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JULY 2026

Dove Creek, Colorado Dolores County - "Hidden Gems of the SW"

Activities and News Along the SWAC & Four Corners

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1776-2026 PIONEER 2.0

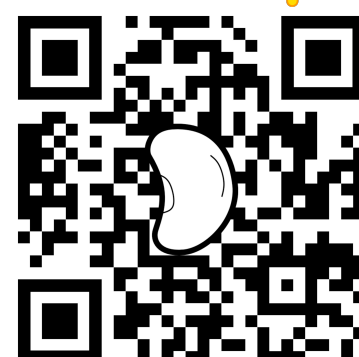
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Always New
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Rabbit Hole



1776-2026 - Due for Another Reset? Do we have what it takes?

By Staff

One of the most fascinating facts about the Old Spanish Trail is that portions of today's transportation network in the Four Corners region closely parallel routes chosen nearly 200 years ago. Traders, mule packers, explorers, and later settlers naturally followed the same corridors that modern engineers would eventually use because they offered the most practical passage through rugged country. The Northern Route of the Old Spanish Trail crossed northern New Mexico, entered southwestern Colorado, and continued west toward Utah. The corridor that includes today's U.S. Highway 491 through communities such as Dove Creek generally follows the same broad travel pathway used for generations by Native peoples, Spanish explorers, Mexican traders, and American frontiersmen. Travel along this route was far different from the wagon roads that would come later. The Old Spanish Trail was primarily a pack-mule trail, with long strings of animals carrying wool blankets, serapes, and trade goods westward to California. On the return trip, traders often drove hundreds of horses and mules eastward toward New Mexico markets. The route through the Dove Creek region was valued because it provided access to water sources, grazing areas, and relatively passable terrain between the mountain country of Colorado and the canyonlands of Utah. What now takes motorists minutes or hours often required weeks of difficult travel, with traders facing storms, drought, rough terrain, and the constant challenge of finding sufficient water for both people and livestock. When travelers drive Highway 491 today, it is worth remembering that they are moving through a landscape that has served as a transportation

corridor for centuries. Long before pavement, road signs, or fuel stations, Native American trails and the Old Spanish Trail connected distant communities across the Southwest. The route helped establish trade, cultural exchange, and settlement patterns that shaped the Four Corners region we know today. These 'corridors' carried not only goods but also ideas, cultures, and the pioneering spirit that helped build the American West.

The men and women who settled this region, in the late 1800s and early 1900s possessed remarkable skills and determination. They built homes from local materials, raised livestock and crops in difficult conditions, repaired their own tools, preserved food for winter, and relied heavily on neighbors when challenges arose. Life demanded resourcefulness, patience, and a willingness to work together.

Those pioneers lived with far less technology, far less energy consumption, and far less water use than we often consider normal today. Yet many created strong families, thriving ranches, and enduring communities. Their success was not measured only in dollars, but in resilience, self-reliance, shared labor, and the knowledge that neighbors could depend on one another.

As our modern world grows increasingly fast-paced and technology-dependent, it is worth remembering the lessons of those who came before us. The pioneer spirit of the Four Corners reminds us that true wealth can also be found in practical skills, local knowledge, community gatherings, helping a neighbor, and appreciating the land that sustains us.

CONTINUED PAGE 3...

FIRE BANS CONTINUE

Check with your local fire marshal, for town or county specific fire bans, as well as the Stage for fire bans/requirements in National Forests and BLM lands.

The low humidity coupled with the dry fuels (brown grasses etc.) hot days, and high winds, create a scenario in which a spark or flame could ignite and grow quickly into devastating fires. Be fire wise!



— DOLORES COUNTY —

STAGE 2

— FIRE BAN —

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Welding or operating an acetylene or other torch with open flame



Using explosive materials (fireworks, blasting caps, etc.)



Firing tracer rounds or incendiary ammunition

EXEMPTIONS:



Liquid fluid or gas field stoves and lanterns



Persons with valid written permits from the County Sheriff



VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN FINES AND/OR IMPRISONMENT



Photo by Kendra Cook - Smoke from the Horsehead fire near Eastland UT as seen from Dove Creek CO 6.27.26 . Five fires in the area continued to produce smoke through Sunday.

A dry storm system moved through Monticello UT into Dove Creek / Cahone CO and east, on Friday June 26, producing heavy lightning without precipitation. Three wildfires became detected in Dolores County on Saturday, the Doe, the Far Draw, and Ferris. The Ferris fire ignited to 5000 acres in 5 hours which is unprecedented according to the USDA Forest Service San Juan National Forest incident commander briefing on Sunday June 28th. (now Far Draw and Ferris merged, showing over 14K acres by Sunday.) Meanwhile in SE Utah, the Babylon fire erupted in the Manti-La Sal National Forest northwest of Blanding, by Sunday it showed 16K acres. The Horsehead fire rapidly increased too showing 600 acres at the time of writing. A new McCloud fire started south of Dove Creek.

The drought with hot dry and windy conditions remaining in the area for the foreseeable future, is a great concern for firefighters. Various aerial drops have been made on both UT and CO fires when the conditions permit. Sadly there were three firefighters at the fires near the CO/UT border closer to I-70 that lost their lives this past weekend, with two more in the hospital. Our love and prayers go out to those rushing in when we are evacuating out.

For wildfire evacuation notices, the County Sheriff Office is also the fire marshal, and will be your overall point for any pertinent information in coordination with the local Office of Emergency Management. Be sure to sign up for emergency text messages, or follow the local website and or facebook page, along with our @ThePintoBean page.



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Town of Dove Creek Water

By Kendra Cook

The Town of Dove Creek is mailing out a notice to resident water tap holders, to alert them of the transition to the Town's water plant to treated water supplied by Montezuma Water Company. They write "as part of this transition, the water disinfectant used will be changing from chlorine to chloramine." The full transition may take up to several weeks, and is set to begin on July 13, 2026.

Chloramine is a combination of chlorine and ammonia that is widely used by water systems across the United States because it provides longer-lasting disinfection throughout the distribution system.

During the changeover, residents may notice temporary water quality changes as the new

disinfectant cleans the inside of water pipes. This process can loosen accumulated mineral deposits, sediment, and biofilm, which may result in discolored or brown-tinted water, cloudy water, or small amounts of debris. These conditions are generally temporary and can often be cleared by running cold water for several minutes.

The water will remain safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, and household use for most residents throughout the transition. Pets, livestock, and wildlife can safely drink chloraminated water.



Dolores County Jr Rodeo July 11th and August 8th - above is a photo from the June rodeo. Find an album of photos on their facebook page. To participate or for questions, contact Becky 970-739-0911

However, special precautions required for:

- Kidney dialysis patients, whose treatment providers should ensure appropriate water treatment procedures are in place.

- Aquarium owners, as chloramine is harmful to fish and aquatic animals unless the water is treated with a conditioner specifically designed to remove chloramine.

The letter to residents explains what they should expect: "Your water will continue to be safe to use. You may notice temporary changes in taste or odor. Temporary brown or discolored water may occur as sediment already present in the pipes becomes disturbed during the transition. Brown water does NOT necessarily indicate contamination. Residents may need to clean faucet screens and aerators if sediment becomes trapped. Refrigerator filters, reverse osmosis systems, water softeners, and other household filtration devices may require maintenance or replacement. Ice makers, ice machines, water heaters, swimming pools, hot tubs, and livestock waterers may also require additional attention following the transition. Additional information is in the letter for dealing with brown water.

While some temporary inconvenience may occur during the transition, the long-term goal is to provide a stable and reliable supply of clean water to the residents.

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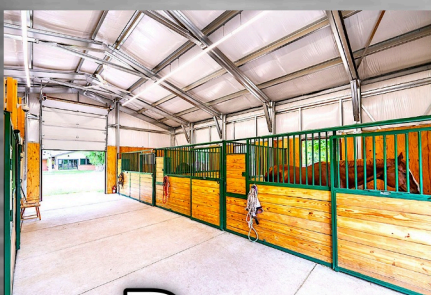
Barndominiums



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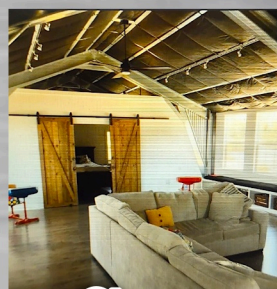
Offices



Barns



Canopy Spans

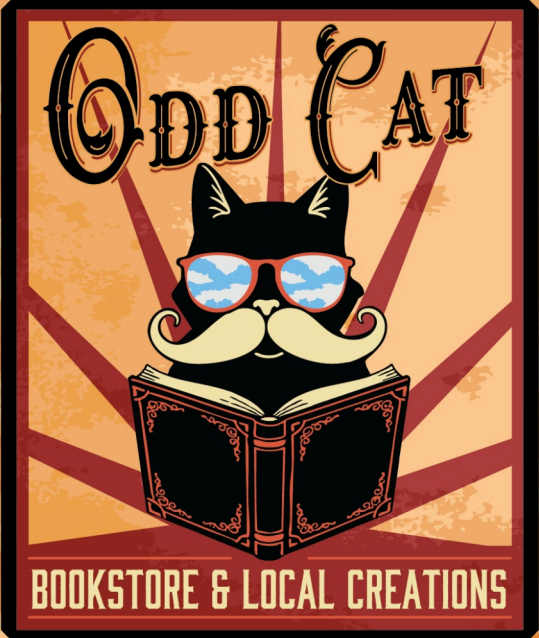


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From Odd Cat Angie B.

Hello all! For America and for Odd Cat, July is a big deal! Our one-year anniversary is on the 19th! I had every intention of talking about stale topics like: how my first year went, how things have changed, lessons I've learned, etc.

I changed my mind. Instead, it felt more important to discuss some rather obscure Revolutionary heroes that moved this country toward freedom. I mention these folks briefly, hoping that your curiosity will lead you to learning more about them!

Polly Cooper- an Oneida woman who helped the Continental Army during the killing winter of 1777. She supplied them with large quantities of corn, taught them how to prepare it, and then stayed on to restore their health.

Deborah Sampson- dressed as a man so she could fight for her country, only being found out when she fell unconscious with illness and her doctor uncovered the truth.

Lydia Darragh- allowed British troops to gather in her home while she surreptitiously gathered top secret intel that saved Washington's regiment from a surprise attack.

Nancy Hart- forced to feed a group of Tory soldiers, she got them drunk, secured their weapons, shot two of them and held the others until her husband and neighbors came and hanged the rest.

Just a few and there are so many more. A lot of regular folks doing whatever they could to win our freedom in whatever way they were able.

Spilled blood is nearly always needed in order to keep the freedom that was fought for. Want to be revolutionary? It can be as small as giving unasked-for help, a smile, a shared moment of joy with a stranger or a neighbor. Doing the good, right thing when no one's looking. Small acts. This is how we keep the America we love.

PINTO BEAN BOOK CORNER

By Kendra Cook

WAR IS A RACKET was a speech and booklet written by SMEDLEY D. BUTLER. If you have never heard of him, that's because he lived from 1881 to 1940, but should never be forgotten.

He was an infamous Major General in the Marines and an American military hero, who became "disillusioned with the profiteering, propaganda, and injustice of the military-industrial and intelligence-foreign policy establishments" an introduction to his work reads, what Gen Eisenhower as President on his way out called the "Industrial Military Complex". His front seat realization was that foreign wars were and are about financial and industrial interests. The only ones who win in wars are the bankers.

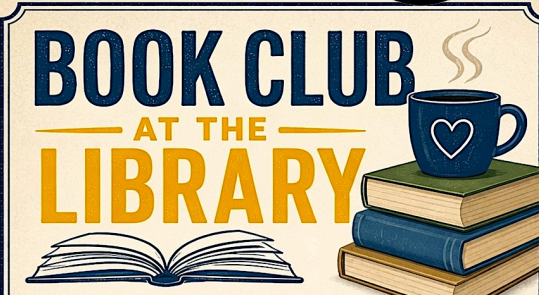
Brigadier General Smedley D. Butler fought in the Mexican Revolution and World War I, when he died he was the most decorated Marine in US history. The most unique event that became public, was exposing an alleged plan to overthrow the US Government in 1933. But back to a book review - his "War is a Racket" shows his first hand knowledge of how the US works with foreign actions and wars, combined with American (or now International) corporations who have vested interests in the outcomes. For those conspiracy theory junkies, yes he died of unknown causes at 59 just before the US became openly involved in WWII.

Here is a segment from the writing "A racket is best described, I believe, as something that is not what it seems to the majority of people. Only a small "inside" group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few, at the expense of the very many. Out of war a few people make huge fortunes.

In the World War a mere handful garnered the profits of the conflict. At least 21,000 new millionaires and billionaires were made in the United States during the World War. That many admitted their huge blood gains in their income tax returns.

How many other war millionaires falsified their income tax returns no one knows. How many of these war millionaires shouldered a rifle? How many of them dug a trench? How many of them knew what it meant to go hungry in a rat-infested dugout? How many of them spent sleepless, frightened nights, ducking shells and shrapnel and machine gun bullets? How many of them parried the bayonet thrust of an enemy? How many of them were wounded or killed in battle?

Out of war nations acquire additional territory, if they are victorious. They just take it. This newly acquired territory promptly is exploited by the few—the self-same few who wrung dollars out of blood in the war. The general public shoulders the bill."

BOOK CLUB
AT THE
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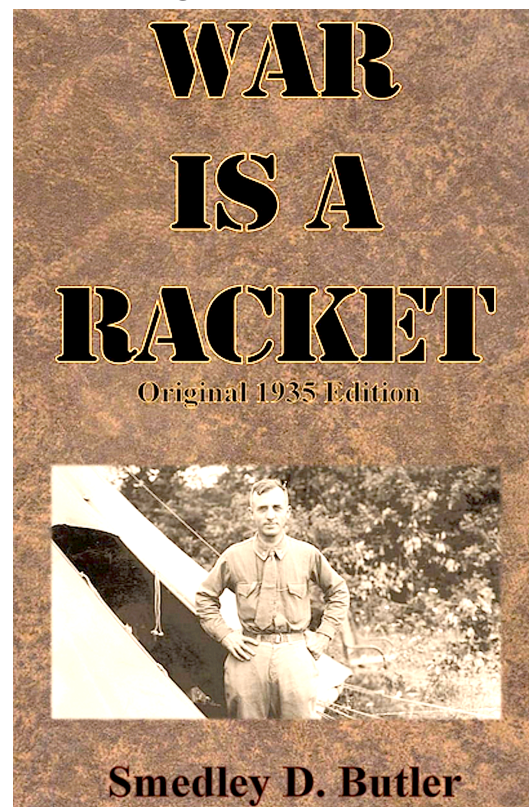
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QR code to a PDF of the 35 page booklet. on [heritage-history dot com](http://heritage-history.com).

It's astounding how the never ending scenarios for 'foreign wars' continue throughout history. Reading this short but powerful take on the business of war as a 'racket' provides the reader an interesting perspective looking at our world today.

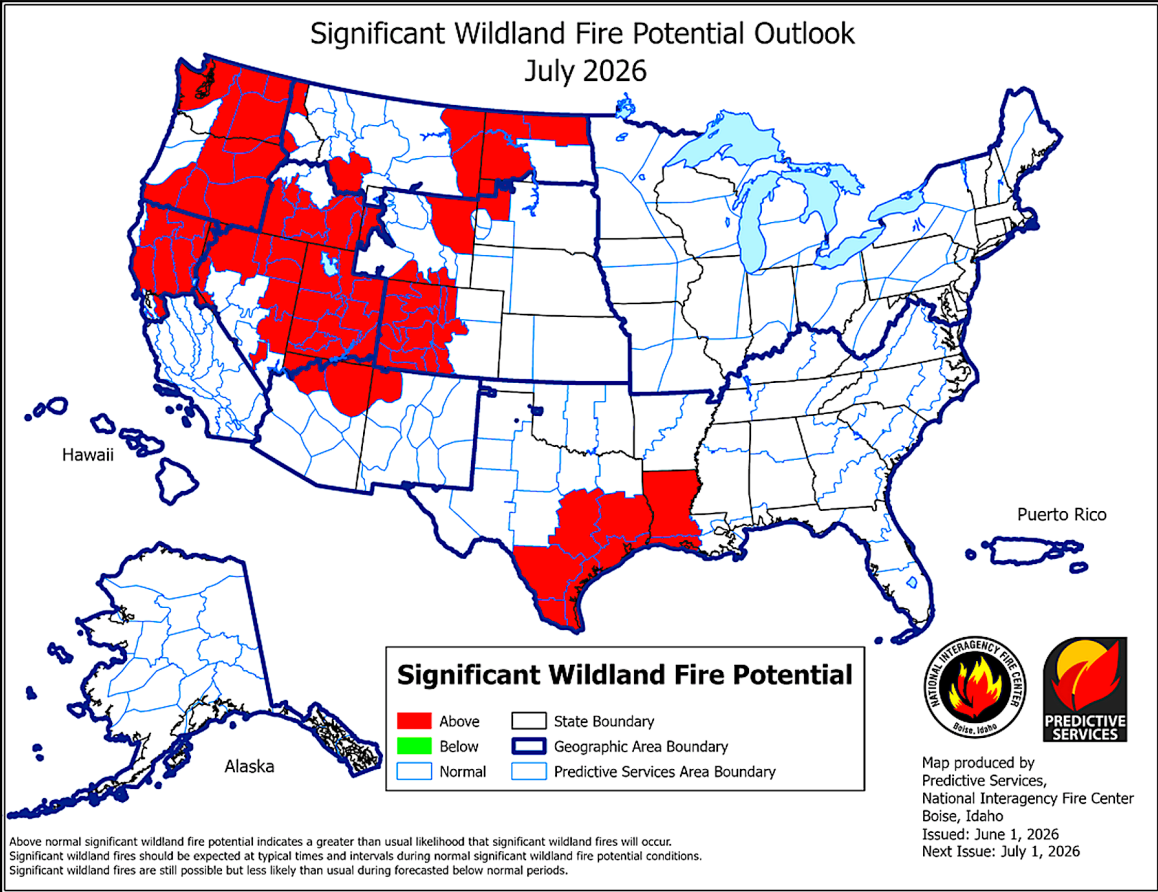


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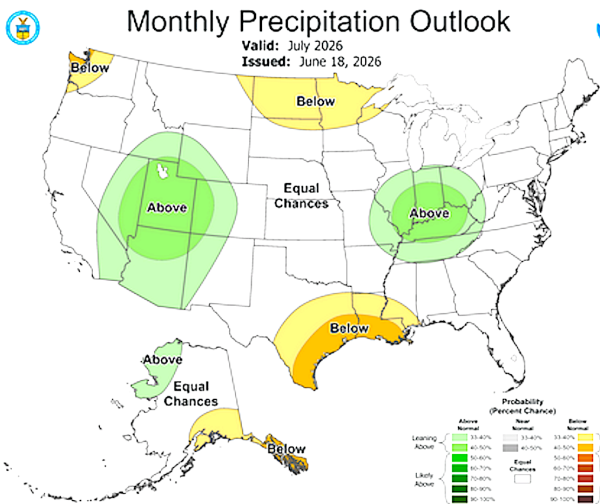


@ThePintoBean
As of print we have 3.4K followers and continue to grow, as we cover stories in between the Bean - from political issues, election coverage, land and hunting, recreation, arts and music events, the latest road issues, fires, weather, what's happening in Dolores County Colorado, San Miguel, Montrose west end, La Plata, Montezuma, and also Grand and San Juan Counties Utah.

A trial weekly Dolores County only "Between the Bean" is available through FB and on our website. Follow us as we share something new every day!



July's projection map for significant wildland fire potential keeps the four corners 'in the red' - as our dry and windy conditions continue, watch for Fire Restriction Bans and be proactive to prevent fires, ignorance of the laws is not a defense.

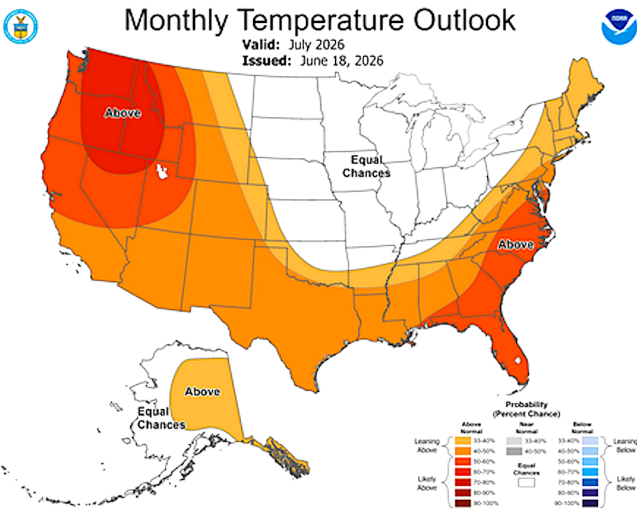


JULY WEATHER

July is often hot during the days and monsoon rains rumble through in the afternoons... needing moisture and no more lightning!

Listen to the weekly "Global Alert News" radio show from GeonengineeringWatch.Org it will answer some of your questions on weather whiplash. Saturday afternoons.

Maps from Weather.gov



I'm in search for someone to assist with milking cows on my dairy farm - Must work well with udders.

I made a playlist for hiking. it has music from The Peanuts, The Cranberries and Eminem -

I call it my Trail mix

Caught my son outside chewing on electrical wires, so I had to ground himHe's doing better currently, and conducting himself properly

What do ghost cowboys wear on their feet...

Boooooooooooooooooots...

JULY WHAT'S UP

Birth Flower - Larkspur

Birth Stone - Ruby

Zodiac - Cancer-Leo

- July 2 - Natl Wildland Firefighter Day
- July 3 - Natl Eat Your Beans Day!
- July 4 - Independence Day USA
- July 7 - Natl Day of Rock n Roll
- July 11 - All American Pet Photo Day
- July 13 - Natl Beans n Franks Day
- July 14 - Cow Appreciation Day
- July 16 - Natl Cherry Day
- July 19 - Natl Ice Cream Day
- July 18 - Natl Hot Dog Day
- July 23 - Natl Lemon Day
- July 25 - Natl Day of the Cowboy
- July 27 - Natl Korean War Vet
- July 29 - Natl Chicken Wing Day
- July 30 - Natl Whistleblower Day



Moon Phases

- JULY 16 - New Moon
- JULY 01 - Full Moon
- JULY 17 - Perigee
- JULY 04 - Apogee



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Can America Lower Beef Prices Without Hurting Ranchers?

By Staff

Consumers across the country continue to feel the sting of record-high beef prices, with ground beef costing roughly 70 percent more than it did six years ago and steak prices nearly doubling since 2020. While some policymakers have suggested increasing beef imports to bring prices down, a new report from Farm Action argues that doing so could actually hurt American ranchers while providing little relief at the grocery store.

According to the report, the root of the problem lies in decades of consolidation within the beef industry. Four major meatpacking companies now process about 85 percent of the nation's beef, giving them significant control over pricing while the U.S. cattle herd has declined to its lowest level since 1951. The report contends that simply importing more beef may lower prices paid to ranchers without significantly reducing retail prices for consumers.

Instead, Farm Action recommends rebuilding America's cattle herd through incentives that encourage ranchers to retain breeding heifers, restoring mandatory Country-of-Origin Labeling so consumers know where their beef comes from, expanding regional meat processing facilities, protecting working grazing lands, and increasing enforcement of competition laws in the meatpacking industry. The organization says these measures would strengthen domestic beef production, improve food security, and create a more competitive marketplace that benefits both ranchers and consumers over the long term. Big ranchers do have the ear of the President, as Agriculture continues to gain importance and attention on Capitol Hill. Recently John Rich



of country music fame, was named Special Envoy to American Landowners, with hopes it's not just an entertaining position. Local area ranchers are feeling hard pressed due to the ongoing drought, between water and feed, along with hay crops and how to maintain herd levels this winter, challenges continue to grow.



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Pantry Produce Share Program

The Good Food Collective launched a pantry produce share program with Banga's Farm, a new pilot initiative designed to increase access to fresh, locally grown organic produce for households experiencing food insecurity throughout Montezuma and Dolores Counties Colorado and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Nation.

The program is offered in partnership between The Good Food Collective, Southwest Community Food Alliance, and Banga's Farm with generous funding support from Care & Share Food Bank, the Community Foundation serving SW Colorado's CERF-SNAP Fund, and other community donors. At the same time, the cancellation of the USDA Local Food Purchasing Assistance (LFPA) program eliminated a critical source of funding that allowed local food access organizations to purchase produce from regional growers.

"This program creates a local solution to a local challenge," said Steven Williams, Programs Director with Care and Share Food Bank. "By investing directly in a regional producer, we're improving access to healthy food while strengthening the local food system that our communities depend on."

As part of this partnership, Banga's Farm will grow and provide approximately 20,000 pounds of fresh produce specifically for regional food pantries throughout Montezuma and Dolores Counties and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Nation. The produce will be distributed over a 16-week harvest season from June through October.



Respect the
Past for your
Future

Commentary By
Aimee Tooker

I like to bring my teenage daughter with me to meetings and conferences whenever I can. I hope that, beyond the distractions of her phone, something reaches her heart and helps her understand the importance of what we are learning together. Building relationships, connecting with like-minded people, and having a seat at the table are important parts of public service, and I hope those lessons stay with her. She loves her family, our home, our animals—we practically have a zoo—and our community. Those are the makings of a great public servant. Maybe she will not be the person who steps in front of a microphone, but perhaps she will be the one quietly doing the work in the background, fulfilled by knowing she helped create something good. Her and I visited Jamestown and Yorktown museums this past April, one of my bucket list items. It was surreal and awe-inspiring, and I hope to one day take the other kiddos. Although a train ride sounds more relaxing than a plane ride so I will try that next time.

As we come upon the 250-year anniversary of the United States and the 150th birthday of the State of Colorado. I knew the feeling I wanted this commentary to carry, and what I hoped Ellexis would feel when she read it: The hopes and dreams of our founding fathers’ echoes in today in the hopes we have for the next generations. Yes, I used AI for help, but it helped me express what was already in my heart. To my amazing, wonderful, beautiful perfect daughter (That is what she says when she wants something),

I want you to understand that freedom is not an idea that simply appeared on paper. It was purchased through fear, hunger, exhaustion, grief, and blood. It was carried across frozen ground by soldiers with worn boots and empty stomachs. It was defended by families who waited at home without knowing whether the people they loved would ever return. It was protected by men and women who accepted danger so that generations they would never meet could live with rights, dignity, and hope.

When we speak of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, we must remember the price behind those words. They were paid for by those who stood on battlefields, sailed across oceans, froze in winter camps, marched into gunfire, buried their friends, and still pressed forward because they believed freedom was worth defending. Some came home wounded in body or spirit. Some never came home at all. Some lie in marked graves, and some rest in places known only to God.

The Bill of Rights exists because liberty must be protected. The first ten amendments to the Constitution limit government power and safeguard the freedoms of the people. They protect the right to speak, worship, assemble peacefully, petition the government, be secure in one’s home, receive fair treatment under the law, and preserve powers reserved to the states and the people. These rights are the foundation that



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allows citizens to live freely and hold their government accountable. They were meant to preserve ordered liberty under the principles expressed in “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” and an appeal to the “Supreme Judge of the world.”

Do not sit on the sidelines of your government. Read. Ask questions. Study history. Attend community meetings when you can. Speak with respect, even when you disagree. Serve your neighbors. Defend the rights of others as fiercely as you defend your own. A republic cannot survive on complaints alone; it survives when its citizens care enough to participate.

I pray you never have to see the true horror of war. I pray you never have to hear the silence after a battlefield, watch a family wait for news that never comes, or understand the weight carried by those who return home changed forever. But even if you are spared those things, you must never forget them. Freedom has a cost and forgetting that cost is one of the easiest ways to lose respect for what we have been given.

Carry yourself as a good Americans and good Samaritan. Love your country enough to improve it. Respect the flag because it represents not perfection, but sacrifice, promise, and the ongoing work of liberty. Honor those who came before you by living with courage, gratitude, humility, and purpose. Build your faith, your home and your family. Spread God's word and let those values guide you.

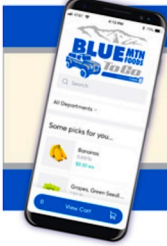
My hope is that you will never take your freedom for granted. May you protect it with your voice, your vote, your service, and your character. May you remember that liberty is both an inheritance and a responsibility. And may you always understand that the pursuit of happiness is made possible by the sacrifices of those who believed you were worth fighting for.

I love you to the moon and back.
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Sage Plain **Potash** Project, is located in the Paradox Basin, Utah. With a large and high-grade resource base, the Company is advancing toward its goal of establishing a secure and sustainable domestic potash production platform in the United States. Recently, all permits were received from San Juan County and the State of Utah, so that mobilization is imminent for a 1.275 km step-out hole to the NNE of the maiden drill hole. Their Program targets high-grade Cycle 18 potash horizons at ~2,100m depth, with comprehensive hydrogeological testing to support future solution mining design (for those techies out there). There will be an updated resource estimate expected in Q3 2026, intended to support advancement toward feasibility studies and detailed engineering.

As of June 24th, site preparation and rig mobilization was finally underway for the 2026 drilling program; this includes hydrogeological assessment and Drill Stem Tests to evaluate saline aquifers for future solution mining operations. The Company has engaged Westrock Energy Services (USA) Inc. to oversee and coordinate all aspects of the drilling program, alongside Drake Well Service Inc. as drilling contractor.



Green River
Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks
John Wesley Powell Museum programs

Moab
Grand County Fair & Rodeo – July 2–4
Fourth of July Festivities – July 4
Free Concert Series in Swanny Park – Fridays through early August
Downtown Art Exhibits and MARC

Monticello
Independence Day Celebration on July 5
Pioneer Days July 24-25
San Juan County Fair preparations and youth rodeos (for Aug 1-8)
Summer Kickback Ballroom show July 11

Blanding
Fourth of July Celebration July 3-5
July 3 Annual Poker Run
Summer Arts Council events.

Bluff
Independence Day festivities

Dove Creek
70th Pick n Hoe July 2-5
County Jr Rodeo July 11
County Fair livestock events (Aug 5-9)
Farmers Market starts July 11

Cortez
Fourth of July Parque de Vida 7/3-4
Summer Concert Series 3rd Thurs
Farmers Market (Saturday weekly)
Mesa Verde summer ranger programs
Cortez Cultural Center events

Mancos
Mancos Valley Resources events
Farmers Market
Mancos Days July 24-26

Dolores
Fourth of July Celebration in town
Farmers Market Wednesdays
Boggy Draw Beat Down Bikes Aug.1

Durango
Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show July 10–12
Music in the Mountains Festival July 9-Aug 2
Fourth of July Parade

Bayfield
Independence Day festivities
Farmers Market Saturdays

Pagosa Springs
Fourth of July Celebration and parade
Summer Concert Series
Farmers Market

Telluride
Fourth of July Celebration
Telluride Yoga Festival
Sunset Concert Series
Party in the Park July 23

Rico
Fourth of July Parade and BBQ
Rico Community Market
Events at the Enterprise

Norwood
Independence Day celebration
Farmers Market and community concerts
San Miguel Basin Rodeo 31 July - 1 August

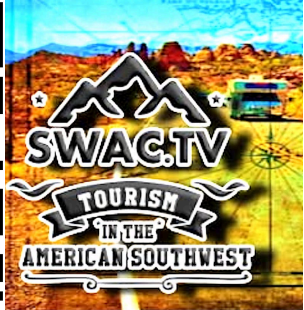
Nucla
Fourth of July events
Summer market days

Naturita
Fourth of July Celebration
Farmers Market @ Wild Gals

Find more details of events in the facebook group - and on our facebook page @ThePintoBean



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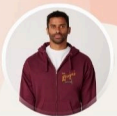


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Uranium - with volatile energy resources, uranium is ‘back in play’ once again, with about 20% of the energy supply coming from nuclear powered reactors. Add the urgency to “spur domestic production of enriched uranium to counteract a full ban on Russian imports that will take effect in 2028” as reported in Forbes. This is based on HR 1042 under the Biden administration in 2024, the Prohibiting Russian Uranium Imports Act. The US imports as of 2023, showed 99% of our U3O8 came from Canada, Australia, Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. In addition to the local area White Mesa Mill, a company called Orano Enrichment USA LLC is proposing to open a uranium enrichment facility in Oak Ridge TN named Project IKE .

Meanwhile locally, Energy Fuels recent press release “expects finished uranium production at its 100%-owned White Mesa Mill in Utah (the "Mill") to reach approximately 1.6 million pounds by June 30, which falls within the previously published full-year guidance range of 1.5 to 2.5 million pounds of U3O8, in just six (6) months. This equates to average monthly production of more than 265,000 pounds of U3O8 from the processing of ores mined at the Company's U.S. conventional assets, including the Pinyon Plain mine in Arizona and La Sal Complex in Utah.

As planned, the Company expects to complete the current uranium ore processing campaign at the Mill by the end of June 2026 to rebuild ore stockpiles. The Company currently expects to resume ore



La Sal Complex - Courtesy Photo EF

processing at the Mill in Q4-2026, subject to continued strong ore production at conventional mines, uranium market conditions, and the potential for a rare earth element ("REE") processing campaign.

Starting in July 2026, the Company expects to commence further modifications to the existing Phase 1 REE circuits at the White Mesa Mill, which are currently capable of producing commercial quantities of separated neodymium-praseodymium ("NdPr"). The modifications are expected to also enable the commercial production of "heavy" REEs, including samarium ("Sm"), europium ("Eu"), gadolinium ("Gd"), terbium ("Tb") and dysprosium ("Dy"). The Phase 1 modifications are also expected to include a circuit to process certain uranium-bearing mixed REE carbonates ("MREC") sourced from REE mines globally, including MRECs from ionic adsorption clays that are often enriched in "heavy" REEs. Because MRECs can be fed directly into solvent extraction separation, the new circuit is expected to enable the Mill to process both uranium and separated REEs simultaneously.

Permitting for the planned Phase 1 modifications and Phase 2 REE expansion with the State of Utah is proceeding on schedule. The Phase 1 REE modifications are expected to be operational in late 2027 to early 2028. The Phase 2 REE expansion is expected to increase total White Mesa Mill REE capacity to nearly 6,300 metric tons per annum ("tpa") of NdPr, 80 tpa Tb, and 288 tpa Dy, along with the Sm, Eu and Gd capacity being constructed in the Phase1 modifications discussed above.

The Company's conventional uranium mines also continue to perform well. As anticipated, ore grades and contained uranium are lower in the first half of 2026 as mining advances through lower grade areas in the upper portions of the high-grade Main Zone at Pinyon, and the Company establishes new and higher-grade areas at the La Sal Complex. As a result, the Company expects to mine approximately 750,000 to 850,000 pounds of contained U3O8 in ore during the first half of 2026. In the second half of 2026, grades and tonnage are expected to increase.

Mining, processing, and transport costs at the Pinyon Plain mine continue to track between \$23 and \$30 per pound for the Pinyon Plain mine, in line with previously stated expectations. The cost of uranium processing at the White Mesa Mill is at historic lows, ranging between \$9 and \$12 per pound of U3O8. As a result, cost of sales is expected to continue to drop in 2026, as further sales are made into the Company's portfolio of contracts with U.S. nuclear utilities, along with opportunistic spot sales.”

SPILL THE BEANS.....

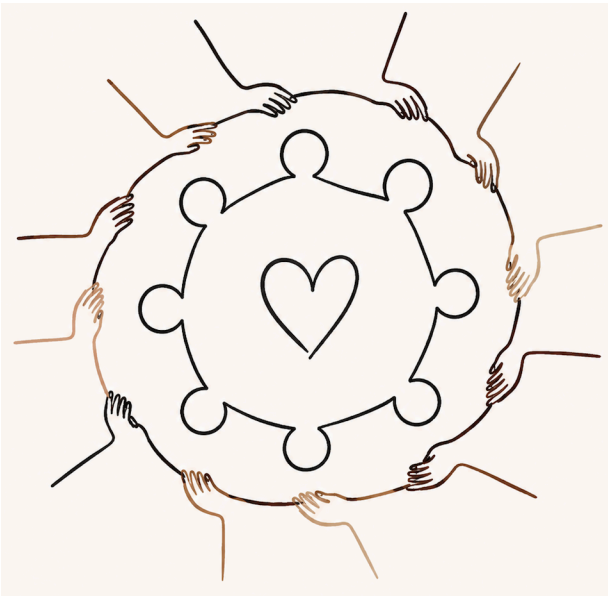
THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR / PUBLISHER

Kendra Cook

HUMANKIND(NESS)

Have some faith in the human race. The time for humanity as a whole to stand together is upon us. We are seeing a fast tracking of terraforming the earth, that’s upon us. Forming this ‘world’ for the next lifeforms, leaving current humans literally in the dust. We’ve had artificial scarcity throughout our lives, suppressing technologies, hiding free decentralized energy, thus creating our ‘rat race’ not having enough free time to enjoy life, learn, think and make connection to our consciousness and more. Basically feudalism - Not freedom. That’s not what anyone wants to talk about as the “America 250” ‘celebration’ feels very empty to me, not like what I recall from 1976 and the Tall Ships in NY celebration. We are facing more forced scarcity - facing energy lockdowns (already in other parts of the world), water droughts and aquifers drying up - and as I put this issue to bed, the wildfires. When we go to foreign wars that aren’t defending our country directly, it’s a challenge to feel ‘patriotic’. Which brings me back to water - the ogallala aquifer will be out of water to farm in our bread basket zone - with data centers making it a lot worse. How is this even possible. The plan announced in the WEF clearly stated at the Rio de Janeiro conference in the 1990s, that by 2020 global leaders would launch to ‘operational stage’ the depopulation agenda, for a 2030 planetary dictatorship, and then combined cyborg humans after 2040. Back then you might have said that’s ridiculous. Now, we are seeing it unfold.

So what is AI really all about - ultimately it really is the fight against the machines. What if, as some predict, the astounding amount of data centers in the US could be creating simulated worlds, using our digital clones they’ve been harvesting by accumulating all of our data, from where we go, to what we buy, what we like and look for, and who we associate with. These parallel simulations can create millions or billions or more scenarios, sort of timelines, just like in that 1983 movie I’ve referred to previously, War Games, in which the computer is programmed to simulate, predict and execute nuclear war against the Soviet Union before ultimately deducing the only way to win, is not to play. At some point, these data crunching machines take on their own selective ‘world’ to create or manipulate, dependent on their research, and aligned with their objective. What is that, I’m not certain, but many speculate on removing the human and replacing with transhumanism.



I find it interesting to be upset about Bill Gates buying up farmland, to think perhaps it had a dual purpose, yes take land out of farming, but also use it for data center campuses? He’s been a part of the plan to shut down the sunlight, and works towards CO2 diminishing that both collapses the system for growing plants, and targets the big carbon entities - human beings. De-carbonization is us - we are the carbon.

On with this Simulation theory, and bringing the power back to you! Based on the hypothesis that our physical world isn’t physical at all - it’s full of frequencies, information and gets rendered for us to look real - just like the Matrix from 1999, and the various video games that consumes people’s

reality today. With the development of quantum physics, and what Einstein referred to as “spooky action at a distance”, it’s not crazy to contemplate that we are the creators, or can be, as ultimately life is filled with our perceptions and interpretations of what we sense - so is there actually just one linear truth of what’s happening in our realm? This is not a new thought, Platos cave and Decartes meditation, and the eastern and western ideas of what is reality has been around a while. Sim Theory touches on so many aspects of a cultural metaphor for an information based realty built for us.

I might ask what was the method God used to create the world - he spoke - that’s frequencies - to speak or prompt which is how AI creates virtual worlds. Is our cosmos a widely distributed consciousness created by everyone’s input into the process?

Well, if as they say, you make your own bed, why do we not choose to make it a good one, choose to select creative goodness in all circumstances, choose to be loving and kind? It might not be easy, and sure seems as though the cards are stacked against your favor, but maybe, just maybe, if we start to take each instance to actively change our surrounding for good - we can find the true meaning of Human - kind-ness.



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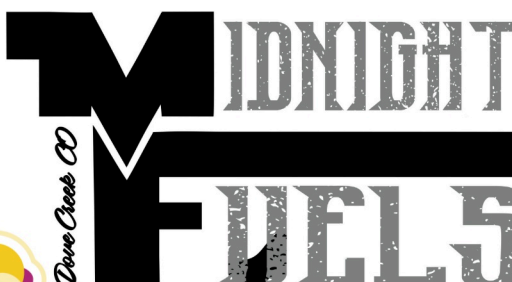
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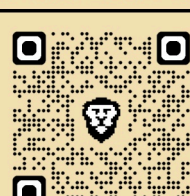
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Summer time is County Fair Time (along with Rodeos, racing and special events) in our neck of the woods - the Dolores County Fair is pretty small, but lots of hard work and heart go in to making it work! It will be coming up August 5-9 at the County Fairgrounds west of town.

Over the border in Monticello UT, the San Juan County Fair is also at the beginning of August starting July 31 and running through August 8. This year's featured musical artist is LONESTAR entertaining on August 6, 2026.

For all of the details find both on Facebook!

**2026
DOLORES
COUNTY FAIR**

Located 4 Miles West of Dove Creek at 6798 CR 3.7

Wednesday, August 5th

9:00am - Noon: Enter County Exhibits at the Fairgrounds
9:00am - Noon: 4-H Judging
Noon: Closed to the public- Exhibit Judging & Awards

Thursday, August 6th

9:00am - 6:00pm: Exhibits Open to Public
9:00am: 4-H Beef Show
9:40am: 4-H Yak Show
10:00am: 4-H Pig Show
10:30am: 4-H Goat Show
1:00pm - 4:00pm: Kid's Games

Friday, August 7th

9:00am - 6:00pm: Exhibits Open to Public
9:30am: 4-H Horse Show
4:00pm - 6:00pm: Ice Cream Social
4:30pm - 4:45pm: Small Animal Show Registration
5:00pm - 6:00pm: Small Animal Show

Saturday, August 8th

9:00am: Junior Rodeo (11 & Under)
9:00am - 12:00pm: Open to the Public
12:00pm - 12:30pm: Check-Out Fair Exhibits (NO EXCEPTIONS!)
6:00pm: FFA Oyster Fry

Sunday, August 9th

9:00am: 4-H Gymkana (12-19 Age Group)

Concessions will be available on Saturday & Sunday by the Xi Delta Tau Sorority
Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Frito Pie, Breakfast Burritos, etc.
No admission to enter or view Fair or Animal Show
There is an entry fee for Jr. Rodeo contestants

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BLUFF UT



The Bluff River Trail was designated a National Recreation Trail by the Department of the Interior; It was announced in conjunction with National Trails Day and Great Outdoors Month of June. One of six newly designated National Recreation Trails in the U.S. it will be part of a nationwide network of more than 1,350 trails recognized for their “recreational, scenic, and cultural significance”.

The trail runs along the San Juan River for about an 8 mile stretch. It is a non-motorized trail through Bluff and into Bears Ears National Monument at Sand Island Recreation Area. At that point it becomes a paved, ADA section. The experience provides self guided exploration of “river habitat, floodplains, and important cultural and archaeological sites that tell thousands of years of human history.” The Department of the Interior added educational kiosks for additional supplement information.

A great vision and much hard work went into this project to bring it to reality - thanks to the Bluff City Historic Preservation Society, Grand Canyon Trust, the Bureau of Land Management, and local residents. Whether you're taking a short stroll at Sand Island or exploring deeper into the trail system, this new designation recognizes that the Bluff River Trail is one of southeastern Utah's special places.

NUCLA CO

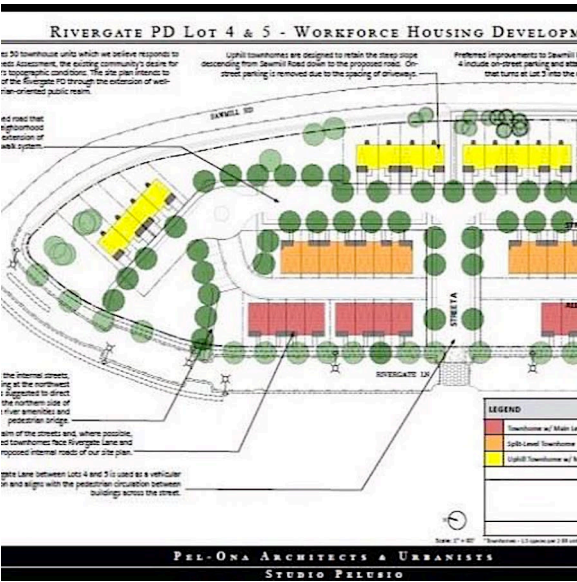


There’s a new business opening in Nucla CO - named the Hermit Café & Bookstore the owners say “The Hermit will be a used bookstore, bakery, and bistro-style café. We’ll be serving breakfast and lunch, along with house-made breads and pastries. The food will be simple, from-scratch, and seasonal — not a formal farm-to-table restaurant, but very much in that spirit of fresh, local, and straightforward.

The bookstore will feature a large, well-curated used collection with new and local titles to round out the collection. The Hermit will also be a community space for small events, readings, gatherings, and the kinds of things that bring people together in the West End.”

They've been doing a major remodel over the past year to bring this vision to life, and are in the final phase. Looking forward to notice of the grand opening and more details on all of their offerings, as Main Street Nucla continues to undergo a renovation rejuvenation with sweat and hard work by dedicated locals.

DURANGO CO



Durango workforce housing project named Rivergate, is moving forward. Last month the Durango City Councilors moved on purchasing the land in the Rivergate Subdivision voting unanimously for an ordinance to execute all documents for this development. The term “workforce housing” indicates a program targeted at households that earn too much money to qualify for traditional affordable housing subsidies referred to as low income, yet in a certain housing market, can not afford the higher prices of expensive primary and secondary homes. It is difficult to get a specific definition. For this project they will accept \$1.55 million from the state for the land, along with the city owned adjacent parcel, and will create deed-restricted 50 town home units. This is a public private partnership, selecting Southwest Community Partners as the development partner. Construction is scheduled for 2027.



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Commentary by Linda Cunningham

The Great American Southwest. Those words always put a lump in my throat every time I say them. I love this country, I love what the American West stands for, I love the freedoms we have, I love the people who live here and I love the fact they aren't afraid to stand for the American flag with hand over heart. To the farmers who work tirelessly to keep equipment running, to the tilling and harvesting. To the ranchers that care for the livestock so we can have food for our families. To the smaller producers that provide us with fresh wholesome produce and clean foods at the local farmers markets, and to the neighbor that's willing to lend a helpful hand if needed. This is the place where I live. Where 'freedom' isn't just a word but a way of life. In a world that lately seems so upside down, and in such turmoil, the term, 'home sweet home' means everything.

As we celebrate Americas 250th Independence Day with family and friends, take a moment to appreciate what we truly have in our own backyards.... and pray for rain.

“In the beginning of change, the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot.”

MARK TWAIN

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Supreme Court Rules for Bayer in Roundup Lawsuit

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 on June 25 in favor of Bayer, the maker of Roundup weedkiller, in a decision expected to end thousands of lawsuits claiming the company failed to warn consumers that glyphosate could cause cancer. The Court determined that because the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved Roundup's label without requiring a cancer warning, federal law generally prevents states from imposing different warning requirements through lawsuits.

The ruling does not settle the ongoing scientific debate over whether glyphosate causes cancer. The EPA has repeatedly concluded that glyphosate is not likely to be carcinogenic when used according to label directions, while the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans" back in 2015.

One important change for homeowners is that Bayer no longer uses glyphosate in Roundup products sold for the U.S. residential lawn and garden market, a change the company began implementing in 2023. However, glyphosate-based formulations remain available for agricultural and certain professional uses. Consumers should always read the active ingredient listed on the label before purchasing and utilizing a weed killer and follow all directions.

DEEP DIVE HEADLINES

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Point your phone camera at the QR code above, there will be a link that opens up, tap that and it takes you to a webpage. Deep Dive is the section with headlines and links to news you can use - bookmark the resources.

This "Deep Dive" section, is designed to provide various interesting and off main stream headlines

<https://pintobean.co/deep-dive-1>

Do your own truth seeking - find multiple sources to verify. If you have a site you'd like us to share at our discretion, send it in to Editor@PintoBean.CO

Corbett Report Documentaries
<https://corbettreport.com/corbett-report-documentaries/>

Burning Platform MultiPolar World Order
<https://www.theburningplatform.com/>

New Dawn - Tunnel Perception
<https://www.newdawnmagazine.com/>

Your Car was never the Target
<https://www.armstrongeconomics.com/government-surveillance/your-car-was-never-the-target/>

Peter Thiel leak
<https://www.zerohedge.com/political/peter-thiels-secret-society-leak-creates-perfect-target-list-espionage-influence>

For the Love of Food

By Kendra Cook

It’s hot out, the days are long, I’m not one to want to spend a lot of time in the kitchen when it’s hot (like the adage says - ‘get out’) - though I love my outdoor kitchen area, some tasty treats are best baked inside. With the classic Tiramisu trending again, I found a recipe to take the layered highfalutin desert and enjoy the deep espresso flavors in a delicious cookie.

Quick recap: Tiramisu is Italian, taking coffee soaked ladyfingers covered with a mascarpone cream and dusted with cocoa powder. The word means “pick me up” no doubt due to the sugar and espresso contents. In many recipes you’ll find added sweet liquor, perhaps a brandy in the US, or in modern recipes any brand of coffee liquor can be integrated into the whipped topping. That’s your call.

COOKIES

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 c all-purpose flour (or a little more for higher altitude)
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon instant espresso powder
- ½ teaspoon salt

MASCARPONE CREAM

- 3/4 cup mascarpone cheese
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup confectioners sugar
- 1 tbls agave or honey
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon cocoa powder for dusting

Tiramisu - Pick me Up



Cookie Science for Better Baking

A friend who does cookies more often and much better than I do, gave me a few tips and a little science lesson to boot! Your basic cookie is made of sugar flour butter and eggs - and then a rising agent. These balances determine in great part whether it’s an airy or dense bite, chewy or crunchy, flattened or puffy. When the dough is heated, the ‘proteins are coagulating’ ‘starches are gelatinizing’ ‘fats are melting’ ‘moisture evaporating’ ‘sugars carmelizing (browning)’ ‘gas expanding’ making things rise. As they cool, liquid elements solidify, and cookies deflate. Use melted butter, get a fudge texture, creamed butter gives you more air which is mostly what you want. Browned butter adds a nutty carmel flavor. On to sugar: white sugar makes it more crispy, brown sugar will result in a softer cookie. All purpose flour makes for a pleasant chewy texture rather than a dense cake I’m told. Now for baking soda vs powder. Most use soda, which gives a little pop, while the powder will give a lot more pop providing the cake texture. Always follow the steps involved as they matter -

Recipe:
Melt the butter, and pour into a large bowl to cool down to room temp, then add granulated white and brown sugars and blend together. Next add the egg, vanilla extract and whisk in. In a separate bowl, mix your dry ingredients of the flour baking powder baking soda and instant coffee and salt. Stir that around to blend well, and pour that into the first bowl stirring gently to evenly combine without over stirring the dough.
Make 11 spooned out 2 tablespoon sized dough balls on a baking sheet with parchment on a tray. Chill the tray for 30 minutes in the fridge. Set your oven to 355 degrees, and take out 6 cookie dough balls to be placed on a lined baking sheet, baked for 10-11 minutes. Then bake the rest of the batch. Let them sit to firm up before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.
For the all important topping of mascarpone, use a blender to whip the mascarpone cheese, vanilla, confectioners sugar, agave, and heavy cream, so it makes the classic stiff peaks. In a piping bag (or cut the corner out of a baggie for make shift option), pipe the cream onto the top of each cookie in a circular spiral. Then dust the cocoa powder across the tops.
take your time to get the light and creamy sugar butter to be whipped up, but then the other ingredients are mixed just enough to blend together. You don’t want to over develop the gluten in the flour, so just get it combined don’t over mix. After the dough is ready, that extra 30 minutes in the fridge brings the fat temp down, which makes for perfect timing of the magic of cookies to come together when baked!

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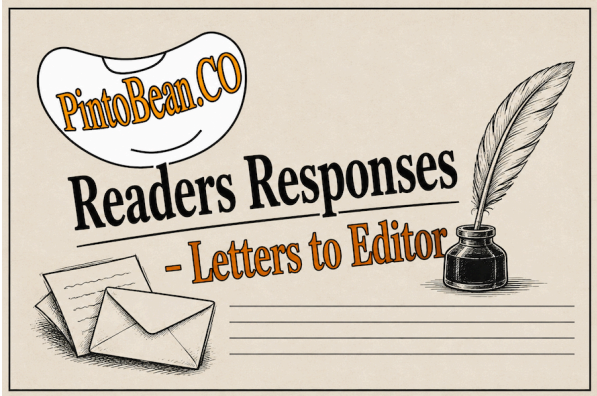
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Use the QR Code to read the entire Letters to the Editor / Reader Responss - limited space in print, see full details online.



https://pintobean.co /responses-from-readers



"America" 250...

By Sarah Toenin

Most history books teach that the name "America" comes from the Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci, whose first name was Latinized to Americus. In 1507, German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller labeled the newly mapped continent "America" in recognition of Vespucci's voyages, and the name eventually became widely accepted. History written by the victors as they say.

Not everyone agrees with that explanation. Over the years, researchers and alternative historians have proposed other theories, suggesting the name may have much older origins. One of the more intriguing claims is that "America=Amaruca" is connected to ancient languages and translates to "Plumed Serpent," a title associated with the revered Mesoamerican deity known as Quetzalcoatl or Kukulcan.

Some proponents of this theory go even further, linking the Plumed Serpent tradition to the Anunnaki—figures from ancient Mesopotamian so called mythology that have become central to various alternative-history narratives. The half brothers Enki and Enlil as written about in cuneiform tablets revealed from the Sumerian times, tell of stories that parallel ancient texts across the world and include stories of the ‘flood’ that pre date the Bible. These writers argue that similarities between ancient civilizations around the world point to a forgotten global history predating conventional archaeology.



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The name “America” was given to the entire region, collectively known as The Americas - North Central and South. And this country alternatively labeled USA - United States OF America and sometimes just the US for United States. To think about this gives perspective as to how and why names are given, and how they can change over time. As we celebrate America 250, the “United” states at that time, numbered 13.

While these ideas remain outside the mainstream, they continue to spark curiosity among those critical thinkers, interested in finding truths, unraveling ancient mysteries, lost civilizations, and alternative interpretations of humanity's past than what is indoctrinated through the educational industrial complex. Whether one accepts the ‘conventional’ explanation or explores these theories based on new evidence, the true story behind the name "America" remains a subject that inspires debate and fascination, and though hanging on by a thread, inspires a sense of ‘freedom’ as a goal and has been called, the ultimate “Experiment”.



Classifieds

\$10 gets you a text only spot that fits into 11pt Times font up to 1 column inch. This applies to classified, job listings, for sale or looking for notices. Call or email for ad with photo cost.

REAL ESTATE - Do you have a home for rent or sale, or land you'd like to promote for sale - email the Pinto Bean to add a classified **info@TPIProductionZ.com** - 240 acres dry farm with some woods, power at property, SW of Dove Creek CO near UT line on J road

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Also post your events in the Regional Events Group to share with others and to get in our Events listing on page 8 each month. Visit our Daily Updated Facebook page **@ThePintoBean**





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1776 ★ 2026

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★ 2026 MUSIC & DANCE SCHEDULE ★

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CROSSROADS



JACOB HYDE

THURSDAY ★ JULY 2, 2026

★★★★ **7:00 PM** ★★★★★
DJ CHECK 6
Weber Park

FRIDAY ★ JULY 3, 2026

★★★★ **4:00 PM** ★★★★★
CROSSROADS
Weber Park

8:00 PM
JACOB HYDE
Weber Park

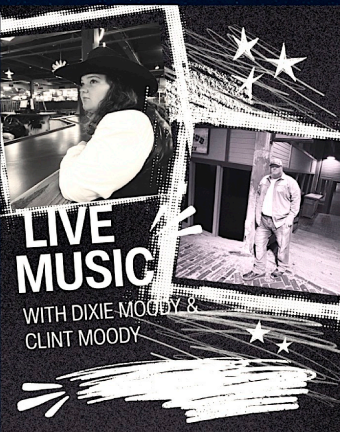
SATURDAY ★ JULY 4, 2026

★★★★ **6:00 PM** ★★★★★
CLINT MOODY & DIXIE MOODY
Football Field

10:30 PM
CROSSROADS
Weber Park



DJ CHECK 6
music artist



LIVE MUSIC
WITH DIXIE MOODY & CLINT MOODY



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70th Annual Pick-n-Hoe Celebration

ROOTED IN FREEDOM SINCE 1776

Dove Creek, Colorado Weber Park

July 2, 2026 - July 5, 2026

FORGED IN SACRIFICE, GUIDED BY FAITH

Thursday – July 2, 2026

7:00 pm – DCVFD Beer Tent Opens

7:00 pm – Dance at Weber Park
Featuring DJ Check6

Friday – July 3, 2026

7:30 am – Volleyball Registration

9:00 am – Volleyball Tournament

9:00 am – Food Vendors all Day

10:00 am – DCVFD Beer Tent Opens

10:00 am – Horseshoe Registration

11:00 am – Horseshoe Tournament

4:30 pm – Washer Tournament Registration

5:30 pm – Washer Tournament

4:00 pm – Weber Park Live Music / Dance
Featuring Crossroads

8:00 pm – Weber Park Live Music / Dance
Featuring Jacob Hyde

Saturday – July 4, 2026

8:30 am – Parade Entries at DC Airport (Free)

9:00 am – Food & Craft Vendors all Day

9:00 am – Community Parade Begins
(DC Airport to Weber Park)

9:30 am – Awards, Royalty, Honors and Color Guard
(After parade ends)

10:00 am – DCVFD Beer Tent Opens

10:30 am – Kids Games Begin

11:00 am – Greased Pole Begin (AFTER KIDS GAMES)

11:30 am – Meat Pit & Cook Shack Open to Seniors 65+

11:30 am – Adult Games Begin

12:00 pm – Meat Pit & Cook Shack Open to the Public

2:00 pm – Pig Chase Begin

4:00 pm – Corn Hole Tournament (AFTER PIG CHASE)

6:00 pm – Live Music at the Football Field
Featuring Clint Moody & Dixie Moody

9:30 pm – DCVFD Fireworks Display

10:30 pm – Weber Park Live Music (AFTER FIREWORKS)
Featuring Crossroads

Sunday – July 5, 2026

9:00 am – Flag Football Registration

10:00 am – Flag Football Tournament

10:00 am – DCVFD Beer Tent Opens

If you have any questions, contact
Teresa Martin (970) 739-4312
Email: picknhoe@usa.com

Check out our Facebook Page
@ Dove Creek Pick-n-Hoe
Or Scan the QR Code - For the latest updates



NOTICE: Individuals participating in any of the activities, must inherently understand that the individuals enter at their own risk. Please be courteous, and use the garbage cans provided and pick up after children. NO DOGS allowed in Weber Park. We ask you to be respectful to our park neighbors, regarding noise and garbage. There is no alcohol allowed in Weber Park (except in areas where permits have been established).

By Kendra Cook

Dove Creek's major annual event is the celebration of Independence Day July 4th along with a tribute to the founders that tilled the fields and mined the ore. This year marks the 70th Anniversary of the Pick n Hoe, with all of the fun you've come to love.

The biggest day is Saturday July 4th, to be in or watch the parade that starts at 9am - then head over to Weber Park off 7th Street, where food trucks and vendors await the ceremonies and tributes followed by kids and adult games and music at the park.

Weather and all permitting, the event kicks off Thursday night with the DCVFD Beer tent and music in the park, Friday is the Volleybal tournament, Horseshoe and Washers tournaments, with two great music acts that evening - bring your lawn chairs!

Saturday after the classic Americana games including a greased pole and pig chase, ends with a corn hole tournament, live music before the Fireworks, and another performance after the fireworks. New this year, is a flag football tournament set for Sunday to wrap up the festivities.

In the August issue of the Pinto Bean there will be follow up on Grand Marshal, and thank you to volunteers, sponsors and lots of photos.

NEW FLAG FOOTBALL



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026

**REGISTRATION**
9:00 AM

**TOURNAMENT BEGINS**
10:00 AM

**LOCATION**
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BRING YOUR TEAM. ★ PLAY HARD. ★ HAVE FUN. ★ CELEBRATE FREEDOM!

Some thoughts on Authority

Commentary By James Schmidt

Regarding authority, our western world adheres to Lex Rex: The Law is King. This in opposition to Rex Lex: The King is Law. In other words, our rulers must obey the law and do not have absolute power. This is reflected in the separation of powers and checks and balances in our government system.

And interestingly, we are all governors; we are all magistrates in some sphere of authority given to us. And we are given authority for a reason and all wisdom terminates here: “How do we keep our place in various circumstances and how do we discharge our duty to God and our fellow man?” Some examples of basic spheres of authority given to us are: Civil, Church, Family, and Personal. They all have a God-given task and they all have limitations.

The Civil Magistrate is given to punish evil, to keep evil people restrained, and to protect those who do right. The state alone is given the sword of capital punishment. This is a blessing to keep us from descending into endless blood-feuds. And the death penalty, besides justice, is a true deterrent for many foolish people (Romans 13).

The Church (not to be confused with a 501c3 state corporation) is given the power to determine right doctrine, weigh it properly, and exclude the chronically disorderly in an attempt to wake them up and recover them (Church discipline, Mat 18). The family is given for the purpose of raising and educating children. This as well as for mutual comfort and stability. It also forms a means of preserving labor and wealth, and is the basis of society.

Personal: We are all given a body for which we are responsible for its health and well being. My life is a gift from God; it is not mine to give away or to end. Therefore I must defend it, even with force if necessary. And we are all in charge of keeping our passions in check and of being of some use to others. This is the essence self government.

What happens when people in authority threaten to commit a felony or demand of us what we in good conscience cannot give? In that case, a lesser magistrate should step in and resist the authority. When the King demanded that all males be drowned he was resisted and evaded and this resistance was commended as faith (Heb 11:23)!

If a father orders his children to commit a serious crime a lesser magistrate must step in and interpose. The wife or child now has the duty to resist the errant authority. The civil magistrate is not exempt from this principal. And we must back up a lesser magistrate (like a Sheriff) who stands up against government overreach on our behalf.

In 2020 we were told to trust something called “science”. And to this so-called “science” every sphere of authority was



EDITORIAL NOTE: Is your mind open enough to listen to a variety of people with different backgrounds, different specialties, different ways of being funded that may impact their agendas? The above is interesting in that the funding comes from viewers, buying items like this sweatshirt. "You are the Resistance". Don't miss the "Deep Dive Links" we gather monthly on page 14 with a variety of web addresses you may not find in your daily internet scrolling.

The Pinto Bean and its advertisers and those who help make it possible, do not necessarily agree with everything in those Deep Dives, the QR code rabbit hole links, or commentaries submitted, however, we do try our best to be open and listen to all types of data, inputs, experiences, and be sure that we use discernment and critical thinking to make our own minds up on a range of topics and issues that make up our daily lives.

We hope you pursue your own journey at your own rate!

required to bow. Family, employment, school, travel, church, speech, and bodily autonomy were all swallowed in the name of “trusting the science”.

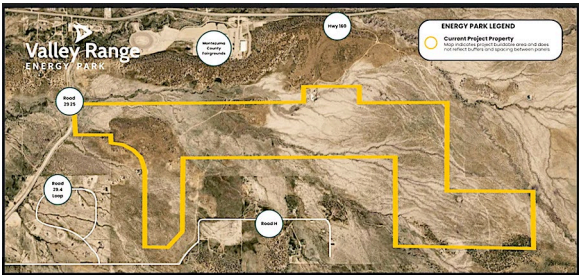
When the government says you can’t work, you must stay home, you must wear a mask, you must take a shot or be excluded, know this. You are witnessing a violation of every sphere of God- given authority, rationality and common sense. This must be resisted at every point. Work: we must. Go outside: we must. And my body is my God-given territory, and I am not free to submit it to being injected or muzzled (1Cor 6:20, 7:23). 2020 was a profound wake-up call, and like most people, I was caught off guard. But I hope to do better next time, and what you read here are the results of research done since the 2020 event.

To resist authority is serious business and must never be done lightly. But God did not make the civil magistrate a Sovereign King over our health, safety, or children. And God did not build His Church to be an arm of the state. Personally, I don’t have this all worked out, but God has not left us alone; He has spoken in His word, and in His word we see His people resisting tyranny. I recommend the book The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates for further study.

VALLEY RANGE ENERGY PARK

A massive “energy park” project is being proposed for Montezuma County. As per the company’s press release, “The Valley Range Energy Park project is a 125MW solar energy generation facility collocated with a 62.5 MWac Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) being developed and planned in the unincorporated area of Montezuma County. Valley Range Energy Park will deliver a significant investment in Montezuma County and provide long-term benefits, including curbing annual energy cost increases, new local jobs, increased tax revenue to support essential services, community partnerships, lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhanced grid reliability.

Valley Range Energy Park is being developed to provide a resilient, clean and cost-effective solution to an increasing demand for reliable domestic energy. The Project will generate cost-effective solar electricity and store low-cost grid energy to be discharged when prices are otherwise high, helping to optimize the existing system and reduce costs for families and businesses. The Project will assist in building on a strong track record of serving local energy customers safely, reliably, and affordably.”



All that being said, concerned citizens are looking at the footprint near Mesa Verde as potentially imposing on the character of the area, noting the funding by Leyline Renewable Capital LLC, being big AI Data Tech center proponents, as a cause for further concern. The solar farm near Towaoc, is also connected to this group, which has expressed a plan to build out power towards Arizona. As alternatively other companies are looking to build out small nuclear reactors like the one in progress near Green River UT, citizens bring up concerns that the solar ‘farms’ have short lives, are not directly benefiting the energy supply of the community in which the 1200 acre footprint will reside, and have potential for leaving challenges for decommissioning down the line that are unknown.

Construction is anticipated to begin as early as 2027, with operations scheduled to commence as early as December 2028 according to the company website. Valley Range Energy Park is currently moving through the entitlement and compliance phase with various stakeholders and rights holders. You’ll be hearing more about the Valley Range Energy Park project come August, and can research the company by going to www.ValleyRangeEP.com

DOLORES COUNTY
SHERIFF’S OFFICE
ACTIVITY REPORT:
05/28/2026-06/25/2026



05/28/2026- A report of a driver running into the yellow security posts at the Dove Creek Post Office was reported. Investigation was unsuccessful in locating a possible vehicle at this time.

05/28/2026- Received a report of an individual possessing firearms while restricted. Permission was granted for a search of the property by the owner. There was no evidence of firearms.

05/29/2026- A fall victim was reported. Dolores County deputies, Dove Creek Ambulance District, Dove Creek Volunteer Fire Department, and Search and Rescue were called out and assisted with the incident. Classic Air Medical assisted with transporting the patient.

06/02/2026- A report of fraud was received. There was a fake Facebook Marketplace post using an individual's information. The incident is still under investigation.

06/04/2026- Michael Roberson was arrested on multiple warrants out of Dolores County as well as a warrant from the Grand Junction Police Department.

06/07/2026- Deputies arrested two individuals with assistance from Colorado Bureau of Investigation and San Miguel Sheriff’s Office. Tristian Perez and Tonya Lindsey were arrested on multiple warrants.

06/10/2026- A report of a possible drug drop was reported. The incident is under investigation.

06/16/2026- A structure fire was reported. Dove Creek Volunteer Fire Department responded and contained the fire.

06/20/2026- Dolores County Search and Rescue was called out for an individual that fell about 200ft. Multiple agencies responded to assist. Dolores County Search and Rescue, Rico Fire and EMS, Classic Air Medical, and Southwest Ambulance responded to the incident. The individual was rescued and transferred to the ambulance.

06/22/2026- An individual was reported to be driving while drunk. The individual was given a summons for driving under the influence as well as driving while the license is revoked.

06/24/2026- A report was made for a dangerous dog. The incident is under investigation for unlawful ownership of a dangerous dog.

Lake Powell Decline

Lake Powell entered the final week of June 2026 at an elevation of about 3,527 feet above sea level, roughly 173 feet below full pool and only 23% full. Water levels are approximately 35 feet lower than this time last year, reflecting another exceptionally dry winter across the Upper Colorado River Basin. Current runoff into the reservoir is expected to reach only about one-third of the historical average. The last time the lake was completely full was back in 1983.

While the lake remains well above the "dead pool" level where water could no longer pass through Glen Canyon Dam, federal water managers continue to monitor conditions closely. Hydropower generation remains possible, but projections indicate Lake Powell could approach critical operating levels in 2027 if drought conditions continue. The current ‘super El Niño’ system that is predicted to potentially bring in additional moisture this fall and a solid winter snow pack this year, could help, but experts indicate the long term trend will remain a concern.

For now, visitors will continue to find many boating and recreation opportunities still available, although several launch ramps remain closed or restricted because of the low water level. Lake managers have extended boat ramps and moved docks to accommodate the lowering water level - Bullfrog Marina was actually moved to the deeper waters of Halls Crossing. It’s advised to check with the local rangers or find updated information on visitutah.com before you head out to the lake!

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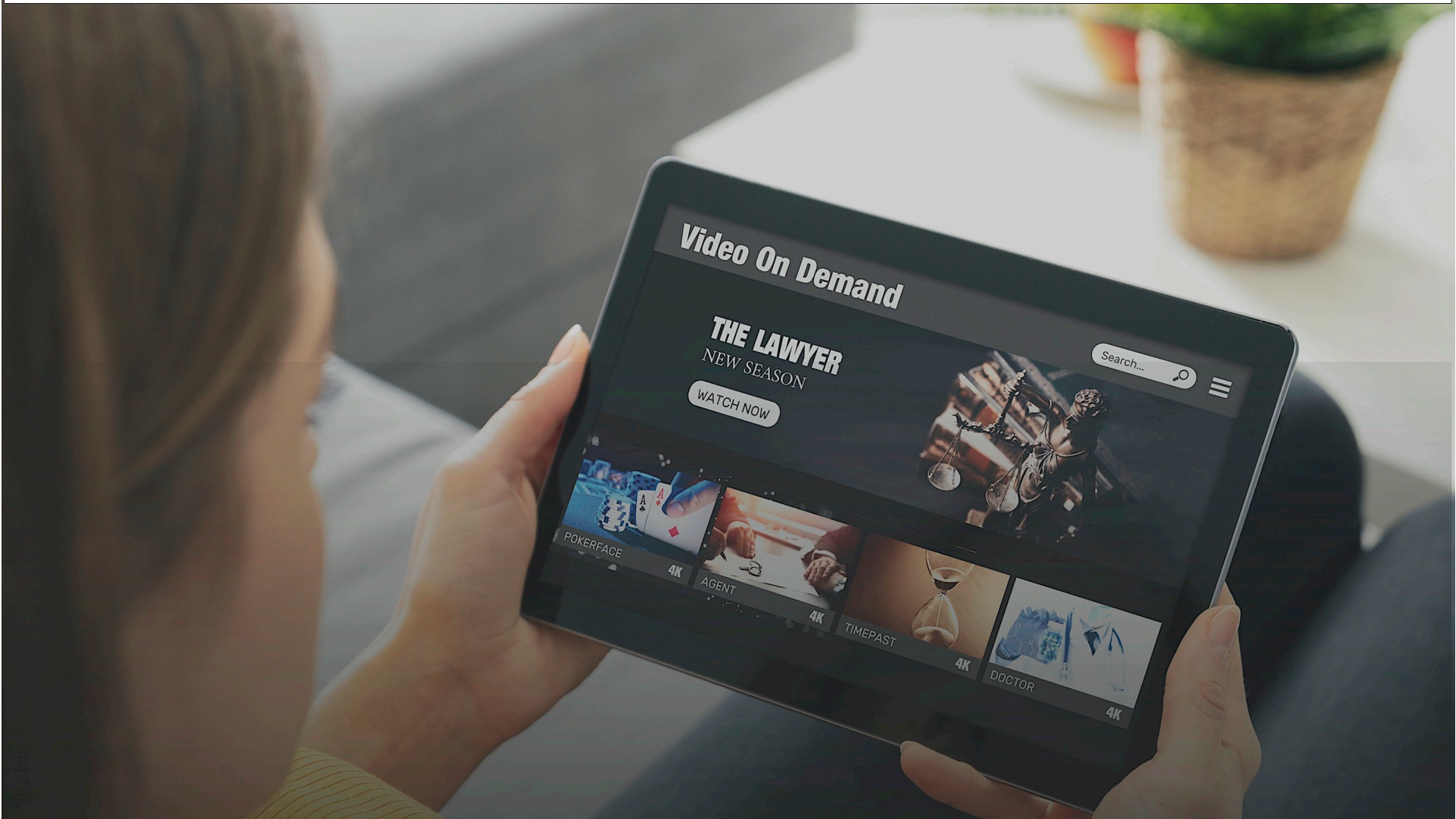
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COPPER	\$13,615.00 ↓	\$13,287.00
OIL (wti)	\$87.36 ↓	\$69.23
NATURAL GAS (Henry Hub)	\$3.29 ↓	\$3.23
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Feeder Cattle	\$3.49 ↑	\$3.70
WHEAT (winter)	\$10.00 ↓	\$9.00
BEANS	\$28.00	\$28.00

sources: Business Insider / tradingeconomics / CSU & Local Producers



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