bill, but it appears they may not even allow a vote.

If Republicans reject this bill, they will hand Democrats an argument that the GOP wants border chaos that they can exploit as a campaign issue. The chaos will continue for at least another

year. Republicans may think they can write a better law if Mr. Trump wins in November, but don't count on it. Democrats will again demand much more in return. If Republicans pass up this rare chance at border reform, they may not get a better one."

The stated reason for rejecting this proposed border fix was that the GOP didn't want to "give Biden a win." How absolutely cynical of them. What about the citizens of this great nation? Do we get any consideration? Republicans don't want to fix anything. They want power, or they are afraid Trump's base will pillory them in a primary or send them death threats. It is sad to see this capitulation when the problem is only growing. Can we wait another year?

Bill Thibedeau
Gilpin County

Aiken for District 1 Gilpin County Commissioner

My name is Jeff Aiken and I have lived and worked in Gilpin County for most of 45 years. Currently, I am in my ninth year as a Central City councilman and have served 20 years on the Central City/Black Hawk Sanitation District.

I am a candidate in Gilpin County for the District 1 County Commissioner for the Democratic party.

I believe in servicing and giving back to this great county, and I hope to continue as county commissioner.

Letter to the Editor

Submit your letter to the editor by emailing the newspaper at info@themountaineer.com or online at <https://www.themtnear.com/submit-letter-or-guest-opinion/>. Letters are the opinion of the author and do not reflect the opinion of The Mountain-Ear.

Radon testing is the only way to know if your home is safe!

For gilpin residents, scan the code to order your free radon test kit, or pick up a free test kit at the locations below.



What is radon?

Radon is a naturally occurring invisible, odorless gas that comes from the natural radioactive breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water.

About **50%**

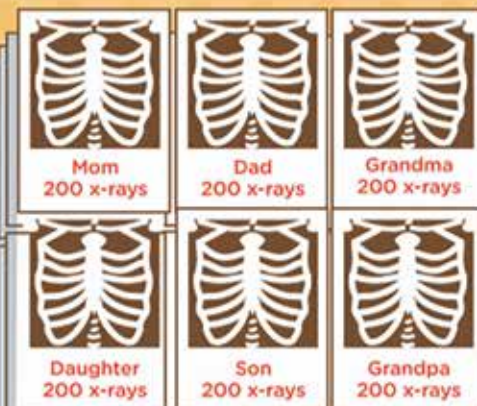
of homes in Colorado have high radon levels



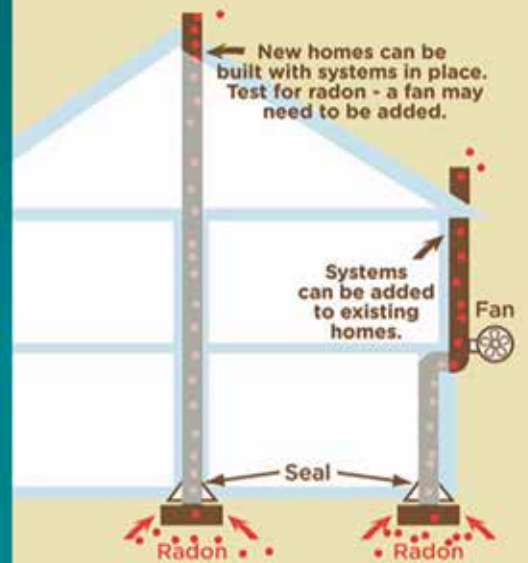
200 chest x-rays

That's more than three per week, per person, per year.

In Colorado, living in a home with average levels of radon (6.4pCi/L) for one year is like having 200 chest x-rays every year. That's more than three chest x-rays for every person in the house every week.

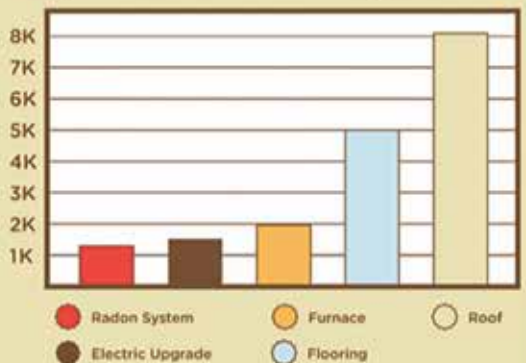


Fixing the problem is easy and inexpensive



There are many options to fix this problem. Find certified contractors at ColoradoRadon.info. Contact your health department for information.

Improvement cost comparisons



- Gilpin County Public Library, 15131 CO-119, Black Hawk, CO 80422
- Gilpin County CSU Extension Office, 230 Norton Dr, Black Hawk, CO 80422
- Gilpin County Public Health, 15193 CO-119, Black Hawk, CO 80422

Call 303-582-5803 for info
states.aelabs.com/#/co-gilpin

Thursday, February 15

The Nederland Food Pantry and Clothing Closet are available to residents of our Peak to Peak community every Monday, Thursday, Friday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon in the west wing of the Nederland Community Center, 750 Highway 72. For more information visit nederland-foodpantry.org.

Friday, February 16

Friday Storytime: Read books, sing songs, learn some ASL, and get the wiggles out in the first half hour, followed by free play. The Nederland Community Library hosts story time every Friday morning from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. for ages 0 - 4 years. Visit <https://nederland.libcal.com> for more information.

Saturday, February 17

NedRINK is open through February, offering the following: hockey, recreational skating, lessons, curling, stick & puck, and ice rentals. Skate rentals are available! Open skating is scheduled weekly on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and most Sundays noon until 2:30 p.m. Check the online calendar for current conditions and closures, <https://nedicerink.wixsite.com/nedrink>.

Celebrate Mardi Gras with an old-fashioned vinyl dance party fundraiser to raise money to refinish the Coal Creek Canyon Community Hall floor, on Saturday, February 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. at 31528 Colorado Highway 72, Golden. Visit the Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association website for more information at <https://www.coalcreekcanyon.org>.

Gilpin County Public Library Movie Night: Join us for popcorn and a movie as we watch *Wonka* from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Gilpin County Public Library, 15131 Highway 119, Black Hawk. Visit us online at www.gilpinlibrary.org for more information.

Join us for a Valentine's Day Mini-Gala at Nederland Community Library after hours at the library on Saturday, February 17 from 7 until 9:30 p.m. Ned Formal Attire Encouraged. Appetizers, sweet treats, wine tastings & non-alcoholic beverages. Silent auction. Live auction. Musical guests: The Strangebyrds. 21 and older. Tickets \$25 (music and refreshments). Pay online or CASH in-person at the Nederland Community Library. Please register here first: <https://nederland.libcal.com/event/11850892>.

Monday, February 19

Nederland Writers: Bring something you are working on to share and get feedback or join the group to listen in and hone your skills. Area writers gather at Nederland Community Library every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. For details visit <https://nederland.libcal.com>.

The Mountain Meditation Circle is a free and open group that has been meeting every Monday evening at 6 p.m. for the last four years at the Gilpin County Public Library. New participants are always welcome. New members will need to provide their contact information prior to attending their first meeting. Please email Alisa Witt at wittalisa@gmail.com or 847-890-5262 to provide your contact information.

Tuesday, February 20

Philosophy Club: Love studying the inner workings of reality? Love waxing philosophically? Love classical thinkers? This is the club for you! Our second meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20 at 5 p.m. at the Nederland Community Library, 200 N Highway 72. Snacks and refreshments will be available. Email Asa, asa@nedlib.org, with any questions and don't forget to register online at <https://nederland.libcal.com/event/11810400>.

Gilpin School District Accountability Committee (DAC) Meeting: DAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Gilpin County School Board Room. There is also a live stream accessible through their YouTube channel: Gilpin County School District Re-1. Chairperson Edwards can be reached at toripaladino@gmail.com if parents ever have any concerns or questions.

Wednesday, February 21

Preschool Storytime: The Gilpin County Public Library hosts story time every Wednesday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. for ages 0 - 5 years. Join Children's Librarian Deb Benitez for stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and more. A themed craft will follow every story. Previous week's crafts are available until supplies run out, <https://www.gilpinlibrary.org>.

Community Connections is a monthly webinar series featuring Forest Service staff and community members sharing information and experience from their fields of expertise, with the goal of deepening our connection to the land around us. This month's presentation will feature guests from the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) sharing information to help members of the public recreate more safely in the winter backcountry. Join us on Wednesday, February 21 at 5 p.m. on Microsoft Teams. For more information visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/arp>.

Thursday, February 22

News and Brews: Come talk to *The Mountain-Ear* staff members about anything newspaper related on Thursday, February 22 from 8:30-10 a.m. at The Train Cars Coffee and Kava, 101 Highway 119, Nederland.

Friday, February 23

Family Movie Matinee: Bring the kids for free popcorn and a movie as we watch a family-friendly film, *Wish*, in the meeting room at the Gilpin County Public Library, 15131 Highway 119, Black Hawk, at 4:30 p.m. Visit us online for more information, www.gilpinlibrary.org.

Cracker BARREL

Get involved in your community

Upcoming Events

Join CSU Extension's Ag business Management Specialist, Jeff Tranel, for a class on agricultural taxes on Wednesday, February 28, from 6 until 7:30 p.m. Topics covered will include: farm/ranch (Schedule F) income & expenses, cost recovery (depreciation), reporting on Schedule C versus Schedule F, tax management strategies, and an update for 2024. This class is free but you must register to attend. Register online at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8gdWyHsyRXe2aTU8MAYbPw#/registration.

The Mountain-Ear Presents: Meet the Candidates Forum on Monday, March 4 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Nederland Community Center, 750 Highway 72, Nederland. There will be a five minute introduction by each candidate beginning at 5:30 p.m. Questions to the candidates submitted by email will be addressed from 6:15-7:30 p.m. An informal Q&A session will follow the official session from 7:30-8 p.m. Submit your questions for the community candidate forum after reading the candidate profiles in the February 8 edition of *The Mountain-Ear*. Similar questions will be combined. Questions may be addressed to Mayoral candidates or Trustee candidates (or both). Email to p2pcandidatesquestions@gmail.com by Thursday, February 29 at midnight to be considered.

The Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association presents the Shamrock Shuffle Dance Party on Saturday, March 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. Join us for an evening of fun for the entire family at Coal Creek Canyon Community Hall, 31528 Colorado Highway 72, Golden. For more information please email cccia80403@gmail.com.

Did we miss you? Would you like your event listed in the Cracker Barrel? Please call 303-810-5409 or email info@themountaineer.com to be included in the next edition. Check us out online at www.themtnear.com/events for more upcoming events.

Self Help Meetings**Tuesday Night Nederland Cross Talk Meeting**

A Big Book meeting at 7 p.m. online via zoom. For more information visit <https://bouldercountyaa.com/meetings/tuesday-night-nederland-cross-talk-meeting>.

The Morning Group

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

Nederland Group

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

Gilpin County H.A.L.T.

An in-person meeting every Sunday at 6 p.m. held at 226 E. First High Street, Central City. https://findrecovery.com/aa_meeting/gilpin-county-h.a.l.t.-central-city/.

Gilpin County H.A.L.T.

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

NA Meeting

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

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

"Black history isn't a separate history. This is all of our history, this is American history, and we need to understand that. It has such an impact on kids and their values and how they view black people." -Karyn Parsons



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

Online sermons are available at www.nederlandcpc.org/sermons
210 N Jefferson St,
Nederland
303-258-3579

Nederland Community Presbyterian Church

Gilpin girls knock it out of the park

DAVE GIBSON
GILPIN COUNTY

Before the Gilpin girls' varsity basketball game against Union Colony Prep on February 6, the Lady Eagles Basketball Teacher of the Year Award was presented by the entire team to Rachel Van Hoose. Hoping to emulate her excellence against their opponent on the hardwood, the Eagles entered the contest batting .500 with a 7-7 record.

The first quarter started slowly for both teams, ending with a score of Gilpin 9, Union Colony 7. Defensive pressure led to 12 steals by the Eagles in the second quarter. Hitting their stride defensively and catching fire on offense, Gilpin shot a sizzling 57% from the field and made 75% of

their free throws. Score at halftime: Gilpin 28, Union Colony 15.

Gilpin's relentless full-court press resulted in nine more steals for the Eagles. Union Colony had difficulty finding any type of rhythm under the continual duress. Gilpin would go on to score 30 of their total points in transition off of turnovers. Many of those points came in the paint near or at the hoop. The girls held their own on offense, outscoring their opponent by three points in the third quarter.

Ahead by 16 points entering the fourth quarter, Gilpin showed no signs of coasting or letting up. Applying the same techniques and strategies that had worked in the first three quarters, the Eagles sunk

Continued on page 9



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

A strong showing

Top, right: Liz Madrigal-Garcia and dozens of fans cheered the Eagles on to victory. Left: Annabelle Aloel goes in for a layup. Far left: Leading scorer Elise Vincent at the free throw line.

What's happening at Gilpin Parks & Rec

250 Norton Drive, Black Hawk
gilpincounty.colorado.gov
303-582-1453

Pool Hours - WINTER

*Please call to confirm prior to coming

Now closed on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

Monday and Wednesday:

7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

(closed 12 - 4:30 p.m.)

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

Now 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.

Cardio Dance Class

Mondays, February 12 through April 8 (no class Monday, February 19)

from 5 - 5:55 p.m. Ages 14+. \$65/session or \$9/drop-in for ages 14-59, \$50/session or \$7/drop-in for ages 60+.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, March 1 from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

REGISTER BY Friday, February 22.

Ages 5-12, \$25/child or \$15/child if enrolled in Friday camp. Dinner provided for all children. Drop your kids with us and enjoy a Friday evening to relax, have date night, or get chores done!

Drop your kids with us and enjoy a Friday evening to relax, have date night, or get chores done!

Spring Taekwondo

Mondays and Wednesdays 6 to 7 p.m., with 7 to 7:30 p.m. on Mondays for advanced training. Monthly memberships available for \$72/individual, \$160/family. Drop-in per class \$12. Ages 4 to adult.

Late Spring Swim Lessons for Kids

Six-week session on Wednesday afternoons from April 3 through May 8. \$50/resident, \$60/non-resident per six-week session. Multiple skill levels available.

We are HIRING for summer youth camp leaders! Pay is \$16.69 - 22.53/hour, dependent on qualifications and experience. Summer camp runs from Monday, June 10 through Friday, August 16. Apply at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers> or contact Jake Rippey with questions at jrippy@gilpincounty.org.

Outdoor gear rentals NOW AVAILABLE

at the Community Center made possible by our partnership with ACA! Outdoor gear can be rented Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Prices vary for gear rentals. For more information please visit <https://www.alwayschooseadventures.org/gearlibrary>.

Friends of the Gilpin County Community Center's "Heart of the Community" Fund

supports residents in need with family punch cards for daily admissions, as well as scholarships for youth who need help to cover youth sports and classes. Visit <https://gilpincommunitycenter.org/heart-of-the-community-fund/> for more information and to apply.

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

Eagles Teen Program: Monday - Thursday, 4:15 - 7:15 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Pickleball: (First 30 minutes is for instruction/practice - no games at this time)

Monday and Wednesday, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Friday, 12 - 3 p.m.

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

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

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

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



Nearing the end of their season

Above: Surrounded by the Gilpin Girls' Varsity Basketball Team, Teacher of the Year Rachel Van Hoose makes algebra and calculus interesting. Below: Elise Vincent scoring two of her 17 points.

Knock it

Continued from page 8

a couple of three-point baskets and poured in 17 points. Final Score: Gilpin 57, Union Colony 32.

A home run by any standard, sitting at 8-7, the team has four more games remaining on their schedule with three of them being played on their home court.

Outstanding performers for the Gilpin Eagles were: Elise Vincent with 17 points, 9 rebounds, 5 steals, and 3 assists. Faith Ramsey with 16 points on 6 for 10 shooting and 100% accuracy from the foul line, 8 rebounds, 7 steals, and 7 assists. Annabelle Aloel had 9 points, 9 rebounds, and 7 steals. Avery Ramsey scored 6 points and grabbed 5 rebounds with 6 steals. Kailee Starkey added 5 points and dished out 5 assists.



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON



Gilpin School Calendar

- Thursday, February 15**
TBA - Varsity Wrestling State Championships at Ball Arena
4 p.m. - High School Boys' Basketball vs Front Range Christian
- Friday, February 16**
4 p.m. - High School Boys' Basketball vs Peyton
- Saturday, February 17**
TBA - Middle School Girls' Basketball Gilpin Round Robin Tournament
- Monday, February 19**
No School - Presidents' Day
TBA - High School Boys' Basketball District Playoffs
- Tuesday, February 20**
TBA - Middle School Wrestling at Summit
5:30 p.m. - District Accountability Committee (DAC)
- Thursday, February 22**
TBA - High School Boys' Basketball District Semi-Finals
4:30 p.m. - Middle School Wrestling at Clear Creek
- Friday, February 23**
TBA - High School Boys' Basketball District Finals
- Saturday, February 24**
TBA - Middle School Wrestling at Bennett



NMSHS Calendar

- Thursday, February 15**
High School Alpine - Giant Slalom
Middle School Alpine at Copper MT Championships
4 p.m. - Last Day IS Girls' Basketball
6 p.m. - SAC Meeting
6 p.m. - Varsity Boys' Basketball vs Two Roads (Senior Night)
- Friday, February 16**
High School Alpine - Slalom
4:30 p.m. - Middle School Dance
- Saturday, February 17**
High School Nordic at Steamboat Touring Center
9 a.m. - Varsity Boys' Basketball at Foothill League Tournament
- Monday, February 18**
No School - Presidents' Day
- Tuesday, February 20**
No School - Teacher Professional Development Day
- Wednesday, February 21**
4 p.m. - Middle School Volleyball Workshop
- Thursday, February 22**
High School Nordic at Snow Mountain Ranch
4 p.m. - Middle School Volleyball Workshop
- Friday, February 23**
CU Jamaican Choir Festival (High School Choirs)
High School Nordic at Snow Mountain Ranch
4 p.m. - Middle School Volleyball Workshop

CCCIA hosts Valentine's pancake fundraiser

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
COAL CREEK CANYON

Depending on who you ask, you'll get several historical references about Valentine's Day, from the third-century emperor Claudius II, said to have executed two men named Valentine on February 14 on different occasions, to the Catholic Saint Valentine, and everything in between.

The Coal Creek Canyon Improvement Association (CCCIA) celebrated love in many forms on Saturday, February 10, 2024. From 7 to 11 a.m., residents enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast with sausages, eggs, juice, and coffee.

Members of the CCCIA donated \$8 and nonmembers donated \$10. With 71 guests attending the fundraiser and netting \$453.73, the CCCIA places all donations in the local scholarship fund.

Chair massages courtesy of Hands, Hoofs & Paws also raised some of the total funds. The CCCIA hosts several events throughout the year, including four pancake breakfasts,



which are held in February, May, July, and September.

The association's scholarship program goes to local youth who best exemplify the ideals and principles of society. Scholarships aim to help students achieve their goals. Financial need is not the primary consideration for these awards, and specific criteria must be met.

CCCIA board member and event chair for the pancake breakfasts, Bruce Goodwin, shares, "Despite the

weather it was a good turnout and an opportunity for people to visit with friends and neighbors."

Though its history is shrouded in mystery, there's no denying that since its inception, Valentine's Day has inspired care and love in all of us and the CCCIA is no exception.

The CCCIA is located at 31528 Highway 72. You can find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CoalCreekCanyonImprovementAssociation> or you can give them a call at 303-642-1540.



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PHOTOS BY Omayra Acevedo

For the love of students

Top: Kitchen volunteers work hard to prepare eggs, sausages, and pancakes for guests. Center: The breakfast beverage station offers colorful drinking options to compliment Saturday's pancake breakfast. Bottom: CCCIA board members and volunteers greet visitors and collect donations early Saturday morning.



PHOTOS BY CURT HALSTED

Amazing artists celebrated

Gilpin school board members enjoy seeing an exemplary artist and artwork at one of their meetings every month. With sick days, holidays and snow days behind them, many artists were recognized at the Gilpin County School Board meeting on February 6. Top, left: January artist, Kindergartener Zinnia Thornton, shared her Vincent Van Gogh inspired sunflower painting. Center: November artist Eden Mayer (5th grade) shared her exquisite realistic Renaissance portrait drawing. Right: December high school artist Brayden Mason shared his expressive animal drawing of two fish swimming in a circular fashion. Bottom, left: High school artist Kai Silverman was recognized for his amazingly composed symbolic landscape drawing in October.

In the new business section of the meeting, the Board unanimously voted to adopt changes to the school district Educator Evaluation Guidelines to follow state statutes that were passed in 2022.

The primary change required by statute would be the balance between professional practices and student data/scores. Previously educators were evaluated on a 50/50 split. The new guidelines evaluated educators on a 70/30 split.

MacKenzie and four other staff members have already completed the mandatory retraining in how to use the educator evaluation software.

The other new business on the agenda was the unanimous approval of graduate and educator profiles from the Strategic Purpose Design Team. The profiles were developed in conjunction with students, staff, parents, and consultants from the Colorado Education Initiative. The profiles set lofty standards for what it means to be a graduate or educator from Gilpin RE-1.

The next meeting of the RE-1 Board will be held on February 20, 2024. There will be a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. to review the construction contract and financing for the Wastewater Interconnect Project. A final Meet and Confer meeting with staff will be at 7 p.m.

A video of the February 6 meeting can be viewed on the RE-1 YouTube channel. The agenda, charts, and documents for this meeting are on the RE-1 website (gilpin.k12.co.us) under "Board of Education Agendas."

Gilpin RE-1 board approves new educator evaluations

WES ISENHART
GILPIN COUNTY

At its February 6, 2024, meeting, the Gilpin RE-1 Board of Education heard about the problems with the County placing a historic road sign across from the school.

The board heard a request from two Missouri Lakes HOA board members regarding the proposed placement of a historic marker road sign across from the entrance to the school.

Chris Iacono and Bill Merline of the Missouri Lakes HOA board expressed their concern for the placement of the sign and asked that the school board send a letter to the County regarding the proposed placement. The Board by unanimous vote directed District Superintendent David MacKenzie to write the letter and recommend that the sign be moved outside the school zone.

Upon receiving the letter from MacKenzie and one from the Missouri Lakes HOA board, the County agreed to move the historic marker to another location.

During "Congratulations and Celebrations," art teacher Curtis Halsted recognized the art of three students and presented their artwork to the Board to be displayed in the boardroom. Halsted started with kindergartener Zinnia Thornton, who had painted some sunflowers after learning about Vincent van Gogh. Halsted said Zinnia is super-focused and asks great questions. He is looking forward to seeing some amazing art from her, he added.

Fifth grader Eden Mayer displayed a portrait that was based on a famous Renaissance painting. Through the painting, Eden said, she learned a lot about drawing and shading techniques. Halsted said it was an exceptional example of Eden's abilities. The Board expressed admiration for the facial details in Eden's portrait.

Brayden Mason is a junior and a new student to the school. The artwork that Brayden presented to the board was from an assignment to paint expressive lines with texture and depth.

Also during the congratulations segment, MacKenzie brought up that January was Board of Education Appreciation Month, and offered his delayed congratulations to the Board for their work and dedication to the school district. He said that, while they are elected officials, they are not paid, and that each member spends a great deal of their time and expertise to tend to Board business, and they do it all to support students and staff.

In MacKenzie's Superintendent's report, he told the board that the district had received the revised final 2023 School Performance rating: they had received an Accredited status, with an overall score of 68.7 out of a 100. The district fell just short of the participation rate, with 93.9 % in Math and 93.5% English. The threshold is 95% in each.

MacKenzie concluded his report by informing the Board that the Sheriff's Office will be charging more for a School Resource Officer in the 2024/2025 school year. He is seeking clarification from the Sheriff's Office on the exact amount.

Good food and great fellowship

ANNIKA MARSCHKE
COAL CREEK CANYON

On Saturday, February 10, at 6 p.m. Whispering Pines Church in Coal Creek Canyon hosted a valentine's banquet. The night was one of excellent food and fellowship.

This was the church's third year hosting the banquet. All attending had praise for the banquet and the hands who prepared it. Christina Bowen commented that the outcome was fantastic, and without the help of Barb and Eric Miller and Bonnie and Jim Taylor, this event would never have been such a huge success.

The fellowship hall of the church was decorated beautifully and child care was provided for the families. The youth of the church helped serve and acted professionally when doing so.

Throughout the night, entertainment and games were also provided. The games were a big hit. The guests competed, by table, in minute-to-win-it and would-you-rather questions which provided interesting conversation starters. Near the end of the night, Pastor Nate Roschen shared one of his trivia games.

Pastor Roschen has a passion for doing things to bless the community.



He mentioned that in Genesis 12 God says that he blesses us, and we are then privileged to be a blessing to others. The Valentine's banquet was a way to bless the community. Barb Miller and Bonnie Taylor had similar feelings about the event.

Miller and Taylor put days of planning into the banquet. The tables were decorated with mirrors, flowers, and candles. The meal included flute glasses with pink punch, hors d'oeuvres



PHOTOS BY ANNIKA MARSCHKE



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Jessica Fitzer
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JessicaFitzer.8z.com

Celebrating community

The Whispering Pines Church Valentine's Banquet was a beautiful success. The food looked and tasted delicious. Everything was put together with love and care.

on a charcuterie board followed by a salad. The main meal was filet mignon, fettuccine noodles in a white sauce, and shrimp garnished with a beautifully cut tomato flower. Finally, dessert came with a plethora of choices of individual cups of mouth-watering delicacies.

Both ladies saw the event as a success and a great outreach to the community to show God's love and share good

food and great fellowship.

Many guests thought the banquet was a great evening out. It was worth driving through the evening's snowstorm to attend the Whispering Pines Valentine's Banquet.

You'll certainly want to attend next year! Other great events held by the church can be found on the website at <https://whisperingpines.church>.



Gilpin girls boast three more victories

DAVE GIBSON
GILPIN COUNTY

Since the Gilpin Eagles Girls' Varsity Basketball Team's big win against Union Colony on February 6, they've reeled off three more victories.

First, on February 9, they dominated Lyons by a score of 58-21. Next, on the road, they handed North Park a 44-29 defeat on February 11. And most recently, they bested a respectable Bishop Machebeuf team 46-33 on February 13.

The girls' record is now 11-7 and 6-3 in league play. With one game remaining in the season, they face undefeated Peyton on February 16.

Head Coach Katura Atherton summarized the team's victory against Bishop Machebeuf: "Faith Ramsey led our team by scoring 14 points, and shooting 4-for-5 on her free throws. Avery Ramsey scored 13 points, Elise Vincent scored 10 points, and Kailee Starkey scored 9 points. What really changed the energy and outcome of the game, however, was our ball pressure and defense. We did a great job tonight pressuring in the backcourt and forcing the other team to turn the ball over."

The Lady Eagles will play in the district playoff games on Friday, February 23, in the afternoon and Saturday, February 24, in the morning at Dakota Ridge High School (specific times still TBA). The Eagles are currently ranked #25 in the Colorado 2A rankings. The top 32 teams will advance to the Regional Tournament March 1-2.

PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

They just keep winning

One of the cornerstones of this year's team, Faith Ramsey led all scorers against Bishop Machebeuf.

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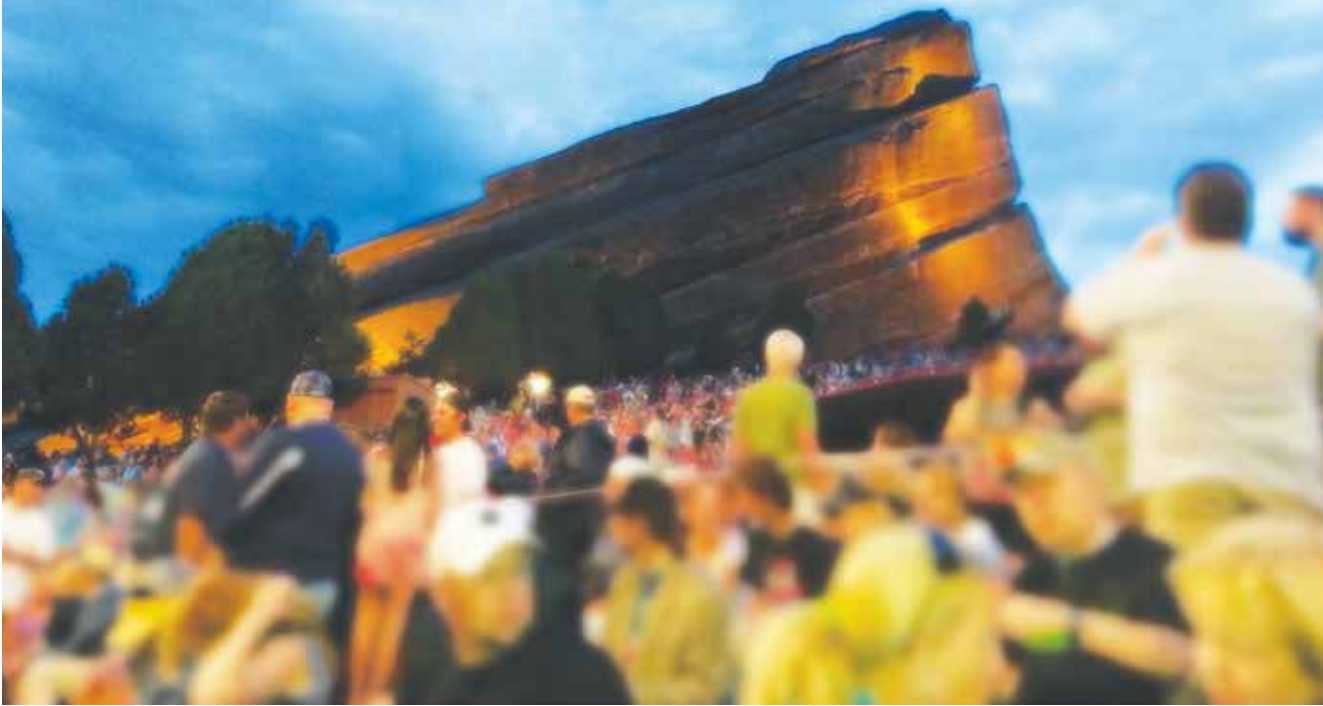
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BLACK HISTORY Celebrating Colorado musicians



Red Rocks at sunset

The sky becomes part of the attraction one evening during a Red Rocks Amphitheatre performance.

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
MORRISON

Music is a beautiful way humans connect. It speaks to everyone when words fail. No matter where you are in the world, music is one of the few things that is understood. Some believe the acoustics bouncing from the Rocky Mountains make Colorado music sound richer than anywhere else.

With music venues like Red Rocks Amphitheater and mind-blowing events like the Rocky Mountain Folks Festival, it's no surprise our Centennial State attracts music fans from across the globe.

The Colorado Music Hall of Fame was established in 2011, founded by concert promoter Chuck Morris and volunteer board members. Colorado Music Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization serving Colorado's music community through various events.

Among the hall's inductees are Colorado African American musicians who have changed the face of music, enhancing the connection between humans regardless of who they are and where they come from. Enjoy a short introduction to each of

the most recent inductees.

Charles Burrell, the Jackie Robinson of classical music, is a bassist whose many accomplishments include joining the Denver Symphony Orchestra in 1949.

Burrell was drafted into the all-black Naval unit at Camp Robert Smalls at the start of World War II. But war didn't stop him from pursuing his love of music. He played in the unit's all-star band, and later took classes at Northwestern University and with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Burrell was inducted into the Colorado Hall of Fame on November 28, 2017, and celebrated his 103rd birthday in October, 2023.

In 1929, roughly nine years after the birth of Burrell, Billy Robinson was born. After he was adopted, he grew up in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, as Walter Bell Conley. He and his mother moved to Denver after his adoptive father died in 1944.

Conley graduated from Manual High School in 1949 and then went off to college on a football scholarship, spending summers working on a ranch in New Mexico. He served in the Navy during the Korean War.

An American folk singer, Hollywood actor, voice actor, and

owner of Denver's folk venue Conley's, by the mid to late 1950s, Conley began a full-time music career, with his first album released in 1961. Conley was inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on November 9, 2019.

Earth, Wind & Fire was founded by Maurice White. They were also known as the Salty Peppers, but according to the Colorado Music Hall of Fame, the group's success is due to Colorado-born Philip Bailey.

The group has sold over 90 million records and earned over 50 platinum and gold albums. Songs "Shining Star" and "That's the Way of the World" have been added to the Grammy Hall of Fame. Earth, Wind & Fire was inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on November 28, 2017.

Violinist and composer George Morrison Sr. was born in Fayette, Missouri, on September 9, 1891. Morrison's mother played piano, and his father played the fiddle. When he was still a child, his family moved to Boulder.

Morrison took violin lessons from a University of Colorado professor. He continued his classical training at Chicago's Columbia Conservatory of

Music after his high school graduation. Later, he relocated to Denver.

Morrison was the first Black artist signed to the iconic Columbia Records label. George Morrison Sr. was inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on October 17, 2023.

The year was 1965. The place was Phoenix, Arizona. A band, Freddi Love and the Soulsetters, was born. Freddi Gowdy founded the rhythm and blues/funk band. With unmatched dance moves, Marvin "Henchi" Graves joined Freddi's band.

The band did its first gig at a country music bar in Fort Collins, attracting hundreds, including college students. They played to packed houses, and with Boulder being the home of the band's guitarist Larry Wilkins, the band relocated in 1970.

Moving from Phoenix to Boulder inspired the band to change its name. Freddi Henchi and the Soulsetters were inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on December 3, 2019.

Ron Miles was born in Indianapolis in 1963. He moved with his family to Denver at age 11, when he started playing the trumpet. He completed his bachelor's degree at DU, moving to New York City after receiving a graduate scholarship at the Manhattan School of Music.

Miles moved back to the Mile High City in 1987, where the Ron Miles Trio debuted its first album on Denver's Prolific Records label while Miles completed his master's degree at the University of Colorado. He was inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on November 28, 2017.

Also inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame on November 28, 2017, was Dianne Reeves, who also happens to be Charles Burrell's niece. With ties to brilliant musicians, it's no surprise Reeves experienced a successful music career.

Reeves attended Denver's George Washington High School. She sang in a big band, which led her to be discovered by jazz trumpeter Clark Terry. Reeves spent a short time studying classical voice at the University of Colorado. After several years of playing and touring with other musicians, Reeves signed with Blue Note Records in 1987.

Colorado owes a lot to its musicians, serving as a place where music is cherished and its musicians, Black, white, and "other," are honored.

The Colorado Music Hall of Fame is located at 17900 Trading Post Road, Morrison. To learn more about the hall and its inductees, please visit <https://cmhof.org/> or call them at 303-672-1273.

PHOTO BY Omayra Acevedo

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Finding Courage out in the wilderness



DISCOVER COLORADO

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
JEFFERSON COUNTY

It's no secret that I love being outdoors. From shoveling snow to sitting by a fire, being hypnotized by its crackling, there isn't much I don't love about being outside. My favorite thing to do is hike.

Nothing makes me feel better if I'm sad than submerging myself in a forest. Amidst the wilderness, I find everything I need for clarification.

Towards the end of Autumn 2023, I was seeking a sign to help me clarify a future decision.

I wanted to clear the air between my mind and my heart. As I pulled into a parking space at the White Ranch Park West Trailhead, I saw more people than I would have liked. I focused on the purpose of being there.

With many options for hiking, I knew it wouldn't be long before I found the quiet I was craving. White Ranch Park is the largest park in the Jeffco Open Space system, with 20 miles of multi-use trails on easy and rugged terrain.

Many trails cross paths, so you decide how much ground you want to cover. Permits are needed to access Ralston Buttes, as the area is a designated habitat to protect bears and raptors.

White Ranch Park is one of two Jeffco Open Space parks that allow for permitted semi-primitive, tent-

only camping. Within the first 30 minutes of my hike, I came to a screeching halt as a snake slithered across the trail.

At first glance, I thought it was a rattlesnake, but the sneaky reptile was only a mimic of its venomous cousin. To this day, I have no clue what it was. Perhaps a breed of bullsnake. Nonetheless, I took some photos while I waited for it to cross.

A few meters ahead, a faery in disguise (a butterfly) fluttered in my direction, landing just a few feet away. With a childlike spirit, I played with its shadow until it flew away, leading me to my next destination.

I stopped again to admire a cowboy on his horse, and suddenly, the horse honed in on me. The cowboy stopped beside me as another hiker approached. The horse and I exchanged glances. He was beautiful.

As the two other humans spoke, I couldn't turn my gaze away from the beautiful equine. At that very moment, I wish I possessed the skills to communicate with horses. Interrupting the conversation, I inquired about the horse's name. Upon learning its name, I realized the horse was my clarity.

"His name is Courage," answered the cowboy. I sighed as my heart raced. I leaned in to hug Courage



PHOTOS BY Omayra Acevedo

and whispered, "Thank you." Some cultures believe snakes and butterflies are symbols of rebirth, transformation, immortality, hope, and healing.

Horses are majestic animals embodying the power of independence, freedom, endurance, confidence, triumph, and heroism. Courage, the ability and the horse, became what I was seeking. Moreover, it was a reminder that the best decisions are sometimes the most uncomfortable to make.

White Ranch Park West Trailhead is located at 25373 Belcher Hill Road, Golden. To learn more, visit <https://www.jeffco.us/1437/White-Ranch-Park>.



Nature's strength and games

Above, right: A moment of gratitude with Courage the horse. Above, left: A playful moment with nature becomes a clear sign of courage.

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Father-Daughter Dance

Continued from page 1

vibrant pink and blue decorations, creating an enchanting backdrop for the evening's festivities. The dance floor was a sight to behold, adorned with a dazzling array of colorful balloons that captivated the young girls' imaginations. Throughout the evening, they joyfully played games



and interacted with the balloons. The room was filled with laughter and delight.

In addition to the dance floor activities, there were also a few small attractions available for all attendees to enjoy. Fathers and daughters gathered at the food stand, where they indulged in a variety of delectable treats and refreshing beverages. The highlight of the menu were the hamburgers and crispy fries, satisfying the appetites of everyone present. With contented stomachs, the real festivities began.

Girls eagerly interacted with their fathers and fellow attendees, guided by the music as it led them through a series of exhilarating games and dances. The bond between fathers and daughters was strengthened as they laughed, twirled, and created cherished memories together. As the evening neared its end, a sense of exhaustion settled in, signaling that it was time for everyone to return home and enjoy a well-deserved restful slumber.

Participating in community events like the father-daughter dance is invaluable for families. It provides precious opportunities to strengthen the bonds between parents and children.

The father-daughter dance, along with other events like the mother-son Nerf war in April, exemplifies the indomitable spirit of our small mountain community. These events underscore the profound importance of family connections and the unity they bring to our local area.



PHOTOS BY ANNA THOMASON

Love for dads and daughters

Left: Playing a game with dad. Right: There is something special about dancing with your dad. There is something special about dancing with your daughter.

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A breather for parents, an adventure for kids

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

Sometimes all a parent can ask for is time; time for themselves, time to go out and enjoy a night without “Bluey” and chicken nuggets. A night where the living room floor doesn’t become an obstacle course, and peace and quiet doesn’t seem that far out of reach. Luckily, the Nederland Community Library has just the event to help give young parents that much needed time.

Friday, February 9, 2024, was Parents’ Night Out at the library. Starting at 5 p.m., parents who registered ahead of time would drop off their kindergarten - 5th grade age children, and until 8 p.m. those children had their run of the library.

Tubs of Legos were sprawled across the floor. Endless crayons, colored pencils, and markers were strewn all over the table, along with pizzas from Crosscut. Minecraft was loaded on the computers, and *Ice Age* blared on the big-screen TV. For the 15 rambunctious kids who attended, it was the perfect night in at the library.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



Peace, Love, and Cake provided Valentine’s Day cookie decorating kits, giving each kid four sugar cookies to “paint” with colored royal icing. Every cookie featured a different themed image, printed with edible ink on edible paper, then adhered to the white icing “canvas” on the cookies.

The kids were encouraged to decorate some cookies and save them to give to their parents or friends, but for most of the kids the delicious sugar cookies proved to be too enticing to share.

As the kids ran and screamed amongst the stacks, enjoying the special adventure of having the library all to themselves, their parents were given the chance to go out for a nice dinner, or a movie not Rated G, or to just enjoy a few hours of solace at home. It’s a priceless service that the library offers, and another reason why the Nederland Community Library is an invaluable resource.

Library fun and cookies
Top: A few kids pose for a photo after decorating, and eating, more than a few sugar cookies. Bottom, right: Zoe proudly shows off her masterpiece. Bottom, left: Library staff, with help from Peace, Love, and Cake, supplied cookie decorating kits.

For this and many more events and programs aimed specifically for parents and children, keep an eye out on the library’s event calendar at: <https://nederland.colibraries.org>.

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Dory Lakes pump replacements update

WES ISENHART
GILPIN COUNTY

Dory Lakes subdivision residents were able to ask engineers from HR Green, Inc. about the Gilpin County capital improvement project to replace the water pumps in Dory Lake in 2024. The meeting with an open house/question and answer format was held at the Gilpin Community Center on February 7, 2024. Residents were able to look at the maps and ask questions of the project engineers and Gilpin managers about the design and timeline for the project.

Gilpin Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan explained the need to replace the water pumps in Dory Lake. The pumps are used to provide water to the state of Colorado as there is a call for more water to be released down Ralston Creek. Historically there are from one to two calls a year from the state. Each call can lower Dory Lake two to three inches.

The pumps can also be used if there is a structure fire in the subdivision or a wildfire in the nearby forests. When the County performs road maintenance in Dory Lakes, they can use the pumps to put water on the roads for dust control.

The lead engineer for HR Green, Greg Panza, discussed the engineering specifications and design for the replacement pumps. Obtaining sufficient power to run the pumps was a consideration as well as restoration of the area around the new pumps after the project will be complete. Questions from the residents included inquiring about access to the lake during the construction period and whether the lake should be stocked with trout this year.

HR Green is currently finalizing the design before putting it out to bid with an RFP. If all goes well, a contract will be awarded later this summer and the 6-8 week project will take place in the fall.



Gilpin County has allocated \$410,000 in the 2024 County budget for this capital improvements project and has spent about \$125,000 so far for the engineering and plans.

After the meeting, Dory Lakes Property Owner Association President Gary Sloneker said that he supported the project along with replacing the old pumps.

For more information about this Gilpin County capital improvement project, contact Keenan at 720-316-1667 or rkeenan@gilpincounty.org.



PHOTOS BY WES ISENHART

Discussing pump replacement

Top: Dory Lakes POA President Gary Sloneker and Gilpin County Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan discuss new pumps. Bottom: Gary Sloneker discussing where the aerator pumps are located with HR Green engineer Greg Panza.

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Pet of the week

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*I hope you've been waiting for me
I'm waiting to hear you say, that you love me too*

*I know a lot of dogs would do you better
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whatever
But I know you could care for me
I know you'll be there for me*

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At the height of the Vietnam War with Jim Drevescraft

OMAYRA ACEVEDO
PEAK TO PEAK

During the mid-20th century, the Vietnam War pitted the communist government of North Vietnam against South Vietnam and its principal ally, the United States. According to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), approximately 2.7 million American men and women served during the 20-year war.

The Vietnam War began in November 1955. By April 1975, communist forces seized control of South Vietnam, ending the war and unifying the country as a Socialist Republic of Vietnam the following year.

Of the 2.7 million serving, 58,220 U.S. soldiers died during the war, and 153,000 were wounded. As of 2023, 7.8 million living veterans call the United States home, with 30% of those being Vietnam War veterans, several of whom live in the Peak to Peak region.

Veteran Jim Drevescraft is the author of *Ignorant Army: How the Draft Made a Nice Young Man into a Leftist Radical*. The book is a memoir of his experiences during the Vietnam War.

Drevescraft wrote the book as a promise he made to all the guys he was stationed with. He vowed to make sure their experiences would not go unrecorded. Though he never went to Vietnam, what he witnessed impacted his life drastically.

In particular, Drevescraft focuses on the “pointless harassment by incompetent officers and NCOs, OYNK radio, the dehumanizing effect of the draft, and how it became a leading PTSD cause.”

OYNK radio was Drevescraft’s version of the radio station in *Good Morning Vietnam* (though there’s no known connection with that more famous pirate radio), playing the music the troops wanted to hear, and ultimately experiencing the wrath of the officers in command.

“How the United States Army in Europe (USAREUR) failed to accurately communicate with NATO, which, if a war broke out, would result

in serious losses, in sum the waste of time, energy, and money that made a mockery of preparedness,” are other topics Drevescraft touches on.

He confesses to having never stopped resenting his government for what happened. “While it was far worse for those who ended up in Vietnam,” continues Drevescraft, “I have thought about my service stint every day since,” also stating, “PTSD is not solely the result of violence.”

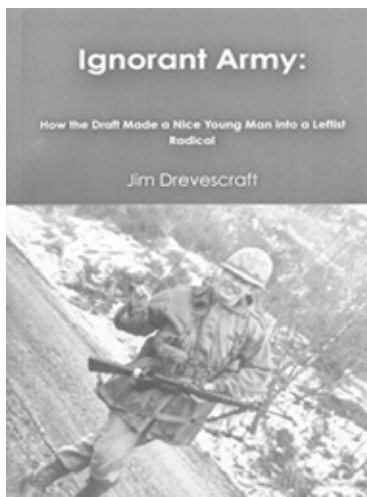
Writing this book was an extremely emotional journey for Drevescraft, not only because of his experiences but also because it took him “so long to write it.” Health kept Drevescraft off his feet for some time, instilling a sense of guilt for not telling his story.

Some of Drevescraft’s closest friends mentioned in the book have since passed. He says, “Looking at the suffering

that continues to torment humanity, the environment, the climate, looking at the deterioration of American society into polarized opposing tribes, and the difficulty in staying optimistic about the future gives me plenty to deal with.”

He’s considering writing a second book, focusing on his activism in ocean conservation, local politics, and Native American issues. He has already started part of a potential book about his career in the wine trade.

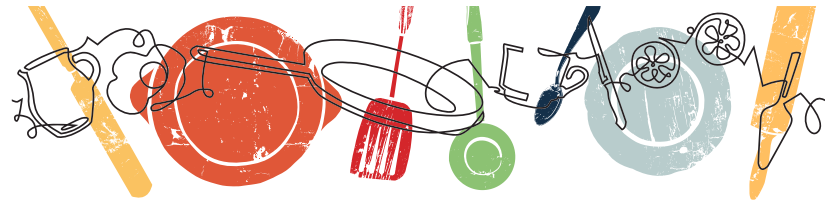
Drevescraft has been living in the Gilpin County area and enjoying a small-town community life since 1997. He ends with, “I hope that, in some small way, the book may help others never face involuntary military service.”



Ignorant Army: How the Draft Made a Nice Young Man into a Leftist Radical can be ordered from Lulu Books, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, and Apple Books.

To learn more about the Vietnam War, please visit <https://www.britannica.com/event/Vietnam-War>.

If you are a disabled American Veteran seeking help and resources, please visit <https://www.dav.org/>.



FEBRUARY RECIPES



Easy Fruit Cobbler

JULIA ZIOBRO
CENTRAL CITY

Fancy a delicious treat, but don’t care for pie? How about using batter or biscuits instead of crust, making a dessert with a fun cobbled texture, allowing warm fruity filling to peek through? If you answered “yes,” try this easy fruit cobbler recipe!

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
 - 1 cup sifted flour
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 2 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt (if using rhubarb, use 1/2 teaspoon)
 - 3/4 cup whole milk
 - 1-2 cup fresh or frozen berries, fresh or canned minced fruit, or fresh minced rhubarb
- Note: If fruit is really sweet, use less sugar; if it’s bitter or sour, consider adding a bit of brown sugar to the fruit after chopping.

Directions

- Heat oven to 200 F.
- Place 1/2 cup of butter in an 8 x 10 x 2 glass pan, and put in the oven until melted, then remove and set the oven to 375 F.
- In a bowl, sift together:
 - 1 cup of flour
 - 1 cup of sugar
 - 2 teaspoons of baking powder

1/4 teaspoon of salt

After sifting, stir in the bowl: 3/4 cup of milk
Blend until smooth.

Spoon half of the batter into the baking pan over the melted butter.
Drop the fruit onto the batter - big spoonfuls.
Spread the rest of the batter on top.
Bake for 40 minutes until the top is brown and crisp.
Serve warm with ice cream.

Recipe courtesy of Julia Ziobro. Julia Ziobro owns and operates Dory’s Dozen Delights at 430 Lawrence Street in Central City. The store is currently on winter hours and open by appointment. She can be reached at info@dorydozens.com or 303-260-9351.



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CCEDC hosts inaugural Rural Resiliency Mixer

MINDY LEARY
IDAHO SPRINGS

The inaugural Rural Resiliency Mixer, hosted by the Clear Creek Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC), saw a gathering of local Clear Creek and Gilpin County business owners, officials, and community members at the Club Hotel in Idaho Springs on February 8, 2024.

President Lindsay Valdez took the stage to address attendees, highlighting the organization's commitment to fostering economic growth and stability in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties. Valdez announced that the CCEDC currently has \$1.6 million available for lending, emphasizing the importance of supporting small businesses in the region.

The event provided a platform for networking and collaboration among local entrepreneurs, with Jonah and Lana Hearne, owners of The Club Hotel, sharing their journey of revitalizing the historic building. Valdez expressed gratitude for their contribution to the event.

Guests were treated to insights from Greg Totten, an economist from



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY



the State of Colorado Demography Office, who shed light on key demographic trends relevant to economic development. Totten's presentation sparked discussions on workforce diversification and community engagement.



Clear Creek and Gilpin network
Top: Over 100 people attended the Clear Creek Economic Development Mixer in Idaho Springs. Bottom, right: Economist Greg Totten shares key demographic studies with the audience. Bottom, left: Consultant Ryan England presents information on how community assets could be utilized.

community themselves. They're anxious to work together, but it's all their own money. They're starting to realize they need to put together an organization to make Rollinsville a true destination," Englund said.

He continued to mention some creative ideas, like adding a stop sign, roundabout, or traffic light on Highway 119 at Rollinsville. He also brought up the possibilities of sidewalks to increase foot traffic.

His remarks underscored the importance of strategic planning in driving economic vitality.

Following the presentations, attendees were invited to continue networking at a nearby restaurant, further fostering connections and collaboration.

The Clear Creek Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit organization established in 1984 to provide economic development services to Clear Creek County and its municipalities. In addition, the CCEDC administers a Business Loan Fund Program in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties (Region 3).

Their mission: To catalyze a diverse and thriving business community that expands and stabilizes the workforce and tax base, and supports partnerships with passionate placemakers.

At the Rural Resiliency Mixer, the CCEDC reiterated its commitment to community engagement, inviting individuals from all backgrounds to contribute to economic development efforts. It marked a significant step in fostering collaboration and driving economic growth in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, underscoring the importance of community-led initiatives in shaping the region's future.

For those looking to connect with the CCEDC or learn more about their initiatives, the organization can be reached at 303-710-9218 or visited at 1443 Colorado Boulevard, Suite B, Idaho Springs, CO 80452.

NOTICE OF ELECTION (C.R.S. 1-5-205)
Gilpin County Presidential Primary Election, March 5, 2024
ALL MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder, Sahari McCormick, will be conducting a Mail Ballot Primary Election on March 5, 2024. The Clerk will begin mailing ballots on February 12, 2024. Ballots must be returned on or before Election Day by mail to the Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder, Sahari McCormick, PO Box 429, Central City, CO 80427-0429 or dropped off at the following 24-hour drop box locations starting February 14, 2024:

OLD COURTHOUSE, 203 Eureka St., Central City

GILPIN COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER, 250 Norton Dr., Black Hawk

GILPIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS SHOP, 135 Tolland Rd., Rollinsville

This is a **Primary Election**. Affiliation Rules are:

- Voters affiliated with the **Democratic Party** will receive a Democratic Party ballot in the mail.
- Voters affiliated with the **Republican Party** will receive a Republican Party ballot in the mail.
- **Unaffiliated voters** will receive a ballot packet in the mail. The packet will include both the Democratic and Republican ballots. **VOTE ONLY ONE PARTY'S BALLOT** and return to the Clerk via mail or drop box. **IF BOTH PARTY BALLOTS ARE MARKED AND RETURNED, NEITHER BALLOT WILL COUNT.**
- Last day to affiliate or change your affiliation is February 12, 2024.

A new voter can register to vote at GoVoteColorado.gov. Except for affiliation, a voter can make changes to their registration online until February 26, 2024. From February 27 to March 5, 2024, a voter must appear at the VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER for these services.

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER (VSPC):

Old Courthouse, 203 Eureka St., Central City, CO 80427

VSPC HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday – Friday, February 26 to March 4, 2024, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Saturday, March 2, 2024 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Closed Sunday

ELECTION DAY, March 5, 2024, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

FUNCTIONS OF THE VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER:

- A voter can surrender their mail ballot and vote in person either electronically or by paper.
- A new voter can register to vote and may vote the same day. (Must live in Colorado at least 22 days before the election).
- Drop-off location for Mail Ballots.
- Update your name or address on the voter rolls.

Ballots **MUST** be received by the Clerk and Recorder's Office by 7:00 PM on Election Day, March 5, 2024 to be counted. If you have any questions, please call the Clerk and Recorder's office at 303-582-5321 or e-mail elections@gilpincounty.org

Sample ballots can be found on the Gilpin County website: gilpincounty.colorado.gov

He shared several demographics concerning population and job growth in the State. "In some ways, demography is a simple job, because people only do three things: They're born, they die, and they move," he quipped.

During the lecture-style event, attendees were given agendas, presenter bios, and index cards with which to submit any questions after the presentation.

Kelly Flenniken, board chair of CCEDC, prompted the audience to think about the diversification of the workforce and the purpose of economic development. Flenniken encouraged attendees to consider the role of development in building resilient communities.

Valdez thanked the Henderson Mine for sponsoring the event and said they would like the event to recur annually.

Another useful data point included the fact that Molybdenum mining contributes 26% to the GDP of Clear Creek and that employment has recovered in Gilpin County since the pandemic. Flenniken pointed out that the CCEDC has contracted with Colorado Mesa University to do an annual economic newsletter every March.

The event also saw participation from Gilpin County Manager Ray Rears, who highlighted the success of local initiatives and introduced Ryan Englund to discuss opportunities for further growth.

Englund spoke highly of the Rollinsville business district which is thriving and becoming quite popular. Despite its popularity, Englund pointed out that there is not much local organizing.

"Twenty-four people showed up [at a meeting]; they're changing the

Gilpin commissioners updated on legislation

MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) called a work session to order at approximately 4 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024, exclusively online via Microsoft Teams. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the County's legislative priorities, which were addressed by lobbyists Ed Bowditch and Jennifer Cassell.

Commissioners Susan Berumen and Sandy Hollingsworth were present, along with Attorney Brad Benning and County Manager Ray Rears. Commissioner Marie Mornis was unable to attend due to a technical issue.

Bowditch explained the relevant Colorado House Bills, saying that today was day 34 of this legislative session, that 430 bills have been introduced thus far and more are on the way this week.

HB 1089 has bipartisan support and would allow taxpayers to opt in to getting electronic notifications for vehicle renewals. The County Clerks Association supports this bill. Hollingsworth said she would support it if Gilpin's Clerk and Recorder approves it.

Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick, attending online, said she supports it because it would be a more direct way to reach people. Berumen said it makes sense to streamline. The commissioners will, therefore, support the bill.

HB 1168 concerns equal access to public meetings and would require state and local public bodies to livestream their meetings by July 1, 2025. This bill will likely have its first hearing next week, said Bowditch.

Rears pointed out that the County already livestreams their regular meetings, but not the work sessions or budget workshops. Hollingsworth asked if, were Gilpin to lose power during a meeting, would the County then need to end the meeting. Bowditch said he would seek clarification on the issue.

Berumen also reminded everyone that the county as a whole sometimes has limited broadband capabilities, as when the City of Central had a complete internet outage. Bowditch and the commissioners agreed to monitor the bill.

SB 40 concerns state funding for Senior Services. This bill would require the General Assembly to annually adjust this line item in the budget for inflation. This has not been increased since 2018. Bowditch said the State Budget may only allow a minimal increase.

SB 22 would give counties the ability to regulate tobacco products and is pending consideration on the Senate floor.

SB 33 has to do with restrictions on short term rentals, and has not had its first hearing. Bowditch reported that there has been considerable opposition to the bill, mainly coming from STR owners. It will either be heavily amended or become a study.

SB 72, concerning provisions to ensure that confined eligible electors at a county jail or detention center may vote, would require county sheriffs to collect ballots. Bowditch said it can be tricky figuring out which counties inmates are from and delivering the ballots.

Hollingsworth said they discussed this issue at CCI (Colorado Counties, Inc.), and that rural counties may not have the resources to implement such

a system. Also, ballots are currently delivered upon request.

The commissioners decided to take the position of "amend."

Cassell then went over some of the housing bills, most of which are still in flux.

HB 1175, the "First Right of Refusal Bill," would give local governments the first right of refusal to purchase buildings for affordable housing.

Hollingsworth and Berumen said they think it is a good idea, so the board opted to support the bill.

HB 1107 would require a court to award reasonable attorney fees to a prevailing defendant in an action for judicial review of a local land use decision. Hollingsworth asked how much this might happen in Gilpin. Attorney Brad Benning reported he has only come across two cases in his entire career in the area.

Bowditch said it may only apply to the Front Range and they decided to monitor this bill.

SB 106 concerns legal actions based on claimed defects in construction projects and

would both give a developer the right to remedy defects and set a higher threshold for unit owners to enter litigation.

The board agreed to monitor.

HB 1178 would give local government control of pesticide sale and use. Cassel is part of the coalition in opposition on this bill. "This has been a fight for years," she shared.

It would take authority away from the state and hand it to local governments to regulate pesticide usage.

Cassell said the EPA would have to work with local governments. Rears recommended the County not get involved. Hollingsworth added that it can get complicated.

Hollingsworth asked about the status of SB-002, concerning the authority of a local government to establish a property tax incentive program.

Bowditch said it has a pretty good chance. Hollingsworth said, "I like incentives."

The work session concluded at 5 p.m. The next legislative work session is scheduled for February 26, 2024, via Microsoft Teams. It can be accessed through the Gilpin County website at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/public-meetings/board-of-county-commissioners-bocc-meetings>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 23-11PT

of Gilpin, State of Colorado.

Purported common address: Vacant Land, Black Hawk, CO 80422.

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

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

On December 11, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Gilpin records.

Original Grantor(s)
Patrick Saenz and Mindi Saenz
Original Beneficiary(ies)
The Cash Flow Company
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
The Cash Flow Company
Date of Deed of Trust
April 25, 2023
County of Recording
Gilpin
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
May 01, 2023
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
174329
Original Principal Amount
\$150,000.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$150,000.00

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00a.m. on Thursday, 04/11/2024, at The Office of the Gilpin County Public Trustee, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 2/15/2024
Last Publication 3/14/2024
Name of Publication The Mountain-Ear

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal upon maturity

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
DATE: 12/11/2023

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

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

That portion of the Northwest Quarter of Section 6, Township 2 South, Range 72 West of the 6th P.M., Shown as Parcel 1 on Resolution Approving a Subdivision Exemption recorded September 10, 2020, Reception No. 167128, more particularly described as follows:

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

Commencing at the C-C West 16th Corner of said Section 6, being a found 3.25: aluminum cap, LS 16406, from where a found #5 rebar bears N. 01°31'37" E., a distance of 1,609.02 feet, said line forming the Basis of Bearing; thence N. 01°31'37" E., along said line, a distance of 524.88 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence S. 89°07'55" E., a distance of 383.93 feet to a point; thence N. 00°05'45" E., a distance of 427.01 feet to a point; thence N. 90°00'00" W., a distance of 373.37 feet to a point; thence S. 01°31'37" W., a distance of 421.34 feet to the Point of Beginning, County

R. Scott Fitzke #35293
Fitzke Law, LLC 4 West Dry Creek Circle, Suite 100, Littleton, CO 80120 (303) 285-4470
Attorney File # 00126
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
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Revised 1/2015



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Childcare and food pantry discussions continue



PHOTOS BY MINDY LEARY

Chanda Johnson introduces new hires

Left: Melanie Bleyler (left) is the new Community Engagement Officer. She will be working on a newsletter and various social media platforms. Right: Joe Allaire from the Finance Department introduces Wendy Gutcher, who will be helping with payroll and other duties.

MINDY LEARY
GILPIN COUNTY

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) called their regular meeting to order at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. In attendance were Commissioners Marie A. Mornis, Susan Berumen, and Sandy Hollingsworth, County Manager Ray Rears, and County Attorney Brad Benning.

During Public Comment, one resident spoke against raising Gilpin County Community Center (GCCC) fees and the County spending money on a new food pantry. Another person asked the Board to not increase fees for GCCC, while one more resident commented that there should be no change to the services provided by the Food Pantry.

Another resident claimed the County is spending money on unnecessary things and that the resolution concerning the fee increases for the GCCC was not clear on the Agenda.

Two new employees were introduced: Melanie Bleyler, who is the new Community Engagement Officer; and Wendy Gutcher, who will be helping with payroll and other tasks in the Finance

Department.

February is Black History Month and Bleyler read the Proclamation. All were in favor.

Resolution 24-37, Appointing a Member to the Foothills Regional Emergency Medical Services & Trauma Advisory Council (FRETAC) Board of Directors.

All were in favor of appointing EMS Captain Bobby Putnam to FRETAC Board of Directors in place of Dennis Head.

Resolution 24-36, Authorizing the Execution for a Grant Agreement with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for the Strong Communities Grant Program. Rob Gutierrez, Community Development Director, presented the information, saying that the original resolution did not authorize the execution of the grant agreement. Updating the land use code is one of the priorities for the grant.

All were in favor.

A public hearing was held at 9:31 a.m. regarding **Resolution BOA-23-2(B)** Board of Adjustment - An Appeal to Extend Temporary Housing Permit, TPHS-22-2 for 105 Conestoga Road, Black Hawk.

The Board recessed as the Board of

County Commissioners and convened as the Board of Adjustment.

Gutierrez reported that he is returning to the Board of Adjustment for a follow-up on an extension of a Temporary Housing Permit for Amber Cusano at 105 Conestoga Road, Black Hawk. Staff conducted a site inspection on Thursday February 8, and provided photos of current progress.

Gutierrez said that on October 24, 2023, the Board approved an extension for the permit with the condition that the house would be 75% complete. He said the building inspector considers that to be the case.

Staff recommended approval of an extension of the Temporary Housing Permit until November 14, 2024, to expire at the same time as the current building permit, **BLD-22-81**.

Public comment opened at 9:41 a.m. There was one citizen who commented against the extension and one citizen who spoke for the extension. Cusano also spoke about her project.

Mornis moved to adopt the resolution, Hollingsworth seconded, and all were in favor.

The public hearing was closed at 10:26 a.m.

The Board then reconvened as the BoCC.

Lyndsey Denton, Deputy Clerk to the Board, presented the **Childcare Steering Committee Recommendations**.

In November, 2023, the only local early childhood care center closed. The building that the former entity used is property of Gilpin County. A Community Town Hall was held on December 5 to discuss future childcare options. Several members of the community signed for a Steering Committee (SC) dedicated to recommending a new childcare opportunity for the community.

A survey was available to the public between December 5 and December 31. Those results were tabulated and given to the SC in early January. The SC was also given two opportunities to tour the facility. They met weekly between January 10 and February 7 to come up with recommendations.

A non-profit model was the most desired option based on the survey results. The SC now recommends the creation of a new 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. A non-profit may also have the best funding options when it comes

Continued on page 23

WELCOME TO THE BEST JOB IN THE WORLD

Timberline Fire is now accepting applications for the position of Volunteer Firefighter.

For more information visit our website via the QR code or call 303-582-5768.

No experience needed. All training provided.

The Mountain-Ear presents:
News and Brews
Thursday, Feb 22, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Come talk to staff members about anything newspaper related! This session will include:

- Barbara Hardt, Managing Editor
- Christopher Kelley, Senior Journalist
- Mindy Leary, Senior Journalist
- Tanya Unger, Web Developer
- Bethany Haas, Marketing & Advertising

Next up:
Friday, March 8 at 4 p.m.
at JKQ BBQ in Black Hawk.

Gilpin BOCC

Continued from page 22

to grants, as well as keeping tuition costs lower than a for-profit facility.

The County has budgeted \$100,000 to go towards supporting childcare for 2024.

Kathleen Balfour, a member of the SC, proposed home-based childcare, in which case the SC would become an advisory board.

Mornis would like to see some draft documentation for the non-profit. Hollingsworth would like to see who might be appointed to the advisory board.

The commissioners reviewed a rough budget for child care and said they look forward to more discussion on the details at the February 20 work session.

Gutierrez and Gabrielle Chisholm, Parks and Recreation Director, presented **Resolution 24-35**, Adopting the Fee Schedule for Gilpin County Parks & Recreation.

The commissioners had asked Chisholm to lower the increases in admission to the Gilpin County Community Center (GCCC). Chisholm

presented the information. One example, the resident daily drop-in fee, would increase from \$4 to \$5; and the non-resident fee would increase from \$6 to \$7.

Hollingsworth asked if the non-resident rates are still lower than those of adjacent areas. Chisholm responded in the affirmative.

Some points of discussion included: Seniors or others who use insurance programs would still gain admittance for free. The budget is \$2.7 million this year, with \$1 million in capital improvements. GCCC cut six part-time staff.

Mornis asked what Chisholm anticipates in revenue. She responded that they will make a little less revenue this year because they are closed for an additional day. She said her inclination is to not raise the daily fees across the board, but rather raise the fees for extra services.

Hollingsworth asked about the possibility of an annual pass with a caveat that hours and days are subject to change. Chisholm said that she can offer that.

Hollingsworth asked if Chisholm could increase awareness around financial aid to attend the GCCC. She agreed.

Rears noted that the revisions would

go in effect March 1 and there would be a 30% discount for seniors and veterans. The prices for the annual pass would increase from \$225 to \$260 for a resident and from \$450 to \$540 for a non-resident.

Hollingsworth moved to accept the resolution as discussed. The motion passed 2 to 1 with Mornis voting nay.

Resolution 24-47, Adopting the Temporary Position of Maintenance Worker. Staff have identified a need for a temporary Maintenance Worker position in the Facilities Department. The position is requested for a period of 6 months once filled to support current operations.

Human Resources Director Chanda Johnson said funding the position would be within the budget since they still have unfilled open positions.

All were in favor. **Resolution 24-48**, Adopting the Temporary Position for Public Works - Office Assistant. This position would assist with the workload for a period of 6 months.

Public Works Director John Combs asked if the department could hire someone to train under Nancy Larson, the current Administrative Assistant.

Johnson explained the position would be temporary with the possibility of

becoming full-time.

Combs said that in the past Public Works has always been afforded two administrative assistants and now there is only one, who is overwhelmed.

Rears said they would be discussing this in further detail at the next work session.

Berumen said phrasing it as "temporary" may deter applicants.

The board voted to postpone their decision until the regular meeting on February 27.

Resolution 24-39, Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for the Community Development Block Grant for Public Facilities.

Boyle discussed the details of grant programs that could help assist with the construction of the new food pantry building.

Hollingsworth said it is a misnomer to call the building a new food pantry since it would house other purposes as well, like a commercial kitchen, with a goal to make it a sustainable long-term building for other staff in the County.

Mornis said the poverty level for the county is low and that it is not the county's

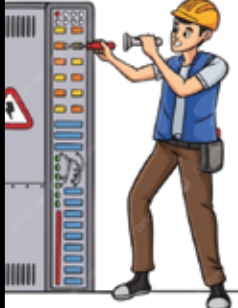
Continued on page 24

POETRY CORNER

Some words for the week

another dead fox
at the edge of my road
highway hit
broken legged
wide eyed and matted
I hope it'll be gone
by the time I come home
but here it is
at the end of the day
a wet fur reminder
of so many things
death and humanity
separation and snow
I park the truck in my
driveway
get my shovel
pick up the body
walk with it down the road
there are no cars
no one else around
I say "I'm sorry"
and some other empty prayers
and toss it down the ravine
it's out of sight now
and away from
the mud spray of passing cars
but it's still dead
and I'll miss seeing it's orange
out of the corner of my eye
when I'm in the kitchen
cooking dinner alone

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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OPEN UNTIL FILLED

APPLY: [GILPINCOUNTY.COLORADO.GOV/CAREERS](https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers)



Gilpin BOCC

Continued from page 22

responsibility to feed the population of the county. Berumen replied that food assistance may not always be tied to poverty level since families can be one crisis away from a food shortage and

that the board must return to the matter at hand.

The Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant was discussed and Boyle said it was more inclusive than the DOLA grant.

The board decided not to vote on the resolution and tabled the matter pending more research.

Resolution 24-38, Approving Acceptance of the 2024 Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Offered to Gilpin County through the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Alisa Witt, Public Health Director, presented the information about the grant, which she also applied for and received last year. GCPH will receive \$9,164 in funding in 2025 for the Retail Food Program, and they will be meeting or making progress towards required standards for the grant funding.

Mornis moved to adopt the resolution. Hollingsworth seconded, and all were in favor.

Sahari McCormick, Clerk & Recorder presented **Resolution 24-40** Approval of Voting Service and Polling Center (VSPC) for June 25 Primary Election.

The June 25, 2024 Primary Election needs to have a designated VSPC (Voting

Service & Polling Center) location and McCormick suggested holding the election at the Old Courthouse at 203 Eureka Street.

All were in favor. McCormick said that online public comments will be accepted for the November election, beginning February 29 and lasting until April 29.

Planner James ShROUT presented **Resolution BLA-23-3**. The appellants are petitioning the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners for a Boundary Line Adjustment between the two properties due to an error in the placement of the underground utility lines placed by the electrical company.

All were in favor.

BLE-23-3, Approving a Boundary Line Elimination. The applicant, Joseph Kopacz, is seeking to eliminate the boundary line between five parcels owned in the Mosquito Creek area near Apex Valley Road.

The subject properties are currently vacant with plans to install a septic system and build a single-family dwelling.

All were in favor of approving the BLE.

Rears presented **Resolution 24-41**, Temporarily Designating the County Manager as the Hearing Officer for Employee Termination Hearings. Per the Gilpin County Employee Handbook, employees facing termination may request a hearing. Also per the Handbook, the BoCC has the authority to designate a hearing officer to hear the appeal and make written findings and a non-binding recommendation for decision by the BOCC.

Rears recommended himself as the hearing officer for employee termination

hearings for matters arising between the dates of January 14, 2024, and March 6, 2024.

All were in favor.

During the County Manager Report, Rears listed the Legislative discussions as happening on February 12 and 26, March 11 and 25, and on April 8 and 22.

He also pointed out the conflict that the Bocc meeting has with the June 25 election. The board asked to hold the meeting at the GCCC instead. Rears will confirm later.

During the February 20 work session, the board will discuss: staffing, childcare, food pantry, and real property sales policies. It will begin at 9 a.m. at the Old Courthouse.

The tentative work sessions will be: March 19, April 16, May 21, June 4, July 30, August 20, September 17, October 1, November 5, and December 1.

There will be a joint meeting between Central City and the County on March 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall in Central.

During the Commissioner Report, Hollingsworth said there may be an upcoming workshop with Ryan Englund about Rollinsville planning, most likely dealing with water, parking, and traffic.

There was no public comment.

The board adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for February 27, 2024, at 9 a.m. and will be held in person at the Historic Courthouse located at 203 Eureka Street in Central City and online via Zoom.

Gilpin County Seniors

February 15 - Grocery shopping at Bergen Park Walmart

February 16 - Free Senior Fit exercise class at 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Free Bingo

February 19 - Closed, Happy Presidents Day!

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

February 22 - Grocery shopping Bergen Park Walmart

February 23 - Free Senior Fit exercise class at 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Social time

February 26 - Free Senior Fit exercise class at 11 a.m.

February 28 - Free Senior Fit exercise class at 11 a.m., Lunch at 12:15 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic at 11:30 a.m., Foot Clinic

February 29 - Grocery shopping 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 for details. We accept donations for the Senior Fit exercise classes.

Nederland Area Seniors

February 21 - Breaded pork chop with gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, tomatoes, apples

February 28 - Cheese stuffed chicken, baked potato, sour cream, asparagus, pears.

February 28 - Purple Art event, an art class for seniors! Suggested donation \$5.

Lunch is served at noon. (Yoga 11 - 11:30 a.m.) RSVP 303-258-0799. Suggested donation per meal is \$5.

Our Senior Lounge is open! Please, check our website calendar for the latest updates www.mountainpeaklife.org.



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NEDERLAND, CO

BUSINESS Spotlight



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TOWN OF NEDERLAND

The Board of Trustees and Sustainability Advisory Board of the Town of Nederland are thrilled to announce a partnership with

CarShare to introduce a community vehicle initiative as part of the 2024 budget. This innovative collaboration reflects the Town's commitment to sustainability and enhancing the quality of life for its residents.

Colorado CarShare, a non-profit

organization operating over 60-shared vehicles along the Front Range, will oversee the operation of the electric vehicles for this program.

As part of this partnership, the Town of Nederland, in conjunction with Colorado CarShare, will be offering exclusive benefits to residents. Residents can sign up at Carshare.org and use promo code NEDFREE_EV for the following benefits:

- Application fee waived - a \$25 Value.
- \$25 in Drive Credits.

This initiative aims to promote accessibility to sustainable transportation options while reducing individual ownership costs.

The centerpiece of this initiative is the introduction of a shared electric vehicle, which will be available for reservation starting February 14. The vehicle will be conveniently located at 45 West First Street, Nederland, in the Visitors Center Parking Lot. Residents will have the flexibility to reserve the vehicle for as little as 15 minutes or for extended periods, catering to various transportation needs.

CarShare provides the convenience of accessing a vehicle when needed, eliminating the hassle and expenses associated with individual vehicle ownership and maintenance. Recognizing the importance of sustainable infrastructure, the Town of Nederland anticipates installing a dual-port fast charger by fall 2024 to accommodate the growing demand for electric vehicles.

The decision to enroll in this

program aligns with the Town's commitment to providing alternative transportation sources and meeting energy transportation goals. Studies have shown that one CarShare vehicle can replace 9-13 single occupancy vehicles, significantly reducing traffic congestion and carbon emissions.

The official launch of the community vehicle initiative is scheduled for Valentine's Day, February 14, symbolizing the Town's love for sustainability and community welfare.

How it works:

1. Become a member -complete the online application, online orientation, email a selfie with Drivers License. Wait 3-5 days for membership approval, and wait to receive your key card in the mail.
2. Reserve vehicle online at reservations.carshare.org
3. Use a key card to unlock the car.
4. Drive - Available vehicle has an estimated range of 150-220 miles on full charge.
5. Return the car to its designated parking space where you checked it out from, and plug it back in for the next user to enjoy.

For more information on how to participate in the CarShare program or to reserve the electric vehicle, residents are encouraged to visit Carshare.org or contact adminassist@nederlandco.org or 303-258-3266 Ex. 1001.

20-year-old male arrested after assault in Nederland

SERGEANT CONNOR PONTIAKOS
BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Boulder County Sheriff's Office began an investigation after a 47-year-old male victim reported that a male had physically attacked him in the parking lot of the Nederland Visitor's Center, 45 W 1st Street, Nederland, in the early morning hours of February 1, 2024. The victim stated during the attack, the male used an edged weapon to injure him, and the suspect also bit him. The victim received bodily injury from the assault.

Boulder County Sheriff's Office detectives were able to identify the suspect as 20-year-old Elijah Krajceck. An arrest warrant and search warrant were obtained for Krajceck's last known address. Sheriff's Office detectives and several members of the Boulder County Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

team executed the warrants on February 6, at an address in the 100 block of W. Boulder Street in the Town of Nederland.

Krajceck, who is restrained from the house by a court order, was hiding inside the residence and would not comply to lawful orders to come out. After a short time, Krajceck was arrested without further incident.

Krajceck was charged with Second Degree Assault, Felony Menacing, Violation of a Protection Order, and Obstruction of a Peace Officer.

The associated Boulder County Sheriff's Office case number is 24-00613. Agencies who assisted with this investigation included the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and the Nederland Fire Department.

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

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Commissioners and Trustees discuss large downtown development

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

The Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) and Planning Commission met on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 7 p.m. for a joint work session. The focus of the meeting was to discuss and provide feedback on the Planned Unit Development (PUD) application submitted by Nederland Central Business District Redevelopment LLC, represented by property owner Ron Mitchell.

The PUD encapsulates six different sites within, and near to, Nederland's Central Business District. Each site is expected to provide some form of community need: affordable workforce housing, childcare, or additional retail space.

Three of Mitchell's parcels at 0 Highway 119 and 297 Boulder Canyon Drive are being proposed for Hillside Infant Care. The site would consist of eight workforce housing apartments located on the north lot, and a 5,580 square foot Infant Care facility on the south lot. The site designs indicate garage spaces and parking under the building, and a pavilion on the northwest corner that is specified as a "neighborhood gathering space with 180 degree views."

Mitchell's open lot at 100 1st Street is being proposed for a paid parking lot and more workforce housing. The site is expected to consist of 20 on-site and 11 on-street parking spaces, with more workforce housing, and will provide pedestrian and bicycle access to the trail along Middle Boulder Creek. Along with this site, Mitchell is proposing an easement to the Town of Nederland for public use for a multi-modal bridge across the creek, connecting East 1st Street to Lakeview Drive. All development on this site is planned with respect to the riparian corridor and floodplain.

171 and 173 West 1st Street, and 154 and 184 Highway 72 are being proposed for The Amsterdam. The multi-use complex will include 23 mixed-income residential units and a 4,388 square foot restaurant space. The PUD states that The Amsterdam would provide "a sense of place and destination within the downtown."

101 and 115 East 2nd Street, along with parcels at 108 and 118 East 3rd Street are being proposed for a large, multi-floor mixed-use building with retail on the first floor and market-rate apartments above. The design plan

also includes a community garden that will be created along North Beaver Creek.

Parcels at 5, 15, 25, 35, 75, and 95 East 1st Street, along with parcels at 40, 50, 60, and 72 East 2nd Street, and 155 East Highway 119, are being proposed for the construction of Alpine Crossing. Alpine Crossing would introduce a new downtown center which is expected to house a 120-room resort, 43 residential apartments, 331 underground parking spaces and 39 on-street spaces, and 28,000 square feet of restaurant and retail space. According to the PUD, the building is expected to be set back 25 feet from the south property line in order to "accommodate covered walkways and expanded sidewalks on the northside of 1st Street."

35, 45, and 75 East 2nd Street would be redeveloped for the Alpine Crossing Service Site.

All developments are specified as having met EnergyStar requirements and promote "compact infill development"; additionally, the ideal placement of rooftop solar panels is indicated on every site plan.

Town staff included feedback from Nederland's municipal departments. Sergeant Asa Mirriam noted that the total of all phases of Mitchell's plan would result in an increase of 116 residences, with the potential of an estimated 232 persons, and stated that "this increase would put a strain on public safety." He suggested that the BOT would need to consider hiring more deputies due to the potential 24% increase to Nederland's population if Mitchell's projects were to be approved.

The Nederland Fire Protection District (NFPD) stated that they are "seeking assurances that the final PUD will include all fire amendments in code, alarms, smoke detectors, standpipes in all buildings if required," and noted that they would prefer that the proposal designs include a fire lane, fire truck access including garage access, a safe way for ladders to mount to the roofs, and an update to any fire hydrants that are within 600 feet of the facilities.

With Alpine Crossing planned to be built up to 50 feet, Mitchell met with Nederland Fire Chief Charlie Schmitmann and Fire Marshal Andrew Joslin to discuss the possibility of the Nederland Fire Department (NFD) supporting raising the building height limit from the current 35 feet. During

their meeting on December 20, 2023, the NFPD discussed that Mitchell's request to construct buildings up to 50 feet tall would require the purchase of a new ladder truck with a 100 foot ladder. A new ladder truck would cost \$1.7 million, or \$200,000 a year through a loan, which the District would expect Mitchell to pay for before being able to break ground on any development.

The District should have a final decision regarding the request to raise the building height limit from 35 to 50 feet within four months.

The Parks Department requested that preliminary parking plans be included in the final PUD, as well as plans for ADA compliance and expectations for land maintenance and plowing from Town staff.

The Utilities Department stated that, based on Mitchell's PUD and the flow analysis of the wastewater treatment plant, the plant does not currently have enough capacity for the introduction of so much new infrastructure. Though additional information is desired from Mitchell in order to understand exactly how much water demand and wastewater flow will be introduced to the system, capacity expansion of the wastewater treatment plant would most likely be required.

Nederland's Sustainability Coordinator Leah Haney approved of the specifications within the PUD to use geothermal heating, solar panels, and natural building materials, though she was concerned about the continued use of natural gas and unsustainable roofing materials. It was also noted that, from a sustainability standpoint, Mitchell's plans would increase vehicle use in Town, as opposed to walkability and bikeability.

Town's engineering firm JVA highlighted street grading and drainage concerns for each proposal, as well as utilities connection concerns, and had recommendations for traffic studies and vehicle turning analyses for Alpine Crossing and Hillside Infant Care. JVA also recommended that Town staff and the BOT review the offered easement for a potential second bridge across Middle Boulder Creek to assure it fits the Town's required needs.

A written statement from urban design and planning firm Blackwood and Company was included with the PUD application on behalf of Mitchell and Nederland Central Business District Redevelopment LLC (NCBDR). The statement



PHOTO BY TOM MAHOWALD

Answering questions

Ron Mitchell addresses questions from the Nederland Board of Trustees and Planning Commission, during a work session on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

provides a summarized history of Mitchell and his decades of work in the Town of Nederland, and details much of Mitchell's contributions to the community, including running the library from 1975 to 1979, giving the Town 1,000 square feet of land for the construction of the roundabout, donating to many of Nederland's non-profit organizations, and providing his work and expertise on several matters, from electrical wiring to plumbing and gardening.

The statement from Blackwood and Company also included the results from the community open house sessions Mitchell held on September 10 and 24, 2023, at the Nederland Community Center. Comments from the public were made on each of the six parcels, as well as general comments that ranged from constructive to less helpful.

"Nederland as it is now is clearly the result of years of negligence, disrespect for the community and a spirit of 'laissez faire,'" wrote one commenter.

"The development would bring critical companies such as Timberland, bike stores, outdoor stores, targeting new customers. An increase in housing would bring accommodation costs down, making it affordable for a wider economic spectrum of people," wrote another.

"Not a fan of the 'Central City' look of the design," one person simply stated.

Responses were provided for all of the legitimate concerns raised by the public during these sessions.

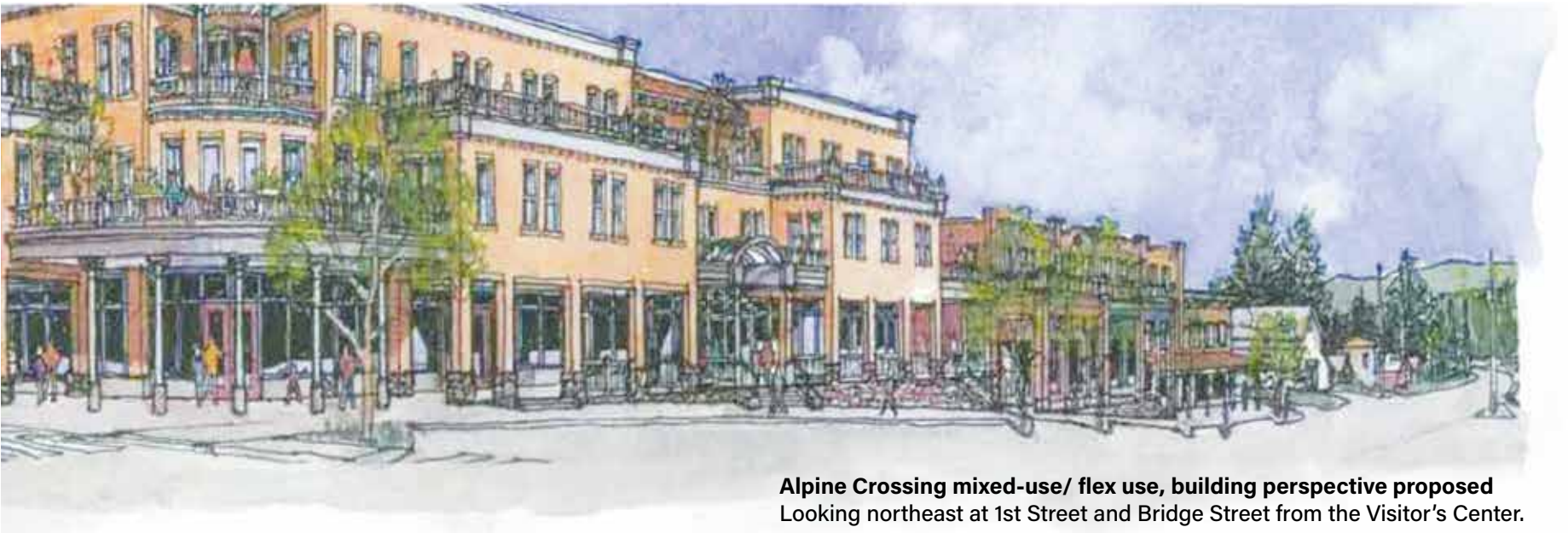
To those worried about the proximity of Highway 119 to the proposed Hillside Infant Care, the response from Blackwood and Company, representing Mitchell, was that "the Infant Care/Preschool play yard will be at a much higher elevation than the Highway and encircled with a fence to keep the children safe."

To the statement that The Amsterdam is "bland" and does not add any character to the Town, the response was that the design "is in accordance with the Nederland Design Standards and Guidelines with articulated facades, covered walkway/

Continued on page 26

Snyder and E. 2nd Street mixed-use
Left: Looking west on 2nd Street.
Right: East facade.





Alpine Crossing mixed-use/ flex use, building perspective proposed
Looking northeast at 1st Street and Bridge Street from the Visitor's Center.

Development

Continued from page 25

colonnade along the west façade of the building, well-identified entry and with the heavier stone work at the bottom of the building to anchor the building.”

One statement concerning the Alpine Crossing asks for the “old Nederland” not to be wiped out, and asks if the original buildings can be updated and retrofitted to be sustainable and ADA compliant. The response from Blackwood and Company notes that “old Nederland” is hard to define, and that “many redevelopment scenarios were explored early on in the planning process, including a piecemeal approach to infilling between the existing buildings, but none were financially feasible nor aesthetically desirable nor did they provide any additional parking, residential or hotel accommodations for the town.”

The PUD also notes that the proposal was formed to meet the goals and objectives of the 2013 Nederland Comprehensive Plan, the 2017 Nederland Downtown Development Authority Master Plan, Envision Nederland 2020, #NEDZERO, the 2014 Housing Needs Assessment, and the Nederland Design Standards and Guidelines.

Mitchell previously presented the PUD to the Planning Commission on December 20, 2023, during which he received feedback and fielded questions from commissioners.

Chair Steve Williams stated his belief that those residents concerned about Mitchell’s project potentially changing “the face of Nederland” were “fearful” and “ignorant” of the work Mitchell and his team were doing. Commissioner Michael Dye agreed with the sentiment being expressed throughout the meeting that “change is inevitable.” However, he added, the direction of that change is not inevitable.

Commissioner Linda Glasser requested that Mitchell produce statements from those East 1st Street business owners who are not his tenants concerning their support or opposition to the proposed construction. Commissioner Jim Reis raised concerns about the projected five- to ten-year phased timeline for the project and asked Mitchell to assure, through contingency initiatives, that the Town would not be left with the empty shells of abandoned developments.

On January 24, 2024, Mitchell returned to the Planning Commission to request amending Chapter 16 - Article VI of NMC to allow applicants in the PUD approval process to forgo the preliminary process and proceed directly to final review and approval.

The official request stated that the current application covers all requirements under the final PUD approval process, and claimed that the project has earned the proof of support due to it having been “vetted in the community over the past eight to ten years.”

Commissioners directed Town staff to have SE Group, the third party consulting firm currently drafting an update to the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, to expedite an assessment of Chapter 16 - Article VI and to return with draft code language by March.

The joint Work Session on February 13 continued the conversation between Mitchell, the Planning Commission, and the BOT, with an aim to fine-tune the PUD application to be reviewed by commissioners and later by a new board, and possibly a new mayor, after the municipal election on April 2, 2024.

Mitchell and Nancy Blackwood were present, as were Town Administrator Miranda Fisher and Community Planner Britt DeMinck representing Town staff. Trustees Tania Corvalan, Eric Coombs-Esmail, Luke Miller, Jesse Seavers, and Nichole Sterling were present from the BOT, as was Mayor Pro Tem Tom Mahowald and Mayor Billy Giblin. Commissioners Roger Cornell, Tim Duggan, Linda Glasser, and Steve Williams were also in attendance.

In addition to the members of the public who attended in person and online, Cheney Bostic from Studio Seed, and Caleb Schmitz of SE Group were also present via WebEx. Bostic and Schmitz are involved in the Town’s Comprehensive Plan update.

As technical difficulties were being addressed concerning the audio playback for online viewers of the meeting, Mitchell told a story of the first time he attempted to move a house up to Nederland through the canyon. He explained how it became stuck in the tunnel, and traffic had to be diverted for three days.

After formal introductions, Trustee Seavers suggested beginning by analyzing and discussing the concerns raised by Town departments, starting with Sergeant Mirriam’s assertion that the project would create a 24% increase to the Town’s population. Blackwood explained that, due to the phased construction plan, the

population increase will be a gradual growth.

Mitchell noted that he felt the most significant of the Town’s concerns came from the Utilities Department, specifically about the water line beneath East 1st Street needing to be replaced. Mitchell stated that he would be meeting with JVA in order to determine which of the three projects to be constructed on or near East 1st Street would trigger the need for the water line replacement.

It was also explained that the water line replacement project would require East 1st Street to be closed for up to two weeks, though Mitchell does not expect any part of his development to affect thru traffic or delivery services.

Commissioner Reis asked how Mitchell was planning to mitigate the effects the development will have on adjacent businesses, to which Mitchell replied that most of his tenants have expressed that they will move into the new buildings, while some have expressed that they will leave or relocate. Mitchell said that the biggest concern of business owners is the effect the construction will have on parking, though he stated that the parking structure to be created at 100 1st Street will be developed first to accommodate East 1st Street businesses during the remainder of development.

In relation to parking, Mitchell specified that he will be including in his final PUD application a clause for back-in parking only. Mitchell has mandated back-in parking with other projects, including the Big Springs parking project, which he noted was successful but for one person refusing to back-in.

Trustee Luke Miller asked about what studies need to be completed concerning the feasibility of underground parking, and Trustee Sterling asked for clarification on whether there was a “plan B” in case underground was not possible. Mitchell answered that geothermal studies need to be completed and will be done before the public hearing on the final PUD, and stated that there was no contingency plan in case underground parking was determined impossible.

Mitchell also expressed concern about the request before the NFPD, as well as the BOT, to allow his Alpine Crossing development to extend five to ten feet beyond the Town’s current building height limit of 35 feet. The NFPD is currently assessing the request.

When Trustee Miller asked whether there was any “wigggle room” on the

height of Alpine Crossing, Mitchell was adamant that Alpine Crossing must be three floors high, and detailed how retail stores prefer 12 foot high ceilings. Trustee Corvalan expressed that she thought Alpine Crossing was meant to have peaked rooftops, but they were absent from the designs; Corvalan said that Mitchell had told her directly that the peaked roofs were the reason for his request to build up to 50 feet.

In terms of sustainability, Mayor Giblin expressed concern as to how Mitchell could guarantee affordable rents for his apartment units and asked if Mitchell had considered current cost-saving technologies and sustainable practices, to which Mitchell stated that he had. Commissioner Reis asked for a timeline of the phased development plan to be created and made viewable for the public. Trustee Coombs-Esmail wanted to know if the plan took into consideration compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to which Blackwood confirmed that all six projects would be completely compliant.

Mayor Giblin wished to know about other members of NCBDR. Mitchell expressed that he will introduce the team once the PUD is approved; Blackwell stated that the team would be fully structured by the time the final PUD is being presented. Mitchell was sure to indicate that the team will consist only of engineering firms and additional architects until the PUD is approved; once approved, Mitchell said that equity partners, financing entities, and lenders would possibly become members of the NCBDR team.

The questions regarding NCBDR were aimed to give Town officials an idea of who they would be working with during every stage of the estimated decade-long development. The conversation continued with Trustees and Commissioners agreeing that a third party city planning expert should be brought on as liaison for the project, which was stated to be a common practice among municipalities when approving large developments.

No decision was made regarding the PUD application, nor was any public comment heard, which is not required during a Work Session. Mitchell, representing NCBDR, is expected to take the feedback from Commissioners and Trustees and incorporate it into his final PUD application. The matter of Mitchell’s PUD application will not return to the Planning Commission or the BOT’s agenda until some time after the April 2 municipal election.



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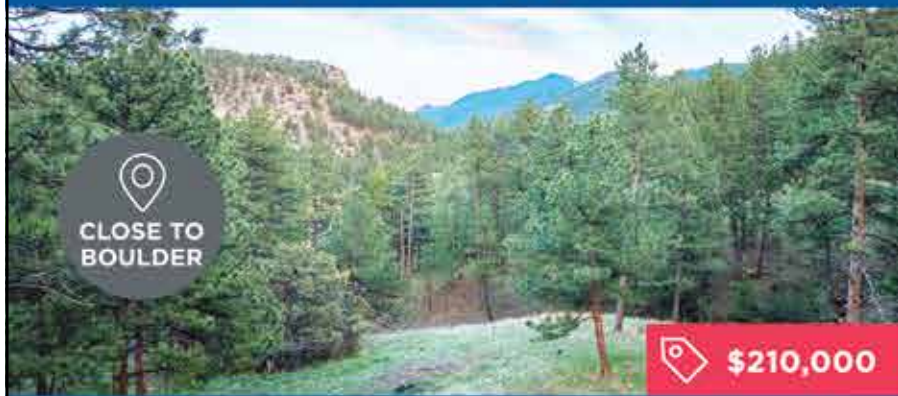
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182 ROCKY KNOB LN, NEDERLAND, CO LAND | 2.18 ACRES



485 E KELLY RD, BOULDER, CO LAND | 1.25 ACRES

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Trustee candidate: John B. Stevens



Of Nederland’s various boards and subcommittees (Board of Zoning Adjustment, Nederland Downtown Development Authority, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board, Planning Commission, Sustainability Advisory Board, Youth Advisory Board), which would you be most interested in serving as liaison for and why? (Mayoral candidates please answer hypothetically)

Planning Commission or Zoning Adjustment because of my Construction Background

How long have you lived in Nederland?
3.5 years

Briefly describe your current career and home life.

Retired carpenter & maintenance manager with wife & 2 high school kids.

Briefly describe your educational and professional experience and explain how your skill set can best serve the Town of Nederland.

5 years Head Start Parent Advisory Committee

3 years North Dakota State Superintendent Parent Engagement Council

In your words please explain why you wanted to run for this position.

Important stuff is being left undone because of inability, for whatever reasons, to be completed fully

Of the major projects/issues currently facing the BOT (Bobcat Ridge annexation, downtown redevelopment, Teens, Inc. child care proposal, suggestions for code change to come from the comprehensive plan update, suggestions for streets improvements to come from the multimodal transportation plan, the Chipeta Park pump track, tourism initiatives, water and sewer infrastructure, securing water rights, the keeping animals ordinance, the commitment to Proposition 123 and affordable housing development, an interconnected trails system, etc.) which would you make your top priorities?

Obviously water rights, and water/sewer infrastructure of which need to be in place before some of these projects can be completed

Who, if anyone, would you consider a mentor or figure who inspired you to run for this position? How did they inspire you?

My inspiration is that a lot of money goes to studies and other things, but little is done for the existing town

Have you ever, or are you currently, serving on any boards for any non-profit organizations? If not, what organizations, or causes, have you considered joining?

HeadStart in N.D.

Taking into consideration that the community is outspoken against tourism but the Town budget is seemingly reliant on tourism revenue, as Mayor/Trustee, how would you mitigate tourism-based initiatives as they come up on the agenda?

We, in a nutshell, have to live with the tourism, to for one, offset of taxes, more revenue = less on property owners.

Have you reviewed the 2024 Strategic Plan? Of the listed priorities for 2024 which are most important to you as a resident of Nederland? In your opinion as a resident of Nederland is there a priority for the Town that was not listed in the Strategic Plan?

Infrastructure is number 1 priority, the rest will follow

The Town of Nederland, having committed to Proposition 123, is required to provide 13 affordable housing units in three years. What are your suggestions for how to achieve this goal? Do you believe that the Boulder County requirements for what constitutes affordable housing is acceptable for Nederland?

I don’t have enough information, to give a honest opinion

How familiar are you with the Town of Nederland’s 2024 budget? How would you mitigate a discussion or action item on your agenda that is of concern to the community but is not prioritized in either the budget or the 2024 Strategic Plan?

I don’t have a personal agenda. Mine is a community based priority (Infrastructure affects the whole community

In relation to the several proposals on the BOT’s table that involve large development projects either in the heart of downtown Nederland or sprawling just beyond our borders, requiring annexation, the term “responsible growth” has been used liberally. How do you describe responsible growth for Nederland?

Having or preparing to have infrastructure (utilities) ready and in place before annexation

Presidential primary ballots in the mail

WES ISENHART
GILPIN COUNTY

Presidential primary ballots were mailed from the Clerk and Recorder office on Monday February 12, 2024. Voters registered with one of the two major political parties will receive a ballot for their party candidates. Independent voters will receive a ballot for each party. They can return only one of the ballots; if they return both, neither will be counted. Completed primary ballots need to be returned to the Clerk and Recorder office by Super Tuesday March 5, 2024. Colorado has moved up the Presidential Primary to Super Tuesday to have more of a voice in the selection of the presidential nominees.

After the Presidential Primary, state and local primary elections will be held in a June primary. The local Democratic and Republican political parties will be having caucuses and assemblies in March to qualify candidates for the June primary.

The Gilpin Republican Party will have their caucus at the Gilpin RE-1 school on Thursday night March 7, 2024, from 7-9 p.m. They can be contacted at their website (gilpingop.com) for more information. There will be a competitive Republican primary for Gilpin County Commissioner

Colorado has moved up the Presidential Primary to Super Tuesday to have more of a voice in the selection of the presidential nominees.

District 1.

The Gilpin Democratic Party will have their caucus at the Gilpin RE-1 school Saturday afternoon March 9, 2024, from 1-4 p.m. They will be having their caucus and assembly on the same day. Their website (gilpincountydems.org) also has more information about their caucus.

The Presidential Primary and March caucuses start the 2024 political campaign season and mail-in ballots will be used for both the presidential and state primary elections. Ballots can be returned via mail or drop box. Gilpin County has historically had high participation rates for primary and general elections.

The Mountain-Ear presents: Meet the Candidates forum

Monday, March 4, 2024, from 5:30-8 p.m.
at the Nederland Community Center
750 Highway 72, Nederland

5:30- 6:15 p.m.

5 minute introduction by each candidate

6:15-7:30 p.m.

Questions to candidates
(submitted by email, see below)

7:30-8 p.m.

Informal open Q&A session
will follow the official session

Submit your questions for the community candidate forum after reading the February 8 edition of *The Mountain-Ear*, with the candidate profiles. Like questions will be combined.

Questions can be addressed to
Mayoral candidates or Trustee candidates (or both).
Email to p2pcandidatesquestions@gmail.com by
Thursday, February 29, 2024, at midnight, to be considered.



Government Meetings

Black Hawk City Council meetings occur at 3 p.m. on second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Join the next meeting on Wednesday, February 28, in Council Chambers located upstairs at 211 Church Street, Black Hawk. For more information check online at <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/calendar/upcoming>.

Central City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Join the meeting on Tuesday, February 20, at 7 p.m., 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 on Wednesday, March 13, at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 141 Nevada Street, or online at <https://centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings>.

Central City Main Street Commission meetings are held every third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Join the next meeting on Wednesday, February 21, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 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 on Wednesday, March 6, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 141 Nevada Street. Visit online, <https://centralcity.colorado.gov/meetings> for the upcoming 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 at the Old Courthouse, 203 Eureka Street, Central City, or online via Zoom at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, February 27. Please check online for the next scheduled meeting, <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 on Thursday, February 15, 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> on Tuesday, March 12.

Gilpin County Board of Health meets on Thursday, March 7, in person at the Commissioners' Meeting Hall, 203 Eureka Street, Central City, 2nd floor, and online via Microsoft Teams. Visit online at <https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/board-of-health-meetings>, for the 2024 schedule.

Nederland Board of Trustees (BOT) meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 7 to 11 p.m. Attend the next meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 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) is scheduled to hold a special meeting on the third Wednesday of this month at 6 p.m. Attend in person at the Nederland Community Center, or online via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/downtown-development-authority/>, on Wednesday, February 21, at 6 p.m. The regular meeting schedule resumes in March.

Nederland Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) meets as needed on the second Thursday of the quarter (January, April, July, October). Join in person at the Nederland Community Center or online via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/board-of-zoning-adjustment>, on Thursday, April 11, at 7 p.m.

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, on Thursday, February 15, <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 February 28 at 7 p.m. 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. Due to the holiday, the next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, February 22, in person at the Nederland Community Center or via WebEx, <https://townofnederland.colorado.gov/sustainability-advisory-board>.

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

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Experienced snow plow driver needed. Client-based snow removal route in Nederland area. Base rate \$25/hr. with increase for proven skill and reliability. Must be willing to work early a.m. hours. Must have dependable cell phone. Call (303) 819-2118.

Local, established excavation, grading and snow removal company looking for part-time employee (min. 20/wk). Class B Commercial truck driver with air brake and manual transmission endorsements required, class A preferred. Must have or be able to obtain a current medical card. Random drug and alcohol testing required. Must have equipment operating experience. Duties include seasonal snow removal, shop work, and truck/equipment maintenance. Pay range of \$25 or more per hour DOE. Call (303) 819-2118 or email mtndirtworks@gmail.com to apply.

Gilpin County is Hiring!

Caseworker II – Prevention Specialist:
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Deputy - Detentions - POST Certified:
\$30.77 - \$43.77
Deputy – Patrol: \$30.77 - \$43.77
Detentions Officer - Non-Certified:
\$27.88 - \$39.66
Emergency Communications Dispatcher I:
\$22.69 - \$31.78

Facilities Maintenance Tech I: \$20.63 - \$28.89
Guest Services Representative-Substitute
Position: \$17.36 - \$23.46
IT Specialist: \$79,000 - \$110,600
Library Specialist: \$20.63 - \$28.89
Senior Services & Transportation Driver:
\$15.77 - \$21.30
Sports Official: \$ 20.63 - \$28.89
Volunteer - Athletic Coach:
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Volunteer - Meals on Wheels Program:
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Please go to our website to apply at
<https://gilpincounty.colorado.gov/careers>

Help Wanted for experienced and available for live in care for the kids? It would likely allow you to maintain your current employment and provide housing & meals for 7 days including all day Fri-Sun of live-in, transport to school or camp, return them home and helping them preparing meals each evening. The need is for remainder of November and full month of December & could extend. We have a new king-size guest bedroom. \$500 weekly. For info call Rachel (720) 779-7198 or email rachelpirkle@gmail.com.

SERVICES

Brightwood Music offers Instrument REPAIRS. Brightwood Music is located at 20 E Lakeview Dr., Unit 109 Nederland. Need to fix up that instrument you found in your grandpas attic? Found a bargain at the local thrift store, on that violin you always wanted? We offer regular luthier services. From restringing your instrument to detailed refret jobs and complete reconstruction! We are open Wednesday through Sunday and can normally get started on your repair the day you bring it in. Call 303.258.8863 for info!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE
NO. 23-10PT

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

On November 27, 2023, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Gilpin records.

Original Grantor(s)
David Joseph McLaughlin
Original Beneficiary(ies)
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
YAKTE PROPERTIES, LLC
Date of Deed of Trust
December 28, 2004
County of Recording
Gilpin

Recording Date of Deed of Trust
January 05, 2005
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
124751

Original Principal Amount
\$43,018.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$34,847.98

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

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

LOTS 7 AND 8, COMBINED TO FORM A SINGLE PARCEL TO BE KNOWN AS LOT 7A, BY RESOLUTION APPROVING BOUNDARY LINE ELIMINATION RECORDED NOVEMBER 22, 2000, IN BOOK 707, PAGE 51, PACTOLUS ACRES REPLAT, COUNTY OF GILPIN, STATE OF COLORADO.
Purported common address: Pinecliffe, CO 80471.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN

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

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, 03/28/2024, at The Office of the Gilpin County Public Trustee, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 2/1/2024
Last Publication 2/29/2024
Name of Publication The Mountain-Ear

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
DATE: 11/27/2023

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

By: Public Trustee

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

David R. Doughty #40042
Janeway Law Firm, P.C. 9800 S. Meridian Blvd., Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80112 (855) 263-9295

Attorney File # 23-030634

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

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Revised 1/2015

Current Job Openings for the City of Black Hawk

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



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for Excellence



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

MAINTENANCE WORKER I, Salary Range: \$52,902 - \$74,063/Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E. Operates both light and heavy equipment and performs routine, semi-skilled to

skilled work in the maintenance and construction of streets, open space, summer flowers, parks, storm drainage systems, traffic control, signage, striping, landscaping, snow plowing, and City trash operations. Excellent Benefits package (See **Benefits**). **Apply Now: <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>**

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

WATER UTILITY OPERATOR III or IV, Salary Range: \$61,209 - \$89,977/Annual (paid hourly), DOQ/E. REQUIRED: Colorado Class "B" or Class "A" Water Plant Operator Certification. A Water Utility Operator III will operate and maintain the water treatment plants, distribution system, raw water system, maintain and repair water mains, service lines, valves, pumps, and water related appurtenances. This is the jour-

ney-level class in the Utility Operator series and is expected to perform a full range of all duties with minimal instruction and assistance. Excellent Benefits package (See **Benefits**). **Apply Now: <https://www.cityofblackhawk.org/>**

City of Black Hawk Benefits:

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mini Storage Sale

Pursuant to Colorado State Statutes, Rollinsville Mini Storage will sell at public auction on February 12, 2024 Personal property of Johanna Maison and Johnathan Baumhover to the highest bidder. The sale will be held online at Locker Fox commencing at 10:00 AM. Items to be sold: furniture, clothing and other household items. Contact Manager@rollinsvilleministorage.com All sales are subject to change.

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CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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56						57				58		
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62						63				64		

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

Theme: U.S. Presidents

ACROSS

1. Falling out
5. Bottle top
8. Door fastener
12. Shoe emanation?
13. Staff note
14. Home to Buccaneers
15. Actress Spelling
16. Thor's father
17. Kidman's husband
18. *He served two nonconsecutive presidential terms
20. *JFK and RFK's relationship, abbr.
21. Foreword
22. J. Edgar Hoover Building org.
23. Pac-Man venue
26. Long and adventurous journey
30. Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
31. Like life, according to some
34. Is it enough?
35. Jalisco plant
37. As opposed to rent
38. Grassy mound
39. Flat-top hill
40. *W in George H. W. Bush
42. Nicki Minaj's genre
43. Reusable painting pattern
45. Sacred songs
47. Horse control
48. Laughing predator
50. Gunk
52. *Nobel Peace Prize winning president
56. Social media button
57. Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
58. Greek god of love
59. Cautious gambler
60. Trousers
61. Baltic capital
62. Port in Yemen
63. Follow ems
64. Not ever, poetically

DOWN

1. Campus drillers
2. One on a pedestal
3. Golfer's warning
4. "Jeopardy" question, e.g.
5. Closet wood
6. ___ acid
7. Body between England and U.S.?
8. *President who spent the shortest time in office
9. Orator's stand
10. Pampering establishments
11. J.M. Barrie's Peter
13. Like hot lava
14. Short and plump
19. Endow
22. *WW2 Pres.
23. *Thomas Jefferson was his VP
24. "Thesaurus" author
25. Cut it out
26. Sound on Old MacDonald's farm
27. Annoy a bedfellow
28. "Bravo! Bravo!" e.g.
29. Online reviews
32. Delivered by a mare
33. Hole punching tool
36. *a.k.a. Old Kinderhook
38. Danish money
40. Intelligent humor
41. Vomiting
44. Pressed beverage
46. Tap house
48. TV classic "___'s Heroes"
49. Egg parts
50. Past tense of chide
51. Sand trap tool
52. Ill-mannered
53. Albany-Buffalo canal
54. Theater section
55. Russian ruler
56. #10 Down, sing.



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G	I	S	M	O	K	I	D	I	C	I	L	I	L	Y
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION: FEBRUARY 8

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION: FEBRUARY 8

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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.

Page 36 THE MOUNTAIN-EAR July 27, 2023

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Nederland prepares to celebrate 150 years

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY
NEDERLAND

For most of us, Saturday, February 10, 2024, went by like any other day. While Nederland residents prepared for Super Bowl parties and went shopping for their significant others for Valentine's Day, the 150th anniversary of the Town of Nederland's official incorporation quietly went by like any other day.

But there are those working diligently behind the curtain to plan Nederland's sesquicentennial celebration, including the Nederland Area Historical Society, who are working to assure that the Town's rich history, from the early pioneering days to the mining revival in the late 70s, is remembered.

On February 12, 2024, Lee Tillotson organized with Jessie Ansari, George Blevins, Linda Glasser, Sue Leto, and Jeannette Smith, to meet at the Nederland Community Library and review a vast collection of historical archives. This included editions of *The Nederland Bugle*, the Town's official newspaper before *The Mountain-Ear* was established in 1977.

The 1974 *Nederland Centennial Celebration* special publication, which was from Leto's personal collection of Nederland periodicals, printed the original handwritten copy of the then 100-year-old incorporation document, officially signifying Nederland as a

municipality on February 10, 1874.

The newspapers came from both Leto and Smith's personal collections and covered several decades of important news, including when construction on Eldora's ski operation began in 1962, and when the remake of the classic western "Stagecoach" was filmed in Nederland and the nearby Caribou Country Club Ranch back in 1965.

Smith recalled meeting Bing Crosby, Slim Pickens, and Red Buttons while the movie was being filmed here, though she lamented that she didn't get the chance to meet Ann-Margret. Glasser mentioned that a lot of the actors and crew would hang out at The Branding Iron (formerly the Pioneer Inn, currently the Covered Wagon), though some were "too cool" for the Nederland scene.

Ultimately, Hollywood decided to pass on filming more motion pictures in Nederland, as the constant rain and wind that the "Stagecoach" crew endured cost the production 10 days of shooting time and an estimated \$250,000. The weather became such a mitigating factor that the climactic ending of the movie was filmed in either Utah or on a Hollywood backlot.

In addition to the invaluable information and history found within the pages of countless copies of *The Nederland Bugle*, Blevins provided the group his original cartoon maps of Nederland, the first drawn in 1988, with



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Remembering and celebrating Nederland's past

Left to right: Linda Glasser, George Blevins, Sue Leto, Jeanette Smith, Lee Tillotson plan a tribute to Nederland history for the 150th Anniversary.

an updated map created in 1993.

Blevins worked as *The Mountain-Ear's* irreplaceable cartoonist from 1983 to the early 2000s. His maps gloriously detail the Nederland of old and, looking at it today, it highlights the many changes the Town has gone through over the years, including the former five-way stop that is the current location of the now infamous Highway 119 roundabout.

Blevins explains how the five-way stop, where Highway 119, Highway 72, East 2nd Street, and North Bridge Street converge, was once a cause of great confusion, especially to visitors and newcomers.

The group worked to identify events and locations that are "gone but not forgotten," to include in special history-focused materials that, in conjunction with reprintings of Blevins' maps, are to be distributed free to the public closer to July 4, 2024, when the Town of Nederland plans to officially celebrate its 150th anniversary.

As they worked they also told stories. Smith commented on an old photo of a cabin overlooking the reservoir, with a large bell situated nearby. It was a photo of St. Rita's Catholic Church, which Smith has been attending since she was nine years old. She explained that the church was built in 1939, and that the original structure is still there today; she also mentioned that the church's bell didn't toll all that well.

Glasser told a story about how

Boulder students used to pack into the Pioneer Inn to watch college games, specifically recalling a time in the winter when Nederland locals weren't invited to the festivities, so they proceeded to get on the roof and stuff the chimney, eventually smoking out the entire bar.

The Nederland Area Historical Society is but one organization, comprised of individual volunteers, that is working on planning the Town's sesquicentennial celebration. Previously, members of Town staff and local stakeholders and community leaders met for a Zoom conference to begin planning the festivities.

The conversation revolved around how to best honor the Town's historic moment, from what events and activities should be hosted, to how to promote Nederland's history, highlight its present, and envision its future. There was even discussion about a sesquicentennial cake, and what flavors would best represent the Town.

For more information on Nederland's history, visit the Nederland Mining Museum at 200 North Bridge Street, the Gillaspie House Museum at 363-449 North Bridge Street, or go to: <https://www.nederlandareahistoricalociety.org>.

When the snow begins to melt and summer approaches, be sure to follow The Mountain-Ear for more details regarding Nederland's 150th Anniversary.

PLANNING AN EVENT?



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Cracker Barrel

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