

Between the Beans

FREE
TAKE ONE

Volume 26 Issue 09.07

www.PintoBean.CO

A weekly publication for Dolores County as part of the Pinto Bean™



Carhart Heritage Farms - El Toro branded Pinto Beans - field check in September 2026

WHAT WILL HARVEST LOOK LIKE?

No question this has been a difficult farming year, with the monsoons not really producing as much as was hoped for, and incessant heat continuing to dry things out in the growing season. This drought is said to be part of a longer 'mega drought' likely

since around the year 2000.. and there's no indication things will change for the better. There are hopes hooked on to the potential for an el nino winter set up that will bring above average snow pack to the mountains. But that is just a possible scenario, we will have to wait and see. This harvest is light.

Spilling the Beans...

By Kendra Cook

Labor Day weekend really puts a period on the 'end of summer'! The weather definitely is turning cooler, and windier, and the moisture has helped reduced Fire Restriction stages down to 1 or off in many areas, be sure to still check before enjoying fall camp fires or burn barrels. Spot fires keep popping up as well, from the spotty afternoon thunderstorms. The potential for more monsoonal type moisture dropping in our area may also throw out some burn scar debris flow flooding alerts. It's the start of hunting as well, so be aware of hunters.

Between the Beans is archived online on our website www.PintoBean.CO check that out if you also are online. And @ThePintoBean on Facebook, is a location to share content, and follow us daily.

If you have a news story or lead that's local, get in touch, or to advertise, which supports the Bean being able to be printed and distributed - email Editor@PintoBean.CO Have a blessed week!

Pinto Bean, and Between the Beans, are both published by TPIProductionZ dba Pinto Bean
Box 630 Dove Creek, CO 81324
970-394-0410 Editor@PintoBean.Co
'Between the Bean' is distributed only in Dolores County Colorado while the 'Pinto Bean' is widely distributed throughout the four corners region once a month.
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DRYLAND CROPS

The pricing on wheat and beans have gone up from \$11 to \$13, and \$28 to \$34-35 range. As farmers have been manipulating which fields get what little water was available through irrigation, we are seeing many that had to leave certain ranges fallow, while some expected lower yields, and likely the end of the year will see an elevated use of crop insurance as we've seen some bean fields being tilled under.

An early warm spring advanced crop development, increasing vulnerability, while dry soils and limited moisture stressed plants during critical growth stages. Monsoon rains arrived later than usual and improved surface soil moisture in places, greening some landscapes temporarily. However, deeper soil moisture and stream flows remained well below average, Harvest for Colorado dry beans (pinto varieties dominate in our region) typically runs September–October once pods yellow and plants mature; growers monitor for frost risk and aim to avoid wet conditions that complicate direct harvest or increase losses. Some beans won't make in time before the frost. Yields are expected to be reduced overall.



HAPPY
LABOR
DAY

SCHOOL WEEK CALENDAR:

Sept. 9 High School Volleyball @Norwood

Sept 10 High School Volleyball

@Monticello

Middle School Football @Monticello

School Board meeting will be on Sept. 16th

School Safety a Priority

The Dolores County School District RE-2J Superintendent Ty Gray released a "School Safety Update" on Sept 2 as a letter to all Parents and Families, regarding how they process safety procedures following any type of student threat. He said "Communication is an important part of keeping our schools safe." and that they take each and every report seriously, looking to a "continued partnership in keeping our students and schools safe."

DOLORES COUNTY SENIORS

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IMPORTANT NEWS!

Be aware the newsletter will be changing, they will **no longer be able to send the newsletter in the mail**, but copies will be available at the Pioneer Center, the Dove Creek Clinic, the Bank and send them out with in home delivered meals.

This has to be done at least til the first of 2027 – the newsletter will be the menu, calendar of events and nutrition education.

FOOD COMMODITY BOXES AVAILABLE

This is an income based program with a box of shelf stable food once per month.

RSVP for meals by 9am the day of - Mon/Tues/Thurs @12pm

September Highlights

LUNCHEON FIELD TRIP
SEPT 9

CORTEZ SHOPPING TRIP
SEPT 23

LOCAL SHOPPING EVERY FRIDAY

Any questions, call **970-677-2787**

Dove Creek R.O.C.K.



The Lisa Libraries donated 329 books to Reaching Out to Community and Kids to share with our local grade school incentive program! ROCK Executive Director Carol Marie Howell said, “This is so exciting! THANK YOU to "The Lisa Libraries" As Lisa Libraries states, “Books open doors to knowledge, imagination, and endless possibilities.” The Lisa Libraries was started by author Ann M. Martin and friends to honor and memorialize children’s book editor Lisa Novak. More information or to donate to their non profit, visit lisalibraries.org



September 11 there will be a Food Distribution date at the ROCK 3-4:30pm with a SNAP rep available for questions. Drive through box pickup for Dolores County and Egnar residents. Thanking the Volunteers, an Appreciation Lunch 11:30-2pm will celebrate all those unsung heroes that keep the ROCK, rolling! You know who you are and they'd love to thank you with treats and gifts.

CO Elk & Deer Hunting Season

- Archery: Sept 2-30
- Muzzleloader: Sept 12-20
- Rifle:
 - First Season: Oct 14-18
 - Second Season: Oct 24-Nov 1
 - Third Season: Nov 7-15
 - Fourth Season: Nov 18-22
- plus Deer Plains: Oct 24-Nov 3

Dolores County BOCC Meeting

Monday August 31, 2026 was the end of the month department reports along with a Dolores County BOCC special meeting. After house keeping, Bruin Waste Management was represented to let the County know they are showing a shortfall managing the transfer station on M road. There isn’t enough traffic coming in and thus revenue to cover operations. It has been open Fridays as well as the weekend in the summer, but not many use it on that day, so the possibility may be to keep just the Saturday Sunday schedule, or possibly just Saturdays. The management fee to cover the shortfall would be \$3000 a month. Bruin will calculate the numbers and report back. They suggested there could be a fundraiser like a tire event, where they recycle the tires that raises money to cover operations.

Next up was brief discussion of the Forest Service making a new road to cottonwood, which all hope will help with traffic. The recent Groundhog ATV poker run was packed with trucks and trailers in the area the previous weekend.

On to Montelores Coalition info, that the trail work and derelict fence removal was added to the CDAP and the coalition was included as a regional partner in the Reg9 CDAP. A resolution passed to accept the document as amended. The BOCC also noted they submitted the FLAP grant rehabilitation project for the coalition.

Sheriff Wilson provided some information and a contact for the board to consider a support or a letter against Colorado Prop 132. The proposition will be on the Nov 3 ballot, set to increase prison sentences for fentanyl offenses, the ballot measure would set mandatory minimums for certain drug offenses (8 to 32 years as a felony for any amount - currently possessing up to four grams of fentanyl is a misdemeanor.) It is said to partially repeal good samaritan laws, by removing legal protections for distributors who call emergency services for an overdose. This would treat a teenager who shares a single pill the same as a major drug trafficker. They will consider their position.

PUBLIC NOTICES & JOBS

Dolores County is seeking a detail-oriented and dependable Eligibility Technician to determine eligibility for public assistance programs including Medicaid, SNAP and cash assistance. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: interviewing applicants, reviewing and verifying information, processing applications and case changes, maintaining accurate records, applying state and federal regulations, and assisting clients with program requirements and available resources. Strong communication, computer, and organizational skills are important. High school diploma/GED and background check required; related clerical, customer service, data entry, eligibility, or social services experience preferred. Full-time, 35 hours/week, Monday–Friday. Salary: \$33,334–\$35,583 plus benefits including health, dental, vision, retirement after one year of service,, social security, and Medicare. Please send resume and three references to Malynda.Evans@state.co.us by September 15, 2026.

TOWN OF DOVE CREEK MEETING
Workshop Tues. Sept 8, 6:30pm Town Hall

BOCC meeting continued

After that, a subdivision exemption was approved followed by the 2025 Audit Presentation by Chris Majors who said “probably the smoothest year, very clean this year”, after review it was approved.

Social Services requested to fill a vacant position, the county has a hiring freeze right now, however with the anticipated doubling of the DHS workload coming this November, they need to start advertising for the needed position sooner than later. There is a potential for a retention grant as well. The board accepted the Municipay agreement provided by Taylor Funk Treasurer, and reviewed by the county lawyer. Prior to the meeting were end of the month Dept head updates, after the meeting a budget workshop was held both without zoom.

Next Regular Meeting SEPT 8 2026
<https://www.youtube.com/@DoloresCountyCO-gov/videos>

DOVE CREEK, COLORADO

★ WEEKLY WEATHER OUTLOOK ★

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
9/7	9/8	9/9	9/10	9/11	9/12	9/13
Mix of Clouds & Sun, breezy with Afternoon Thunderstorms	Mostly Sunny, Afternoon spotty showers	Mostly Sunny	Mostly cloudy, a few Afternoon Thunderstorms	Partly Sunny, Afternoon Thunderstorms	Partial Sunshine	Sun and Clouds, Afternoon Thunderstorms
79/56	80/62	79/63	74/63	75/61	74/59	76/59

AFTERNOON STORMS POSSIBLE SEVERAL DAYS THIS WEEK

BE READY FOR QUICK CHANGES

STAY WEATHER AWARE!

