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July 15 2023

Dove Creek, Colorado - "Pinto Bean Capital of the World!"

Activities and News

Summer Vacations and Celebrations

Volume 23 Issue 07



Photo Chelsea Garchar

DCVFD kicked off another amazing fireworks show for Dove Creek CO

We are in the middle of the four corners summer, with all types of activities available for young and not so young alike. Public pools are a great option to cool off - whether the Monticello facility or the Cortez Rec center, there's an option fairly close to you.

Summer youth programs are also a highlight along with a variety of camps, as well as the sports camps that will be happening at the beginning of August for most sports.

The outdoor racing scene is also in high gear (sorry about that) with the Farmington race track, Cortez race track and BullHollow south of Monticello UT providing venues for a range of motorized racers.

For individual sports, the anglers out there are having a banner year with access to plentiful waterways for 2023, heading to mountain lakes, such as Llyod Lake in the Abajos, or Miramonte and Groundhog, and of course, the big draw of McPhee reservoir near the town of Dolores.

Camping trips are fun for the family, and not just for out of the area tourists... many locals find a weekend here and there to get out of town, take a weekend in the national parks, Canyonlands and vicinity, to the the Great Sand Dunes near Alamosa... from high altitudes to hot desert lands, find out about more Southwestern Adventures on page 8...



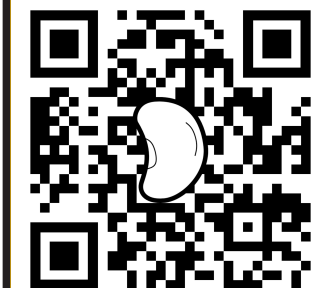
Wildflowers page 11

DC Care & Share behind the VFW M-F 12-2pm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- Fiber Internet
- Dolores County Biz
- PnH Community Fun
- Events and Notices
- Local Playgrounds
- Scenic ByWays
- Car Show Great Success
- Fourteeners
- SWA and Wildflowers
- Rattlesnakes &
- Rocket Stoves

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ONLINE



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Deadline for ad spots are the 1st of each month.

YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The Dove Creek Recreation Dept hosts a wide range of activities for the local children with a T-ball series coming up next.

Dolores County Jr. Rodeo provides a long standing rodeo series for regional youth at the County Fairgrounds each summer.

Grateful for all those volunteers helping to make this happen!



See page 4 for more photos from both venues. Thanks to the sponsors for their continued support!



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Online the 10th of each month - Printed release in town by the 15th
Confirm Articles or Ads by Deadline the 1st of each month



What's Up Dove Creek / Dolores County



These Graphics are called "QR" codes (left and right) with a 'smart phone' you can point the camera at it and then click the link that is shown - it'll bring you directly to the Websites

Town website QR Code

County website QR Code

Fiber Internet Arrives in Dove Creek

By Alexis Holtom

For months, trucks sporting the company logo "Fibertel" have been driving around Dolores County, leaving many wondering: who are they and why are they here? Fibertel is a company contracted by Emery Telcom to help bring next-generation fiber internet to Dove Creek. Emery Telcom started as a local internet exchange in rural Emery County, Utah. They have since expanded with a unique mission of providing fast fiber internet to other rural communities that are either underserved, or not served at all. They recently brought fiber down to Monticello and Blanding, which had few to no services, to help them connect to the outside world in 2021. However, Emery Telcom quickly realized that Dove Creek had very similar needs, and in 2019 asked for and received a grant to bring fiber

to Dove Creek as well. For Emery Telcom, the Dove Creek project hasn't been so easy. As a company based out of Utah, Emery Telcom found that the Utah and Colorado state regulations have some big differences. Navigating bureaucracy caused the company's building progress to slow as they jumped through government hoops. Just as things were looking up for Dove Creek, the fiber network installation progress took another hit from the all too familiar COVID 19. Now, we are halfway through 2023, and with government regulations and COVID out of the way, Emery Telcom has all but completed the Dove Creek build in record working time. For Dove Creek this means that residents can begin to sign up for the fiber internet in July, and have it delivered right to their homes starting mid-August. Anyone who is interested learning more about these services can find out more information at emerytelcom.com or by calling 877.797.8922. (*'Let 'em know the Bean sent you!'*)

Town of Dove Creek's Cleanup Day!

Saturday July 22nd

8am to 4pm or until dumpsters are full
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DOLORES COUNTY BOCC June Updates FEDERAL FOREST FUNDS & CO CONSERVATION TRUST LOTTERY \$

Federal Forest Funds/Title II and III Funds Resolution# 06-23-01
Dolores County School District Representatives Ty Gray and Roxie Guynes were present to sign Resolution #06-23-01 designating the distribution of Federal Forest Funds received from the USFS Tier III. The BOCC discussed percentages of distribution and agreed to do a 60/40 split; 60% to Road and Bridge Road Fund, in the amount of \$229,232.86 and 40% to Dolores County School District, in the amount of \$152,824.90.

Also, The Conservation Trust Lottery Board shared their recommendations regarding the distribution of \$7,500.00 of available lottery funds. Four requests were received. The funds were distributed as follows: Xi Delta Tau Sorority received \$3,500.00 for the purchase of Playground Equipment for the Cahone Park. At the time of the Lottery Board meeting the request was to purchase playground equipment. At the date of final approval from the BOCC the Cahone Park had received playground equipment from the DC Elementary School. (see page 3) The funds will go towards rebuilding the donated equipment. The Dolores County Fair Board received \$2,000.00 for the purchase of a split ac/heat unit for their kitchen or sand for their playground. The Dolores County Pioneer Center received \$1,000.00 for the purchase of soil and bedding plants to go in the whiskey barrel planters they purchased with lottery funds from 2022. The Colorado Laureate Delta Beta Sorority received \$1,000.00 for continued improvements to the Dove Creek Community Center and Weber Park. (published from supplied minutes)

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emerytelcom.com



LOCAL PLAYGROUNDS

The Dove Creek Recreation Department set up their new playground equipment at Weber Park earlier this year. It's been a great upgrade at the park, where local youth have been enjoying the summer recreational programs (see page 4). At the same time the DC Elementary School project (above) has gotten started. Their old playground sets were also being removed. Dolores County coordinated with the school to have the Road & Bridge crew take it all down and deliver it to the Dolores County Fairgrounds and the Cahone Park. The County then used Lottery Funds to hire two local contractors to put it back up at both locations. A big Thank You to **Crowley Construction** who donated the sand for underneath the equipment.



SCENIC BYWAYS

Two of the state's southwestern byways will be getting some much-needed enhancements after receiving a \$640,250 grant from the Federal Highway Administration's National Scenic Byways Program.

Several improvements are planned for the Alpine Loop Byway, connecting Lake City, Ouray, and Silverton, and the Silver Thread Byway, between Blue Mesa Reservoir and South Fork, including:

- An open-air picnic pavilion (Silver Thread)
- Eleven toilets (seven double ADA vault toilets; three composting vault toilets; one single ADA vault toilet) (Alpine Loop/Silver Thread)
- Safety pullouts on Engineer Pass and Cinnamon Pass (Alpine)
- Additional safety pullouts between Eureka and Animas Forks (Alpine)
- Installation of an open-deck Dark Skies observatory and interpretive site on Slumgullion Pass in the decommissioned Slumgullion Campground (Silver Thread)

The grant application was a collaborative effort between four counties, four municipalities, two ranger districts, one Bureau of Land Management field office, and several nonprofit organizations.

"Our region is experiencing a steady increase of tourism in this scenic and historic region," said Hinsdale County Commissioner Kristie Borchers. "We are pleased to accept this grant award for vital upgrades to infrastructure."

Both also are designated as Colorado Electric Byways, requiring each route to have sufficient charging infrastructure in place for electric vehicles to complete the entire length of the byway. Fourteen of the state's byways are designated Electric Byways.

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FHWA awarded \$21.8 million to 33 byways in 29 states, including five Tribal lands. These are the first National Scenic Byways Program grants awarded since 2012.

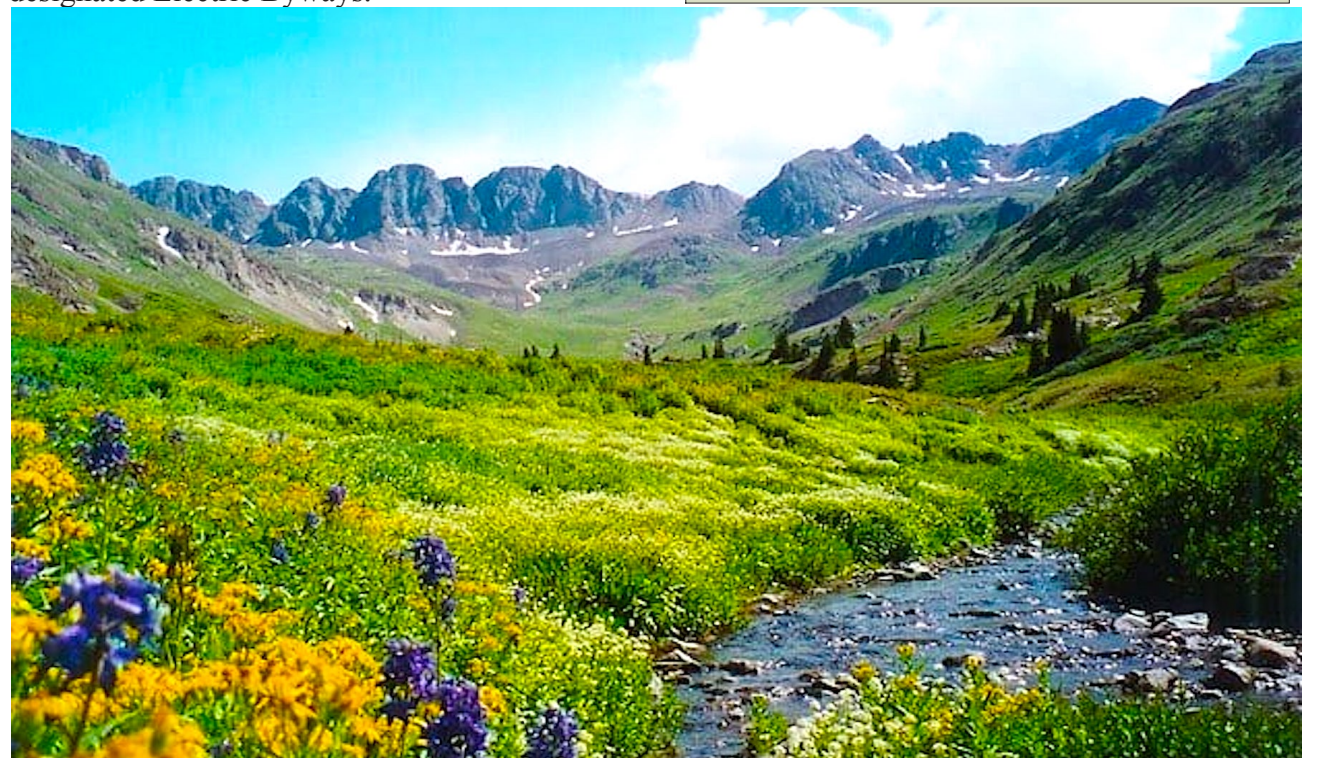
Thirteen of Colorado's 26 byways, including Alpine Loop and Silver Thread, are designated as America's Byways®, meaning they are nationally recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation for their outstanding scenic and historic attributes. Colorado has the most nationally designated byways in the U.S. The collection also includes 10 National Forest Scenic Byways and two Bureau of Land Management Back Country Byways. Learn more about these scenic and historic road trips that preserve the state's culture, history and natural wonder by visiting: ColoradoByways.org

CDOT established the Scenic and Historic Byways program in 1989. In addition to supporting the state's 26 byways, the program includes two All-American Roads, 10 National Forest Scenic Byways, and two Bureau of Land Management Backcountry Byways. The statewide system is comprised of nearly 2,600 miles of roadway through 48 of Colorado's 64 counties.

Dove Creek Dinner Bell

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SUMMER FUN FOR THE YOUNG

Summer Town of Dove Creek Recreational Programs at Weber Park



**1st
Jr.
Rodeo
2023**

Photos Courtesy Jr. Rodeo

**Great
Fun**



Photos: Courtesy DC Rec

Dove Creek



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Dove Creek Rec Dept hosts a summer T-Ball program that runs for ages 4-6 years old from 7/11 through 7/27 - three weeks total. They play every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday starting at 6 pm at the Weber baseball field. The Shaved Ice truck is often on hand in the park for fun refreshments!

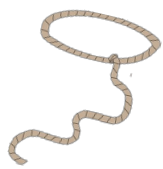
MEETINGS GOV. & ORGS

*Town of Dove Creek Board Meetings the first and third Thursday 6:30pm at the Town Office in person/zoom
 *DCDC Meetings monthly second Wed. 11-1pm CSU office in person/zoom
 *Dolores County BOCC meetings first and third Mondays and as schedule additions noted on their webpage. PSC meeting room. In person/Zoom

*Dolores County School Board meeting third Wed. Dist. Office 6pm.
 *DCVFD Every Wed at the firehouse
 *Dolores County Ambulance Third Mon 6:30pm Ambulance Barn
 *Get your Senior Newsletter in your mail every month!
 Call 970 677-2787

DOLORES COUNTY Jr RODEO

Thanks to All the Sponsors!
 coming up...



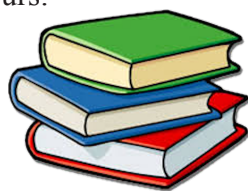
JULY 15 & 16
 JULY 22 & 23
 AUGUST 12 & 13



Contact the Dolores County Extension Office at 970-677-2283 find us on Facebook too

LIBRARY SUMMER HOURS

Dolores County Library Summer Hours:
 Adult Library:
 Monday and Wednesday 9am-5pm
 Children's Library:
 Tuesday and Thursday 10am-4pm
 Located at the Dolores County Schools



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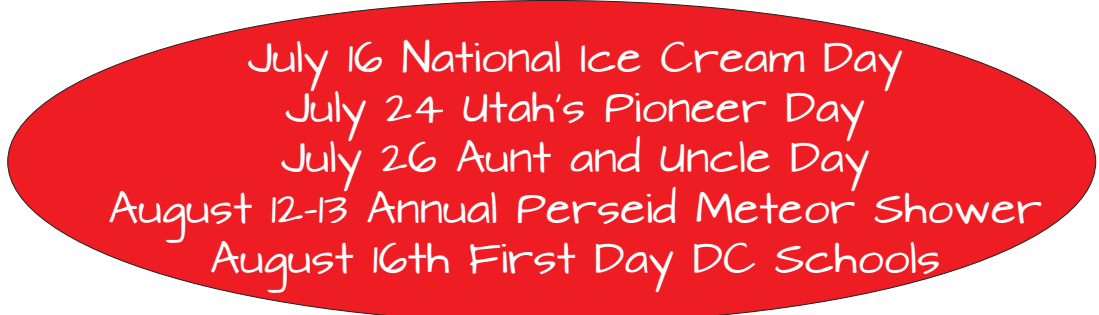
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The FFA Advisory Committee will be hosting their Annual Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry scholarship fundraiser on **August 12 at 6:00 pm** at the Dolores County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$7 for kids. There will be a live auction with several items in addition to door prizes. Tickets cover an all-you-can-eat meal of Rocky Mountain Oysters, chicken, or both. The Advisory Committee is currently providing three former DCHS FFA members with 4-year renewable scholarships of \$1000 per year.

DOLORES COUNTY FAIR 2023

Dolores County Fairgrounds 4 miles west of Dove Creek, 6798 CR 3.7
 Wed Aug. 9 - Enter 4-H Exhibits and County Exhibits - Judging day
 Thurs Aug. 10 - 9am to 8pm Open to the Public Beef Sheep Goat Show Poultry Rabbit Cavy and Horse Show 8-noon
 Fri Aug. 11 - 9am to 6pm Open to the Public **4-6pm Ice Cream Social** Small Animal Show and Judging
 Sat. Aug. 12 - 9am to 11am Open to the Public then Check Out Exhibits 6pm FFA Vo-Ag Advisory Oyster Fry Fundraiser In the Arena Jr Rodeo 11 & under starts 9am
 Sun Aug. 13 - 9am Jr Rodeo continues 12-19 age group
 FREE ADMISSION to view the Fair or Animal Shows
 (Jr Rodeo has an entry fee) Xi Delta Tau Sorority Concessions Sat/Sun.



The 67th Pick n Hoe partial recap in photos.....



50th Dove Creek Class Reunion in the park



60th Reunion Dove Creek HS

ROYALTY



Softball



GRAND MARSHALLS



Meat Pit & Shack



Volleyball



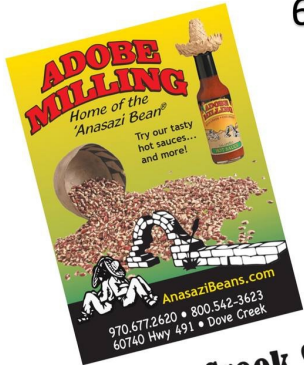
Washers



Horseshoes



Thank You Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze Level Sponsors for the 67th Annual Pick-n-Hoe Celebration





Truck and Car Shows depend on the support of local car clubs, hard working individuals that love their vehicles, as well as area businesses to make things happen! The event becomes a wonderful community gathering, a show case for amazing varieties of vehicles, helping to encourage continuation of keeping classics and new rides around and looking great, and this year a kick off to developing the RC community, as well as a fundraiser for a great local cause. SW Freedom Success!



RC/DC



BEST OF SHOW & BEST BIG RIG 2023

July 1 2023 Prize donations thanks to:
Dove Creek Auto NAPA
TPI ProductionZ and DC Chamber
Cortez Carquest - NAPA - Auto Zone
West Slope Liquor - Adobe Milling
Carhart Feed & Seed - Main Supply
Bangers Bar Pizza & Stateline Bar Grill

BEST MOTORCYCLE 2023



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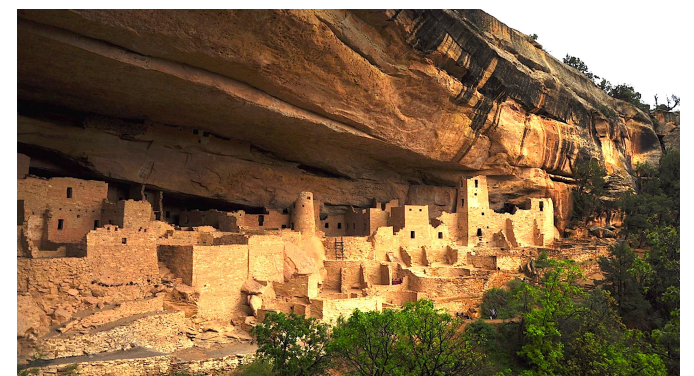
September 15-17, 2023

tellurideblues.com

Mesa Verde National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site located in the southwestern corner of Colorado, United States. It was established on June 29, 1906, to preserve and protect the archaeological sites and cultural heritage of the Ancestral Pueblo people who lived in the region for hundreds of years.

The park is known for its well-preserved cliff dwellings, which were built by the Ancestral Puebloans between the 6th and 12th centuries. These dwellings were constructed in alcoves and on the mesa tops, and they provide valuable insights into the lives and culture of the ancient inhabitants. Some of the notable cliff dwellings in the park include Cliff Palace, Balcony House, and Spruce Tree House.

In addition to the cliff dwellings, Mesa Verde National Park encompasses a vast area of canyons, mesas, and plateaus, providing a stunning natural landscape for visitors to explore. The park offers various hiking trails, scenic drives, and overlooks that provide panoramic views of the surrounding terrain.

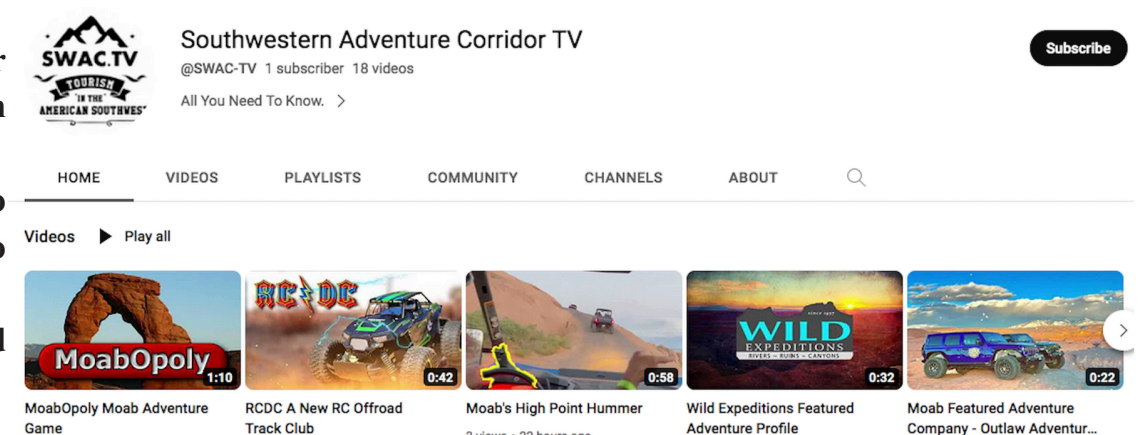


Aug 16-20 Telluride Mushroom Festival
tellurideinstitute.org

Celebrate the world of fungi, including educational workshops, guided forays into the forest to identify and collect mushrooms, cooking demonstrations, and lectures by experts in the field. These festivals are often organized to raise awareness about the ecological importance of mushrooms and promote their culinary and medicinal uses.

In CO psilocybin for medical or therapeutic use is allowed*, due to its potential therapeutic benefits in the treatment of conditions such as depression, anxiety, and addiction. (*see laws)

SWAC.TV developing the Southwestern Adventure Online Stop to cross promote your business, and provide an excellent view into your travel planning! So much to do, where to start? Check out the continuing updated videos, and coming this summer, a weekly broadcast covering activities and



opportunities for your amazing experience in South West America! Click on the QR Code to the left to bring you to the YouTube channel - Adventure Safely - and Start Making Memories!

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What's on Your Mind?

Spill the Beans

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR ~ PUBLISHER

Kendra Cook



Many individuals have no time to research or think about big picture concepts; the world has been designed to keep people spending their time/energy to generate 'money', enticing them into debt, to 'run the treadmill' to pay the bills, with a small amount of time to be with their family, eat, clean, chores, and repeat. Who has the time to learn about what is affecting every human on this planet - just easier to 'tune in' to the propaganda big media (all channels have the same talking points), listen for 20 minutes, catch their death and fear focus and then tune out.

Thinking about our current affairs is no longer an esoteric concept; the big picture is coming to Your small town. Just after celebrating the birth of our nation, the roll out of unbelievable actions against the citizens from thought police, changing word definitions, to all out attacks on the first amendment and all the rest of the literal war on our original American representative Republic, brings us to a turning point. To quote a 1990 Aaron Tippin song lyric, "You've got to stand for something, or you'll fall for anything"... Stand for big G God.

It's not fear mongering to tell it like it is - to reveal the facts and see them in a larger context to be able to understand that things happening aren't just coincidence, happenstance, or tough luck.

We are already in a collapse. Would it surprise you know that there is nerve gas loaded on drones, ready to deploy to actually kill people in our own nation? Research the news.

Shutting down farms in the Netherlands because 'farms are bad for the earth', and authorities claim nitrogen is bad? Carbon bad? Humans are carbon based....don't think it's just 'over there' somewhere. Our farmers and ranchers are in the cross hairs as well. Nothing worse than organic veggies? or grass fed beef? The attempt to cut off resources and villanize those who aren't going along with the emperor who has no clothes on... is right here on our own front stoop.

Looking back to the The Declaration of Independence, the core doctrine of our nation, it states that every person possesses three inalienable rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Do we even know what that means these days? Pursuit of happiness does not mean pursuing pleasure; to founding father Thomas Jefferson, it meant the pursuit of a meaningful life. In order to find your own path in life, you need to have both the right to your life and freedom. These are all ethical goals - and we are seeing Americans no longer en masse as an ethical people. The battle is not left v right, one color v. another, one gender v. another, it's a spiritual battle, and one determined by one soul, one life at a time. Good v. Evil is not just in movies.

Thinking things will go 'back' to normal, or continue on without coming to more restrictions on your lives, more infringements on your freedoms, is to bury your head in the proverbial sand. Even if you don't learn, don't research, don't seek out alternative news, you still will feel the effects of the agendas in action against the individual. That's you.

There is a plan against humanity. "It does not take a majority to prevail...but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men." said Samuel Adams - let's be that minority and stand up for something, something great. Capital G.

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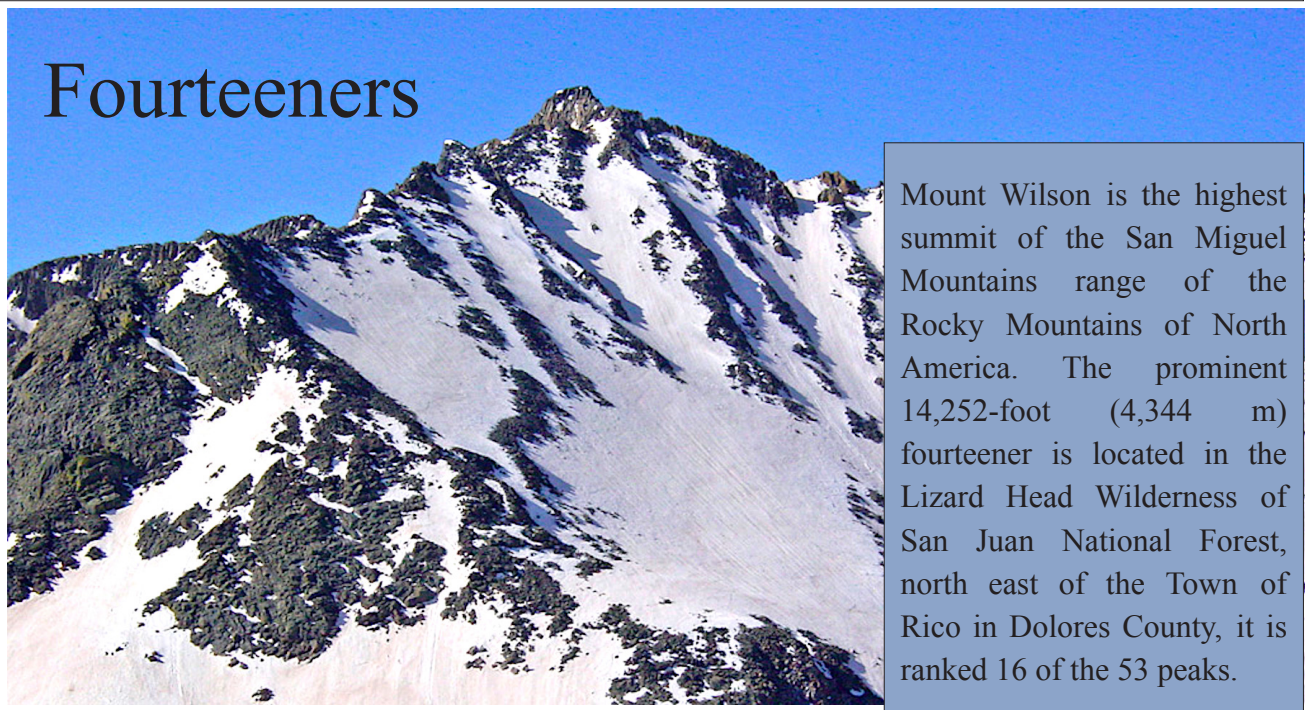
\$10 gets you a text only spot that fits into 11pt Times font up to 3 lines of the entry. The Classified section will be 3" wide just like this. Two month commitment. \$2 additional lines.

Jobs Jobs Jobs - go to our Facebook page for the latest updates "In Between the Bean" - local area job postings and notices are available at @ThePintoBeanDoveCreekCO

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Help with the effort to sound the alarm on the critical climate engineering issue. Share the free materials, geoengineeringwatch.org and watch the DVD - The Dimming



Mount Wilson is the highest summit of the San Miguel Mountains range of the Rocky Mountains of North America. The prominent 14,252-foot (4,344 m) fourteener is located in the Lizard Head Wilderness of San Juan National Forest, north east of the Town of Rico in Dolores County, it is ranked 16 of the 53 peaks.

Colorado is known for its breathtaking (literally) Fourteener hiking challenges. Hardy people from all over the world, come to the Rockies to face the challenges of climbing the 14,000 foot peaks. Back in March, CO state senators rejected a proposal to update a recreational use law under proposed SB21-103. The base of the concern is a potential for private land owners to be vulnerable to lawsuits from people who get themselves hurt on the land.

Private land owners have allowed recreationalists free access to the lands in and around the CO peaks, as trails cross between public and private lands.

More and more, the blame game of liability versus responsibility appears to be taking over the culture of America. This is yet one more example of bringing that concern into the legal process. The old 'McDonald's coffee case' lawsuit (1994 Liebeck v. McDonald's Restaurants) has become an earmark of when historically and anecdotally speaking, a common practice of bringing lawsuits and pointing the blame where many may feel, common sense dictates a level of personal

responsibility should prevail instead. Get a hot coffee - it will be hot and could burn. Get hurt on a hike passing through private land, would it be the land owner's fault and not the hiker?

This scenario is not finished with the vote at the end of this year's legislation session. It is reported that roughly five of the 58 14K peaks will remain closed on the private land access, due to these liability concerns. A group has created the Fix CRUS Coalition with many large organizations participating, to seek a revision to the Colorado Recreational Use Statute in Colorado.

An alliance of nonprofits will be raising the issue again next year, looking for a revision to the Colorado Recreational Use Statute (CRUS). Included in the Fix CRUS Coalition is the Colorado Fourteeners Initiative, the Colorado Mountain Club, the Boulder Climbing Community, the Access Fund, The Nature Conservancy, the Trust for Public Land, the American Alpine Club, the Outdoor Alliance, People for Bikes and American Whitewater.

The way the current law reads states that landowners are liable for "willful or malicious failure to warn against a known dangerous condition." There was an Air Force Academy case where land owners were found liable due to failure to post warnings on a washed out trail, and a cyclist was severely injured when they crashed due to the wash out. The change is being considered between the words willful and wanton, or willful and malicious. It's going to take a lot of lawyers and legalese to push through any change. The divide between concerns over property rights, public access, and land conservation and economic impacts to surrounding communities all play a part in this continuing high stake saga.



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CPW and SWA

Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages about 350 State Wildlife Areas. SWAs are paid for primarily by sportspersons and managed for the benefit of wildlife. These areas may also offer wildlife-related recreation and potentially opportunities for other forms of recreation when not in conflict with wildlife or wildlife recreation.

In December 2019, the Area Wildlife Managers, in consultation with CPW staff managing the SWAs, began analyzing what negative impacts were occurring and coming up with ideas and solutions to these problems.

To help manage increasing recreation at SWAs, CPW began requiring either a valid hunting or fishing license, or an SWA access pass, for anyone 16 or older accessing most SWAs.

You can refer to the regulation changes document to view all of the changes (beginning on page 6) and learn more about how the changes affect SWAs near you (property specific provisions begin on page 13).

While the general provision changes include new restrictions, some restrictions may not

Coalbed Canyon
SWA, Groundhog
Reservoir SWA, Fish
Creek SWA, and Jim
Olterman - Lone
Cone SWA are the
areas in
Dolores County.

apply to all SWAs (e.g., allowing camping at certain properties).

These new regulatory changes will go into effect on August 1, but Lamb said CPW wildlife officers would be implementing an education campaign for the first year to ensure everyone is aware of how new regulations may be affecting their favorite SWA before handing out citations for any violations of new regulations.

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Dove Creek, CO

MORE AREA RESORTS

Resort development in San Juan County UT continues to move forward, most recently there was a unanimous rezone application approval for a 72 acre project called Balance Rock Resort in Spanish Valley northwest of Ken's Lake reservoir (south of Moab). The project is slated to add 217 residential units, including 99 single family lots, 42 duplexes, 34 condos, and a lodge that can service 130 rooms. Additionally there are plans for a clubhouse playground and open space on the three identified parcels. The County planning committee had suggested approval as residential flex zoning; the potential for new tax revenue appeared to be an influencing reason for the approval.

Wildflowers Banner Year



Blanket Flower

Blanketflower - SweetBabeeJay

Observational testimony via beautiful photos seen throughout social media, reflects the obvious - with all the moisture and snow pack slow melt off, the wildflowers are blossoming at all elevations with grand abundance. Elevation differentials and temperature ranges will cause the series of showcasing the amazing colorful Colorado landscapes to peak at different times. The higher the meadows, the later the big blooms, so plan for mid July though August for an amazing display throughout the mountains across the four corners.

How to figure out what flower is what.. a good resource is the book "Flora of Colorado" by Jennifer Ackerfield, providing a "comprehensive dichotomous key to the vascular plants of Colorado, complete with



Bluebells

Bluebell - pawopa3336



Mule-Ear

William Dummitt

detailed descriptions, distribution maps, habitat information, flowering times and elevation ranges for all species." Or go online to swcoloradowildflowers.com to search by color, to find a wildflower name, or look to a Colorado Native Plant Society app so you can bring your smart phone on your trip and find the flower's name. Enjoy all the stunning wildflowers this year!

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Pentstemon

Kendra Cook

FUEL YOUR ROCKET STOVE

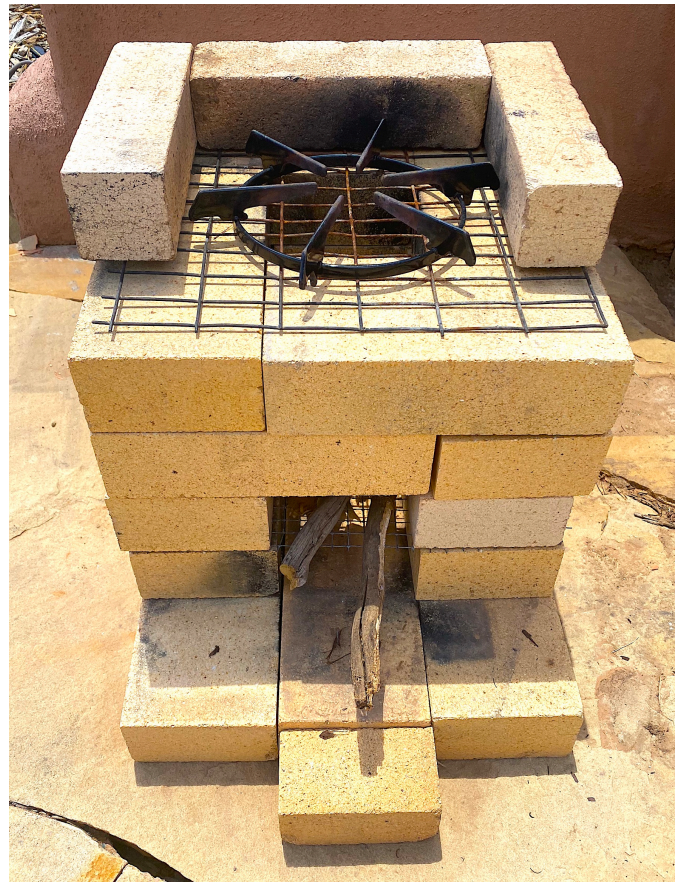
Food and Prep Tips By Kendra Cook

Hot summer nights you'll find backyard chefs cooking outside on grills of all types. But have you seen or used a "Rocket Stove"? It's a name for a variety of heating and cooking configurations that work off the basic principle to supply a minimal burning source for maximum combustion and heat.

Originally designed to minimize smoke and deforestation across the world, it's found its way to be a trend for people wanting to use alternative cooking and heating methods.

The shape is an "L" or "J" style, think of it like a big boot - where the horizontal chamber at the bottom is where you insert small wood, like sticks and wood scraps, the fire creates a vortex that goes up the vertical chimney section, where you can create a grate platform separated on top for placement of a cooking vessel.

This contraption creates less waste, less smoke, and provides a concentrated heat source. It also keeps the fire and potential debris within the unit helping to prevent




Stacked fire bricks, some left over metal grill material and an old stove burner ring, easily configures to a 'rocket stove' - controls the fire in a vortex to heat up your pan quickly, with a small amount of scrap wood as your heating source.

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unwanted sparks that can create unwanted fires. There are plenty of models available to purchase, or a whole bunch of youtube videos online to demonstrate how you can cheaply and quickly make one at home. Campers and preppers alike, are familiar with the rocket stove for mobile use as well.

This unit in the photo, is made with firebricks, which help insulate and withstand the heat. A scrap metal grate is used to elevate the fire source for easy ash clean up and air circulation. At the top, an old gas stove burner ring provides a stable resting spot for the pan. Learn to make a Rocket Stove and watch your outdoor fast cooking really take off.



Summer Rattlesnake Awareness

CPW provides background and tips to deal with potentially deadly wild animals: "Rattlesnakes have an elaborate defensive strategy, seeking to avoid the need for a venomous bite if possible. Most of the time, rattlesnakes will not strike at people unless they feel threatened or are deliberately provoked. While attacks on people are rare and usually not fatal for a healthy adult, bites are very painful and should always be taken seriously. Bites can have an increased effect on children and pets due to their smaller size."

Rattlesnakes are not built for speed, and will hold their ground when threatened. They coil up and make the rattle noise when feeling threatened, slowly moving away is highly suggested.

Rattlers are most frequently seen in the spring and fall, as they come out to warm up on rocks and pavement. The best way to avoid a bite is to avoid snakes. CPW suggests awareness and avoidance are key - watch for the reptiles, be careful where you step, protecting your feet and ankles by wearing sturdy leather boots when out in wild terrain, can also be good protection. If you do encounter one, freeze in place, calmly assess the situation and slowly create distance as they can strike at a long range. Pets and small children are a big concern, due to their smaller size. If bitten, call a poison center for instructions and head to the nearest hospital (800-222-1222) immediately remove any jewelry or tight fitting clothing as you can expect swelling. Avoid excess movement. Do not cut or try to extract venom, do not use ice, heat or a tourniquet, and do not try to capture or kill the snake. To learn all about rattlesnakes, please listen to CPW's informative podcast discussing them online linked from <https://cpw.state.co.us/>. CPW Species Conservation Coordinator Tina Jackson has spent the last 20 years learning about snakes, and she shared her knowledge of rattlesnakes in a an episode from the spring of 2023, available to listen to free online.

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