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JUNE 2026

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

Activities and News Along the SWAC & Four Corners

JUNE MONSOONS...

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 06



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WHAT FUELS OUR AREA

As summer travel season begins across the Four Corners, fuel prices remain one of the biggest concerns for residents, ranchers and tourism businesses alike. While gasoline prices in Southwest Colorado and southeastern Utah often fluctuate with national trends, rural geography and transportation costs continue to keep local prices among the highest in the region.

Most fuel sold in the Four Corners area originates from refineries in the Salt Lake City area, New Mexico and Texas before being transported by pipeline and truck distribution networks into smaller rural communities. Because Southwest Colorado lacks major refining infrastructure and depends heavily on long-distance trucking, local stations often face higher wholesale and delivery costs than larger metropolitan areas.

In communities such as Cortez, Durango, Dove Creek, Monticello and Blanding, even small changes in crude oil markets can quickly affect pump prices. Seasonal tourism traffic, refinery maintenance schedules and summer fuel blend requirements also tend to push prices higher heading into June and July.

Tourism operators say fuel prices are already influencing travel behavior for the 2026 summer season. Some travelers appear to be shortening road trips, combining destinations or delaying vacations altogether as inflation and travel costs continue pressuring household budgets.

At the same time, Southwest Colorado remains heavily dependent on drive-in tourism; Visitors arriving to explore Mesa Verde, the San Juan Mountains, Moab and the Four Corners region overwhelmingly travel by personal vehicle, RV or truck. Local hotel owners and campground operators

say reservations remain steady so far, though many are watching closely for signs of reduced discretionary spending later in the summer.

Fuel costs also ripple far beyond tourism.

For ranchers and farmers throughout Montezuma, Dolores and San Juan counties, diesel prices directly impact nearly every part of the agricultural economy — from irrigation pumps and tractors to hay transport, feed delivery and cattle operations. Higher fuel prices increase the cost of planting, harvesting and hauling goods across long rural distances.

In areas already struggling with drought and rising equipment costs, fuel spikes can significantly tighten profit margins for agricultural producers.

Construction companies, logging operations, school districts and rural emergency services also feel the effects. Ambulances, fire departments and county road crews operating across vast distances face increased operating expenses when fuel prices climb during peak wildfire and summer travel season.



Some analysts believe prices could remain volatile throughout the summer due to global oil market uncertainty, refinery capacity issues and growing demand during the nationwide vacation season. Others point to slowing economic activity and reduced consumer spending as factors that could stabilize prices later in the year.

For rural residents of the Four Corners, however, fuel remains less of a luxury and more of a necessity. In communities where driving 50 miles for groceries, livestock supplies or medical appointments is routine, even modest increases at the pump can have widespread economic consequences.

As June traffic begins filling highways across Southwest Colorado and Southeastern Utah, fuel prices will likely remain one of the defining economic issues shaping the region's summer season.

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Dove Creek's Main Event of the Year - the July 4th celebration - this year celebrates the 70th - along with America's 250th and Colorado's 150th Fun kicks off on July 2nd, with music and games and vendors through the weekend - the big Parade Sat. 8:30am and all types of activities in Weber Park through the day, live feature band before the DCVFD Fireworks display.. You won't want to miss it!
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DOVE CREEK SUMMER REC

The DC Recreation Department summer activities are just around the corner! Get ready to come have some fun with us. Be sure to check out our FB page for weekly schedule of events.

The Summer Activities Program for Youth will begin 6/2 through 7/23. Activities take place every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the Community Center. Tuesdays run from 2:00-4:00, and Wednesday and Thursdays from 1:00-3:00. Your child must be at least 4 years old to participate. Cost is \$4 per day or pay a discounted summer rate of \$70 and come have fun with us all summer long! Drinks and snacks are provided each day. Forms can be found at the elementary school or you can register in person at the Community Center.

Tee Ball will begin July 7th and runs for four weeks. Age group is 4-6 years old. Cost is \$35 per participant. Registration will open June 15th so be on the lookout for more info to come. You can also register in person at the Summer Activities Program.

Swimming Lessons will begin July 20th through July 30th for a total of 8 sessions at the Monticello pool. Must be 5 years old or starting kindergarten in the fall to be eligible for participation. Cost is \$70 per participant. Registration will open June 15th so be on the lookout for more info to come. You can also register in person at the Summer Activities Program.

Dolores County Senior Services Annual Chicken Enchilada Fundraiser Dinner Thursday - June 18th

Homemade Chicken Enchiladas Spanish Rice, Beans Chips & Salsa and Dessert Price \$15.00/plate

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We are in the Southwestern Adventure Corridors - Moab to Durango to Telluride and all around the zone - follow with our 3.2K followers Facebook @ThePintoBean for daily updates of news, weather, roads, and events in SE UT and SW CO - some NE AZ and NW NM too! It's free to follow, share, comment, and get the latest across the region - for locals AND tourists too!

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ANIMAL RESCUES - Hoof & Paws

By Kendra Cook and staff

In the rural towns of Nucla and Naturita, Colorado, a dedicated group of volunteers has been quietly transforming lives—one stray dog, one abandoned cat, and one surrendered pet at a time. Hoof & Paw Animal Rescue, a no-kill shelter serving the West End of Montrose County, celebrated more than a decade of compassionate work with a heartfelt community event that paired pizza with puppy kisses.

Founded in 2009 the nonprofit Hoof & Paw began as a foster-based organization offering occasional low-cost clinics. By 2019, it had evolved into a shelter-based rescue, and the opening of a thrift store in Naturita helped fund an expansion of services. Today, the group cares for an average of 130 animals annually—providing food, vaccinations, spay/neuter surgeries, medical care, and loving rehoming—while also supporting hundreds of owned pets through subsidized clinics.

Volunteers run three daily shifts, seven days a week, ensuring no animal is turned away. The rescue also steps in for “just visiting” animals—dogs picked up as strays in town or pets whose owners face hospitalization or other emergencies.

On Friday, May 8, 2026, Hoof & Paw brought its mission to neighboring Dove

Creek for “Pizza for Pups,” a special adoption and fundraiser hosted at Banger’s Bar and Pizza. Families gathered on the restaurant’s welcoming patio to meet adoptable dogs, enjoy good food, and support a cause close to many rural hearts.

Banger’s Bar and Pizza, a family-owned spot at 315 Highway 491 known for its pizzas, pastas, wings, and friendly vibe, went all in for the event. For those who couldn’t make it in person, the restaurant donated proceeds from every “Pupperoni” pizza sold that day. Chance drawing baskets and a tennis ball drop added to the money that was donated. The partnership highlighted the power of small-town collaboration. In rural Western Colorado, where resources can be limited and distances great, events like this bridge gaps between rescues, businesses, and communities.

Adoptions through Hoof & Paw involve a thoughtful process: potential adopters answer questions about their lifestyle, meet the animal by appointment, and complete an agreement with a donation typically ranging from \$50 to \$600, depending on the pet’s needs. The goal is simple: a loving, lifelong home with training, exercise, and care.

Hoof & Paw’s thrift store at 230 West Main Street in Naturita serves as both a fundraiser and community hub. Stories from the rescue often tug at the heartstrings: senior dogs



At the event in Bangers, there were 3 love connections made with dog adoptions, and over \$600 donated.

finding gentle retirement homes, puppies rescued from neglect learning to trust again, cats finding quiet laps after years on the streets. Each success reinforces the volunteers’ commitment in a region where animal overpopulation and limited veterinary access remain ongoing challenges.

Follow Hoof & Paw on Facebook for upcoming events and ways to help.

In the high desert of Colorado’s West End, tails are wagging a little brighter thanks to neighbors who believe every animal deserves a second chance.



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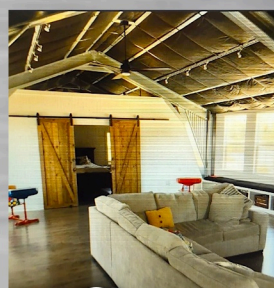
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From Odd Cat Angie B.

Hello my fellow Odd Cats! How was May for you? I'm happy to report that the summer is arriving slowly and I'm having a few more people visit Odd Cat each day. That's great news! The more books people buy, the more new books I can order for YOU!

This month I'm spotlighting another local author, **Doug Freed, from Rico**. His most recent book, "**Over Hill and Over Dale**" is a really fun and brainy combination of Colorado/regional history and his own personal exploits while hiking the Colorado Trail. In the book, Doug touches on everything from inventions and engineering to gunslingers and elephants.

Doug's sense of humor makes this a super enjoyable read that will have you chuckling throughout the journey. Here's an excerpt:

"I glanced at a nearby rock and saw the flavor packet he had failed to add to his pot. He thought it was one of the moisture inhibitors found in most other backpacking meals. I tried to be gentle in pointing out that he needed to add the flavoring, but I think what came out of my mouth was, "For crying out loud, Wayne. I never thought I'd see the day I'd meet a grown man that didn't know how to cook a pot of ramen noodles." Too harsh? Perhaps. But true nonetheless. He will not soon live this down."

It's a great book and Doug is just as nice and funny in person. You may be able to catch him leading our writing group on Sunday afternoons! Otherwise, I have a few copies of this title in the shop. To shop online, please visit my store on [Bookshop.org/ shop/oddcatsbooks](http://Bookshop.org/shop/oddcatsbooks) where you can find this title and thousands more!

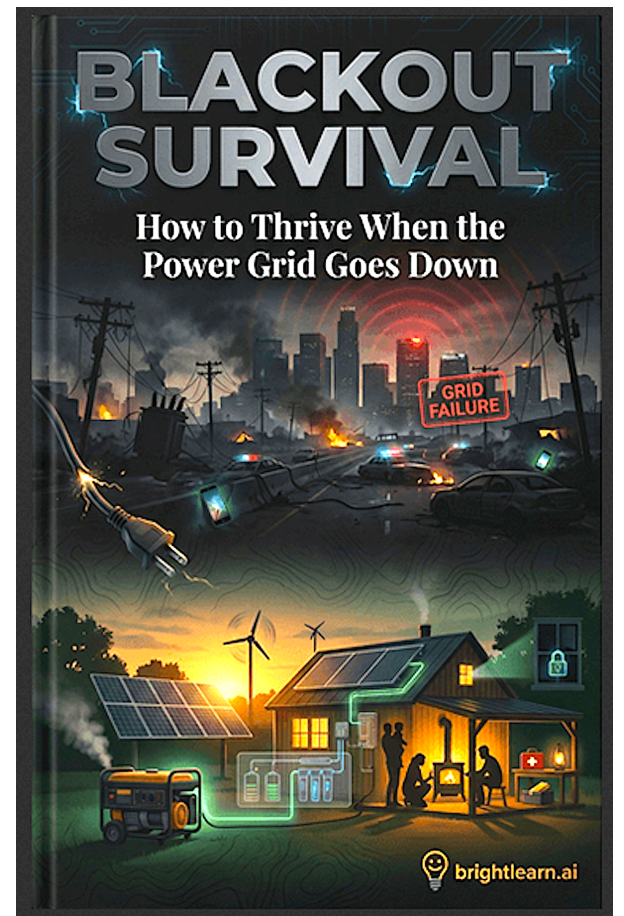
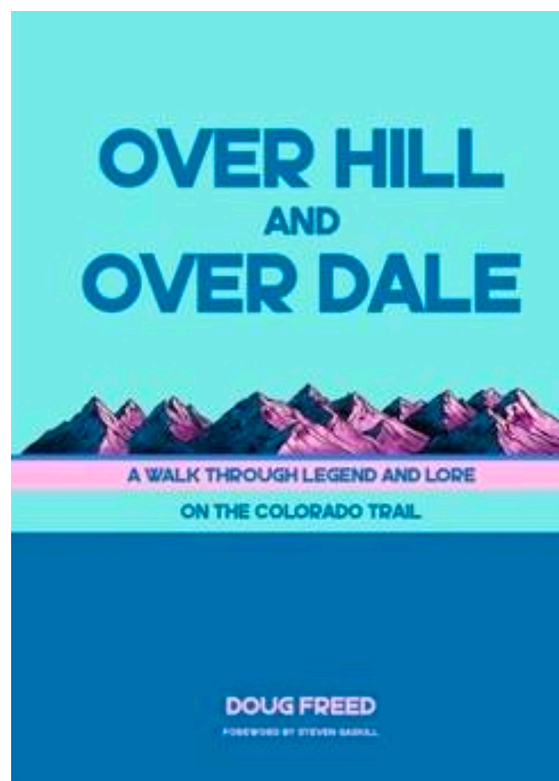
Have a fantastic June and we'll see you soon!

PINTO BEAN BOOK CORNER

By Kendra Cook

Natural News' 'BlackOut' and other free ebooks as pdf and interactive downloads, are available online through "Natural News" (dot com). Amongst many free and helpful ebooks and articles, and a decentralized AI interface that focuses on data from natural medicines, preparedness, and more, this newest release may be a good read to get you up to speed on what a 'black out' could mean for you and your family. The eBook is "A Comprehensive Investigation into Natural Health, Institutional Deception, and the Path to Personal Empowerment. The concept of a "blackout" extends far beyond a mere electrical grid failure or a temporary loss of consciousness; it represents a systemic shutdown of truth, a deliberate suppression of knowledge, and a coordinated effort to keep populations in the dark about their own health, liberty, and sovereignty. Drawing from an extensive body of alternative research, natural health literature, and critical analysis of institutional authority, this report investigates the multifaceted nature of blackouts—both literal and metaphorical—and provides actionable strategies for individuals seeking to reclaim their power in a world engineered to keep them powerless."

The work goes on to encompass concerns on censorship of natural cancer cures and healing modalities, how processed foods and toxic agriculture manufacture dis-ease, a dive into how the pharmaceutical industry has "manipulated medical science to invent diseases exaggerate risks and peddle dangerous drugs" with the heavy use of statins, vaccines, and fabricated diseases. The work continues on examining chemtrails, geoengineering and electromagnetic pollution, along with financial blackouts through CBDCs digital surveillance and the war on privacy, followed up by big tech censorship and the battle for free speech.



Mike Adams, author and founder of BrightAnswers.ai gives you his conclusion, "The path forward requires rejecting the authority of institutions that have proven themselves untrustworthy.. and embracing the principles of self-reliance, natural health, and personal sovereignty that have been systematically blacked out of public consciousness. By educating ourselves .. we can begin to dismantle the blackout one mind at a time. The truth has always been available to those willing to seek it; the only question is whether we have the courage to look beyond the darkness that others have created."

We would recommend you take the time to read free articles on naturalnews.com, as he covers many topics and aspects of the challenges of life we face today - offering useable solutions. Yes he has a marketplace to purchase a variety of foods and products, but it is not necessary to buy anything nor are there paywalls to impede the important messages he delivers. At times he can be a bit over zealous, adds his own comic touches, however, his detailed science based approach to all of these issues and concerns is backed up with his 'geeky' extensive lab work. He also walks the walk he talks.

Mike Adams hosts daily podcasts and brings on a variety of guests for interviews which will keep you busy for many hours of your own expanded research from the links and connections he provides.

With regard to his free eBooks, he has also developed an AI revolutionary self publishing AI generated book engine at BrightLearn.AI - use the QR code above.



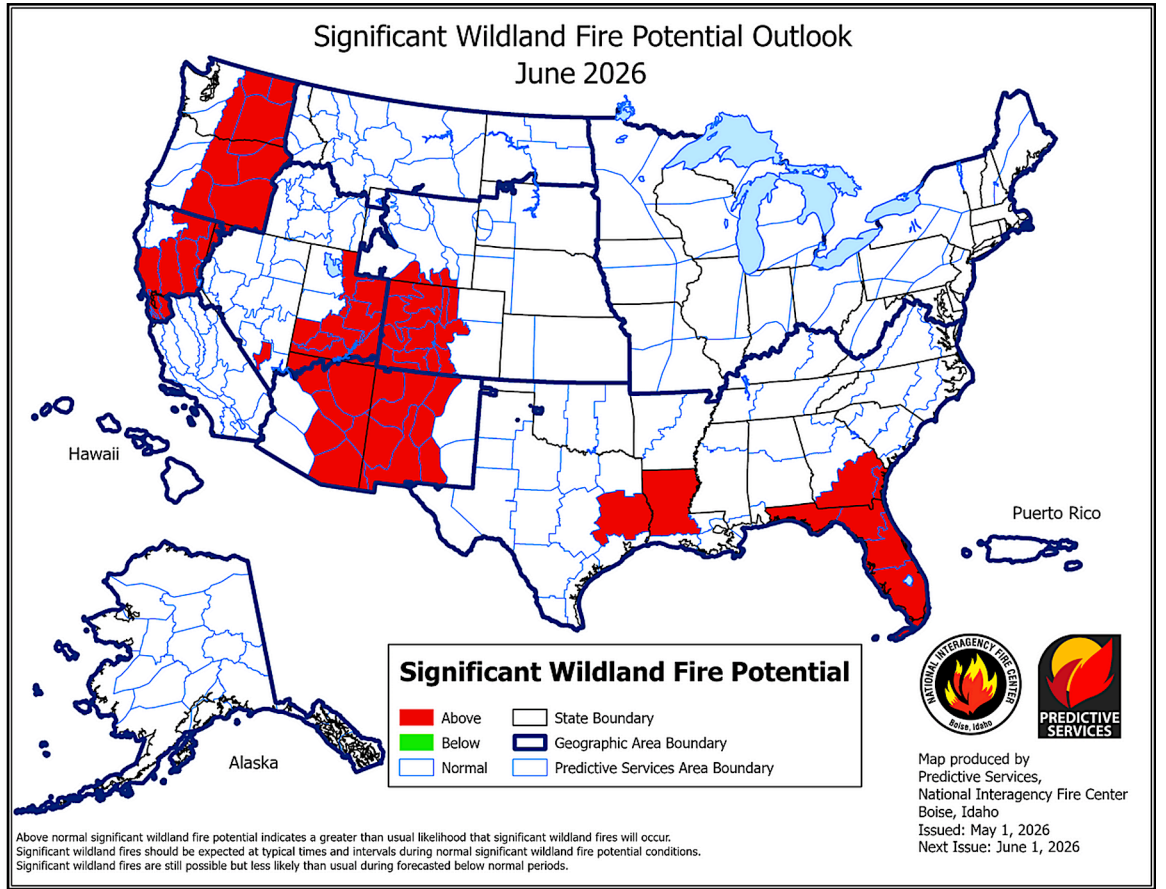
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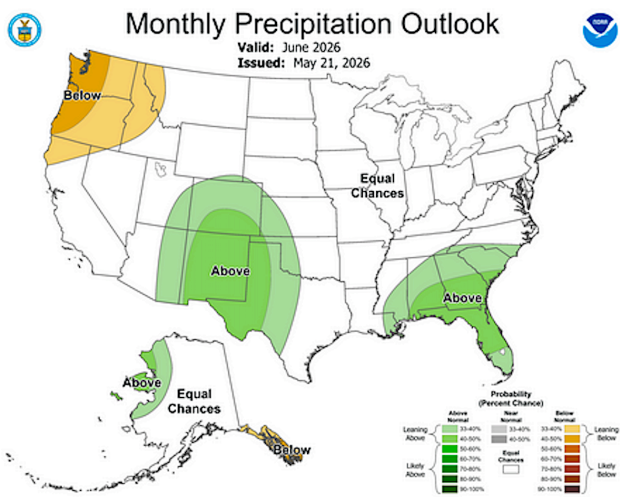
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As of print we have 3.2K followers and continue to grow, as we cover stories in between the Bean - from political issues, election coverage, land and hunting, recreation, arts and music events, the latest road issues, weather, what's happening in Dolores County Colorado, San Miguel, Montrose west end, La Plata, Montezuma, and also Grand and San Juan Counties Utah.

Follow us as we share something new every day!



This is the June projection map for significant wildland fire potential, you can see the four corners is a definite targeted area due to spring dry and windy conditions, continue to watch for Fire Restriction Bans and be proactive to prevent fires.

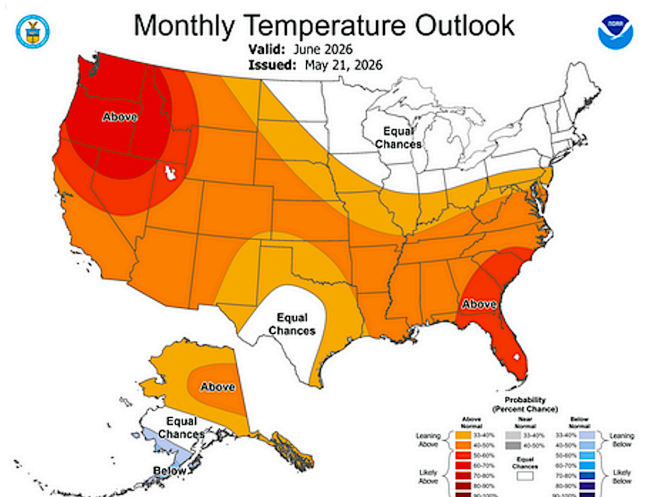


JUNE WEATHER

June may bring in early monsoons - as we officially move into summer time. One concern is if the storms come with lightning and potential to start fires.

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 was gonna tell a railroad joke -
But I lost my train of thought....

What kind of pants does a ghost hunter wear?
Just a paranormal jeans.

What do you call a typo carved into a tombstone?
A grave mistake.

Every day I tell my family I'm going jogging - but I never go.
Now it's basically a running joke...

JUNE WHAT'S UP

Birth Flower - Rose

Birth Stone - Pearl

Zodiac - Gemini - Cancer

- Jun 3 Natl Egg Day
- Jun 4 Natl Cheese Day
- Jun 6 D Day
- Jun 6 Natl Trails Day
- Jun 11 Natl Corn on the Cob Day
- Jun 12 Natl Jerky Day
- Jun 14 Natl Flag Day
- Jun 17 Natl Root Beer Day
- Jun 18 Natl Go Fishing Day
- Jun 19 Juneteenth
- Jun 20 Natl American Eagle Day
- Jun 21 Fathers Day
- Jun 21 Summer Solstice
- Jun 27 Natl Sunglasses Day
- Jun 28 Natl Paul Bunyan Day



Moon Phases

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



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when they are hatched,
they have wings.

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Fermentation Series From Songhaven's Michelle

There are numerous ferments made with soybeans - soy sauce, fermented bean paste, fermented tofu, natto, tempeh and miso. On the Great Sage Plains I am sure soy sauce gets used a fair amount, especially in marinades and stir-fries, but these other ferments are probably quite foreign to the general reader. In this article I want to dive into Miso as it is an item in my fridge that I use on a weekly basis and I think you will do once you've tried it.

The story of miso begins over a thousand years ago, though its exact origins remain somewhat mysterious, like many ferments. Most food historians trace miso's ancestry to ancient China, where fermented soybean products called "jiang" were developed as early as the 3rd century BCE. These early fermented pastes eventually made their way to Japan, likely through Korean Buddhist monks, sometime during the 7th century CE.

Miso is produced through a carefully controlled fermentation process that can take anywhere from a few weeks to several years. The basic ingredients are simple: soybeans, salt, and a fermenting agent called koji (*Aspergillus oryzae*), a beneficial mold cultivated on grains such as rice or barley.

During fermentation, the koji's enzymes break down the soybeans' complex proteins, fats, and carbohydrates into more digestible forms—amino acids, fatty acids, and simple sugars. This transformative process not only creates miso's characteristic umami flavor but also generates a wealth of beneficial compounds that contribute to its health-promoting properties. Miso contains all nine essential amino acids, making it a complete protein source, as well as essential minerals including manganese, copper, and zinc, and various B vitamins.

MISO HUNGRY



The fun thing to discover about miso is that its unique flavor changes as it ages, so a young miso, also called white or golden, will taste drastically different than that of a red miso that is normally aged for 1-1.5 years. I find that I love using the white or golden miso in sweet concoctions that I want just a bit of a complex salty profile, like a buttercream icing for a dark chocolate brownie or cake. The red miso I enjoy putting into marinades or soups, but really this is my preference only and you will have to experiment with these pastes to determine what you like. I should note here that you probably will have a hard time finding miso in the big box stores, but they are readily available in our smaller locally owned grocery stores.

Miso Salad Dressing Ingredients:

2 tablespoons miso paste (white or red)
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 tablespoon sesame oil
1 tablespoon honey or maple syrup
1 tablespoon water (to thin, if necessary)

Instructions:

Mix Ingredients: In a bowl, whisk together miso paste, rice vinegar, soy sauce, sesame oil, and honey/maple syrup until smooth (or use an immersion blender).

Adjust Consistency: If the dressing is too thick, add water a little at a time until desired consistency is reached.

Serve: Drizzle over your favorite salad or use as a dipping sauce for vegetables.

Miso Marinade for Grilled Chicken

Ingredients:

1/4 cup miso paste (red or white)
2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons honey or maple syrup
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
1 teaspoon grated ginger
4 chicken thighs or breasts

Instructions:

Prepare Marinade: In a bowl, combine miso, soy sauce, honey/maple syrup, rice vinegar, and ginger.

Marinate Chicken: Coat the chicken thoroughly with the marinade and let it sit in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes (up to overnight for more flavor).

Grill: Preheat the grill and cook the chicken until fully cooked and browned on the outside.

Serve: Enjoy with steamed vegetables or rice.



Property

Commentary By
Aimee Tooker

The developers of Berlaimont Estates in Eagle County have spent 18 years trying to develop 19 35-acre homesites on an inholding of private land in Eagle County they bought in 2008.

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet and Rep. Joe Neguse have proposed legislation that would prevent the Forest Service from spending any money to build the 2.4 mile approved road across public land.

Conservation groups claim that Forest Service did not follow National Environmental Protection Act. But if they read a little closer NEPA mandates coordination with local municipalities, nowhere does it state that local municipalities are to be forced into submission by groups that have no responsibility to fund necessary public service, nor responsibility to protect the economic stability of the people or the local government.



Berlaimont Estates Photo

“Property in a thing consists not merely in its ownership and possession, but in the unrestricted right of use, enjoyment, and disposal. Anything which destroys any of the elements of property to that extent, destroys the property itself. The substantial value of property lies in its use. If the right of use be denied, the value of the property is annihilated and ownership is rendered a barren right.” by Washington State Supreme Court Justice Richard B. Sanders (Fifth Amendment Treatise, 1997).

Rather than allow and embrace lawsuits by the “collaborators” maybe the Senators need to get back on track with protecting private party rights and the municipality “coordination” requirement mandated by National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Management Policy Act and the US Forest Service Act. 18 years. 2.4 miles. Maybe all the Senators and Representatives need a course from Dave Ramsey on time and money management and a refresher course on land management policies and the US Constitution.

“If you don’t have the right to own and control property then you are property”

- Wane Hage, rancher



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GREEN RIVER NUCLEAR

A new small modular nuclear reactor project may be moving forward in Green River UT after an agreement between Fulcrum Point Holdings and Clue Castle Holdings, gives the project a new direction. The original project proposed a full scale nuclear plant, but years of environmental opposition and court challenges over water, had delayed the process. The Fulcrum Point deal announced at the end of May, it will feature small modular reactors (SMR) similar to the development underway in Brigham City.

The original plan included an industrial power plant park with a 3K megawatts power source. The SMR units that are now being proposed, are designed by Holtec International, that are usually paired together (SMR-300) to provide 640 megawatts of power together. The actual specifics for what might be assembled at the Green River location have yet to be given. One of the advantages of the SMR-300 units is that the system can use air cooling systems instead of huge amounts of water for the cooling aspect. Dr. Rick Springman, President of Holtec International, summed up Holtec’s vision for Utah: “With Holtec’s restart of Palisades Nuclear plant in Michigan ongoing, and the first Holtec SMR-300s, Pioneer 1 & 2, in the NRC licensing process and early site preparation, the work by our partners to acquire sites for next-of-kind deployment in Utah is paramount to our Mountain West expansion strategy as part of Operation Gigawatt. Supply chain development follows reactor deployments, making the advancement of this project crucial to downstream supply chain investments in the state across the nuclear ecosystem.” No timeline for the project was released as of print.



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Green River

June 21 - 26 "Sky full of stars" float RETREAT

Moab

June 4-7 5th annual SE Utah AstroFest
June 6 - 7 The Crystal Festival

Monticello

June 7-8 Arch & Horsehead Golf Tournament
Hideout Golf Course
June 6 & 13 Astronomy tour at Glamping
Canyonlands north of town
June 11-12-13 San Juan Stampede Rodeo 2026
June 20 - 21 Bull Hollow WeBe Raceway Race
June 20 Bears Ears Ultra

Blanding

June 5 -6 Annual Southeast Utah AstroFest
June 11 BEP's Star Party Telescope Viewing

Farmington

June 1 Lowrider Culture in the United States
June 4 Downtown Makers Market
June 5 Joystick Jamboree at the
Farmington Public Library
June 6 Farmington Jazz Festival
in Orchard Park
June 12 - 14 San Juan River Balloon Rally

Flagstaff

June 4 Route 66 Grand Canyon Tour
June 6 Route 66 Centennial Celebration!
June 13 - 14 Flagstaff Folk Festival

Cortez

June 6 Fly Fishing Festival

June 7 Rawhide Auction

June 11-13 Ute Mountain Roundup PRCA
Rodeo utemountainroundup.org
June 27 Cortez Celtic Fair 9am - 6pm

Mancos

June 20 Burrofest

Dolores

June 6 Dolores Riverfest
June 6 The Steakout Fine Meats & Cocktails
Seafood Boil 2pm-9pm
June 13 Community Yard & Flea Sales Day

Durango

May 29 - June 1 Animas River Days
June 5 120th Anniversary Celebration of
Mesa Verde National Park 6pm-9pm
June 6 Steamworks Half Marathon
June 6 Grand Opening of DMCs Car Center
June 6 2nd Annual Rough Stock Challenge
June 6 Bar D Chuckwagon
June 7 Durango Summer Arts & Crafts Fest
June 7 Powerhouse 15th Yr Party
June 10 - PRCA Rodeo
June 13 Durango Farmers Market on Main
June 20 Summer Opening Day Celebration
12:00pm / Purgatory Resort
June 27 Durango Botanic Gardens' Annual
Gardens on Tour

Pagosa Springs

June 2 Stroll of the Three Sisters Tour @
Chimney Rock National Monument
June 12 17th Annual Pagosa Springs Car Show
- Show 'n' Shine 9am -3pm
June 20 - 22 Summer Solstice Sunrise Tour @
Chimney Rock National Monument

Telluride

June 5 -7 Telluride Balloon Festival
June 11 Telluride Food & Vine + The
Telluride Art Walk
June 18 - 21 Telluride Bluegrass Festival
June 25 - 28 Telluride Yoga Festival

Farmington

June 5 Makers Market
June 12 - 14 San Juan River Balloon Rally
June 21 The Mac & Cheese Fest

Nucla Naturita Norwood

June 13 Norwood Music on the Mesa 2026
June 6 Naturita Days in the Park



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BEETLE KILL & MONSOONS

By Sarah Toenin

Across the mountains of Southwest Colorado, vast stretches of red and gray timber continue to mark the legacy of bark beetle outbreaks that transformed forests from the San Juan Mountains to the Dolores and La Plata regions. But a growing debate among foresters, ecologists and rural residents asks an important question: Did the beetles kill the forest — or were the forests already dying?

For years, bark beetles were widely blamed as the primary culprit behind massive tree mortality across Colorado's high country. Species such as the spruce beetle and mountain pine beetle exploded in number during the early 2000s, leaving millions of acres of dead timber across the Rocky Mountain West.

Today, however, many scientists describe the beetles less as the original cause and more as a "stress indicator" attacking forests already weakened by drought, overcrowding, warmer winters and long-term climate shifts.

Healthy trees can often defend themselves against beetle attacks by producing sap that pushes invading insects out. But prolonged drought and heat reduce a tree's ability to generate that natural defense. Warmer winters also allow more beetles to survive and reproduce, accelerating infestations that once would have been naturally controlled by deep freezes.

In Southwest Colorado, many forests had already become unnaturally dense after decades of fire suppression policies that prevented the smaller, lower-intensity fires historically common in the region. Those crowded stands compete heavily for water during dry years, making entire hillsides more vulnerable to disease, insects and catastrophic wildfire.

The result is a forest landscape now filled with standing dead timber, fallen fuel and thick undergrowth — conditions many fire experts say create dangerous wildfire potential.

Dead trees themselves do not always ignite more easily immediately after infestation, but over time the drying timber and heavy fuel loading can contribute to extreme fire behavior, especially when combined with wind, heat and drought. Once dead trees begin falling, they also create difficult conditions for firefighters trying to access remote terrain.

Federal and state agencies continue aggressive forest management efforts throughout Southwest Colorado. The U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State Forest Service and local collaborative groups have expanded thinning projects, prescribed burns and fuel reduction work near communities and critical infrastructure.

Programs around Durango, Pagosa Springs, Cortez and the San Juan National Forest focus heavily on creating defensible space and reducing fuel loads near populated areas.

However, forest managers acknowledge the scale of the problem far exceeds available funding and manpower.

Attention is now turning toward the 2026 monsoon season. Early forecasts suggest a potentially active summer monsoon pattern for the Southwest, which could bring much-needed moisture to drought-stressed forests and reduce immediate fire danger.

But monsoons are a double-edged sword.

While sustained rainfall can improve soil moisture and help slow wildfire spread, strong monsoon systems also bring dry lightning, sudden wind shifts and thousands of lightning strikes across remote mountain terrain. Some of Colorado's largest wildfires have begun during active monsoon periods when lightning ignited forests before heavier rains arrived.

Foresters say one wet season alone is unlikely to reverse long-term forest stress. For many residents of Southwest Colorado, the changing forests represent more than an environmental issue. Beetle kill has altered hunting grounds, watersheds, recreation areas, property values and the visual identity of the mountains themselves.

There are options for single tree and small area mitigations. Matt McCombs, state forester and director of the CSFS said "We can't control the weather, but we can work together to lower the risks these outbreaks create, protect high-value trees and manage fuels."

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Not all Jews and Christians are On Board

Commentary by James Schmidt

In light of a blatantly illegal war, genocide in Gasa, Epstein files, bought-off elections and a host of other shocking revelations, people are starting to ask questions about Zionism.

And while that is a good thing, many are grieved that most of the world equates Jews and Christians with Zionism, when in fact we are not all "on board" with this movement.

This is easy to demonstrate.

Stop for a moment and do a search on YouTube for "Jews burning Israeli flags", and you will find pages of examples. Do an internet search for "Jewish groups that oppose Zionism" and easily find a dozen Jewish groups that oppose Zionism, "Torah Jews" being a good example.

Are these Jews being hateful of Jews? Or course not. They are rather zealous for the honor of their religion and see Zionism as it is, a modern usurper dishonoring their God and their historic and moral sensibilities. Clearly many Jews oppose Zionism, even many in Israel. This should be a wake up call to us all. How so? Propaganda is at work and we are not seeing things as they are.

And in truth Christianity is spiritual; not materialistic or nationalistic. Christianity is about grace, not race and an earthly place (John 4:21). The types and shadows of the Old Testament are completely fulfilled in Christ. Christ is our passover (1Cor 5:7), Christ is our temple and our once-for-all sacrifice (Hebrews chapter 9).

In 2002 over 100 Christian theologians took a stand against Christian-Zionism and wrote this document (it is worth reading): "An Open Letter to Evangelicals and Other Interested Parties: The People of God, the Land of Israel, and the Impartiality of the Gospel". In that paper they demonstrated that the Christian Zionist is in danger of preaching a false gospel, and warned that to adhere to Christian Zionism is to incur blood guilt because it supports Israel in the violent seizure and occupation of Palestinian land. And what do we say today about the genocide perpetrated in Gaza since the 2023 October seventh attack?

And now our current administration is guilty of its own Zionist warmongering.

A friend of mine with a war history degree wrote: "As Christians, we must denounce Trump's barbaric proposal to bomb power plants, bridges, and infrastructure in Iran. No theory of a "Just War" can justify the kind of tactics whose only purpose is to inflict untold suffering upon innocent civilians. Lord, "scatter Thou the people that delight in war." I say, Amen.

SUN PROTECTION UV-C

Residents across SW Colorado and SE Utah often say the sun feels harsher than it did decades ago. Ranchers, farmers, construction crews and longtime outdoor workers describe faster sunburns, more intense heat on the skin and brighter glare at high elevations - concern grows about ozone depletion, Earth's magnetic field and how people protect themselves outdoors.

Scientists have long documented thinning of the ozone layer over parts of the globe, particularly since the late 20th century. The ozone layer, located high in Earth's atmosphere, helps absorb harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun — especially UV-B and nearly all UV-C radiation. International agreements limiting chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) have helped stabilize and partially recover portions of the ozone layer in recent decades, though atmospheric conditions still fluctuate.

At the same time, researchers continue studying changes in Earth's magnetosphere — the magnetic field surrounding the planet that helps shield Earth from charged solar particles and cosmic radiation. Some scientific studies have measured shifts and weakening in portions of the magnetic field over time.

In the high desert elevations of Colorado and Utah, however, UV exposure is naturally more intense regardless. Higher elevations contain thinner atmosphere, meaning less filtering of solar radiation. Snow reflection, dry air and long summer daylight hours can further increase exposure for people working outside.

Some residents believe they are feeling stronger UV radiation than official measurements indicate, particularly during summer afternoons. Concerns occasionally surface about whether small amounts of UV-C — normally blocked almost entirely by the atmosphere — may be reaching the surface during unusual atmospheric conditions. As awareness of sun exposure grows, so does debate over how best to protect against it.

Chemical sunscreens have faced increasing scrutiny in recent years over ingredients such as oxybenzone, octinoxate and other compounds absorbed through the skin or released into waterways. Some studies have raised questions about hormone disruption, environmental impacts and long-term health effects.

That has led many consumers toward mineral-based sunscreens containing zinc oxide or titanium dioxide, along with physical protection methods such as hats, long sleeves and shade.

And sunglasses - some researchers and alternative health advocates argue that constantly blocking sunlight from the eyes may interfere with the body's natural adaptation to sunlight exposure. The theory suggests light entering the eyes helps regulate hormones, circadian rhythms and melanin production that may assist the body in responding naturally to sun exposure.



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THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR / PUBLISHER



Kendra Cook



NEXT WORLD ORDER

New World Order - the concept no longer means a shared international architecture - it appears to be the NWO Next World Order, and a scramble for who's powers align and whether actual 'wars' have to occur to determine the next outcome. So what's on your JUNE Fear Bingo Card? Let's look at the round up: wars, US government personnel changes, Epstein files, UFO files, Tick disease, Ebola back, illegals, immigration, child and drug trafficking, Ukraine Russia Russia Russia, Pakistan in Saudi, Hormuz, Malacca and more squeezes, economic collapse, Inflation or stagflation, AI jobs loss, data centers, war war and more wars, irrelevance of politics, election selection, extreme weather, nanoparticles, plastics non nutritious or toxic foods, drought, wildfires, scarcity, UV exposure, cybersecurity, Digital ID, grid down, internet down, civil liberties, solar flares, carbon taxes, population reduction, vehicle restrictions, control mechanisms making humanity obsolete? Phew. I'm sure I missed some too.

The transition or transformation we, all across the world 'we' are going through, is not from one leader or savior to another, moving one tyrant out to put another in, it's from the external projection to an internal

activation. Every individual is being affected by these massive changes, making their own adjustments, as a feeling of slow anxiety sneaks in day by day with every new headline. The expectations of somehow there is rhyme and reason to the world, is being thrashed to the ground each week. The simplest uniting issue I see is against AI Data centers, which appear to be popping up without concern for property rights, lands, energy or water. For left and right, this simply doesn't feel right - there's no way to justify these centers IF the world was as we have been told it is... where we get energy from, water and other scarcities.. perhaps in this time of revelation the whole 'script will be flipped'. Are we looking at a schism that isn't red or blue, liberal or conservative, but something very different. Do you know if you are on a 'side' - perhaps the split is really humanity vs. other...

As we step into June, the sun enters Gemini—the astrological sign of the Twins. We are reminded also of Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and transitions, depicted with two faces gazing in opposite directions: one looking to the past, the other toward the future. Together, these symbols invite us to explore a concept often misunderstood: duplicity. When we hear the word

"duplicity," our minds often jump to deceit or hidden agendas. But at its core, duplicity simply means having "two states or qualities." You can have your public and private life, you can see both sides of an 'argument' that exist at the same time. Perhaps, when people approach an issue, a concern, a problem, there could be multiple 'time lines' that actually exist - not that one is right the other wrong, but some are on one course, while others on another. However, the parallel train tracks must be going in the same direction for humans - and for most, it would obviously be the hope to be a kind, good, and loving path. But, the split of the impacts of evil, and those with alternative agendas, the Next World Order may well be bringing a complete reset. The world has done this before as we read in ancient texts, so the question I see is, how will you help participate in the "Next" world order on the level of your own community for good.

“Educate and inform the whole mass of the people. They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.”

- Thomas Jefferson

AI DATA CENTER DATA

AI Data Centers are on everyone's radar these days - mega buildings needing extraordinary amounts of energy and water, sometimes using various mechanisms to take property for their expansion - and who is opposing this? If you hadn't heard, Erin Brockovich, well known for her paralegal work against a mega corporation for practices that resulted in health issues in surrounding neighborhoods due to the 'Hinkley groundwater contamination incident' (her story became a movie in 2000 portrayed by Julia Roberts, directed by Steven Spielberg). Go online to her new website, where she is a part of a coordinated effort for a 'community awareness initiative'. There is an updated map showing known Data Centers in operational mode, under construction, proposed and where they are community reported. In the immediate Four Corners, the map only shows one community report in Farmington NM unverified.

The website is encouraging those who are experiencing issues in the communities where these centers are being built or operational, to report; some key concerns are water, wildlife and land, NDAs and secrecy, property values, electricity and the grid, noise levels, schools and children, zoning process, traffic and general health.

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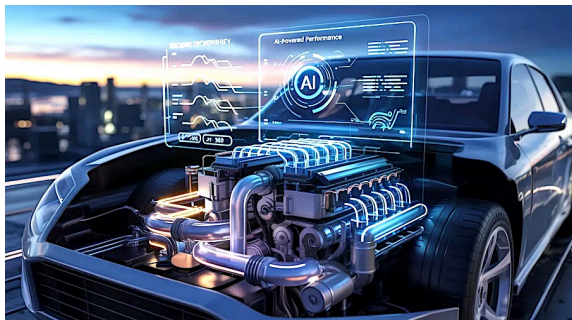
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KILL SWITCH & CLUNKERS



By Kendra Cook and Staff

For decades, Americans viewed their vehicles as symbols of independence — machines you owned, repaired, modified and drove where you pleased. But a growing combination of connected technology, federal regulation, emissions policy and corporate data collection is changing that relationship in ways many rural residents have been questioning and are rightfully upset about.

Modern vehicles now contain dozens of computers, sensors and communication modules. Two of the most important are the TCU (Telematics Control Unit) and systems that generate DTCs, or Diagnostic Trouble Codes. These systems allow vehicles to communicate with manufacturers, dealerships and even third-party data services in real time. What once required a mechanic physically inspecting a vehicle can now be monitored remotely through cellular connections built directly into the vehicle.

Critics say this technology increasingly makes vehicles “tamper resistant” or “permission-based” rather than owner-controlled.

The issue gained national attention after federal regulators accused General Motors and its OnStar system of collecting and



selling driver behavior and location data without clear consumer consent. The Federal Trade Commission finalized an order banning GM from sharing certain driving and geolocation data with consumer reporting agencies for five years. According to the FTC, data collected included speeding, hard braking, late-night driving and precise location tracking.

Some observers connect this trend to broader developments in the automotive industry. In recent years, automakers have filed patents for driver monitoring systems using cameras and biometric analysis. One patent associated with Ford Motor Company described systems capable of assessing driver condition and potentially restricting vehicle operation under certain circumstances. The “Kill Switch”. Supporters argue such technologies could improve safety and reduce impaired driving. Critics worry about privacy, misuse or outside control over personal transportation. The concern is not limited to data collection. Many longtime drivers also point to a gradual policy shift away from older vehicles altogether.

Programs like the 2009 Obama’s “Cash for Clunkers” initiative paid owners to scrap older cars in exchange for newer, more fuel-efficient models. While supporters said the program boosted the economy and reduced emissions, critics argued it permanently removed hundreds of thousands of affordable used vehicles from the market, driving up costs for working-class and rural Americans.

Fuel policy has also become part of the debate. Ethanol blends such as E15 - gasoline containing 15 percent ethanol - continue to expand nationally with support from the powerful corn ethanol industry. Federal support for ethanol production and related incentives has totaled tens of billions of dollars over the years. Some owners of older vehicles, small engines and agricultural equipment remain concerned about compatibility, fuel system wear and reduced performance, despite government approvals for many newer vehicles.

In rural America, where residents may drive 50 to 100 miles for work, groceries, medical care or livestock operations, these changes carry different implications than they do in large cities.

Whether these developments represent technological progress, necessary environmental adaptation, corporate overreach or a combination of all three depends largely on perspective. But one thing is clear: the relationship between Americans and their vehicles is changing rapidly — and for many rural communities, the debate is no longer theoretical.

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NORWOOD CO

Norwood Hill is known for being a potentially dangerous spot on Highway 145, as supported by the percentage of accidents in the area on the hill and below. The Town of Norwood applied for and recently was granted a CDOT Region 5 HSIP for the Norwood Hill Corridor Safety Improvements project totaling \$1.25 million towards work on high risk roadways in the state like this spot.

The hill section is heavily used by both visitors and commuters as the 'west end' has become an expanded workforce location for Telluride businesses, the San Miguel County seat. The use of that route will only increase with the upcoming Mountain Village resort development setting up housing in the west end.

The project timeline is anticipated for 2029 or sooner, but no specific start date has been reported.



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Utah's Community Clean Energy Program consists of 19 communities across the state including Moab UT. This partnership between Rocky Mountain Power and the Utah Renewable Communities, is designed to help participating cities to expand access to renewable energy and to ultimately well diversify the types of energy sources. If the resident is already a member with Rocky Mt. Power, you will automatically be enrolled to add \$4 a month on your electric bill towards this program. If you want to opt out, they indicate there will be two mailings that provide instructions on how to opt out of the program. (They state that those on utility assistance programs will include equivalent support in this program at no additional cost.) This is early notice as the program is expected to launch in 2027.



Also in Moab, the County Commission approved a pilot program for an Arches National Park shuttle with a commitment of \$500,000. A working group provided information to the BOCC, while several community members expressed their desire to slow the process. It was eventually agreed that the money would come through the transient room tax mitigation funds. The contract is contingent on full legal review. When signed, the contract would initiate the operations in September and October 2026, and March through June of 2027. Total costs could be around \$3 million, divided across several agencies and funding sources in Utah. It is not in direct response to the reservation timed entry system that has been stopped at this time, but it is hoped to help reduce congestion on HWY 191 traffic and stabilize visitor flow without losing actual visitation numbers.

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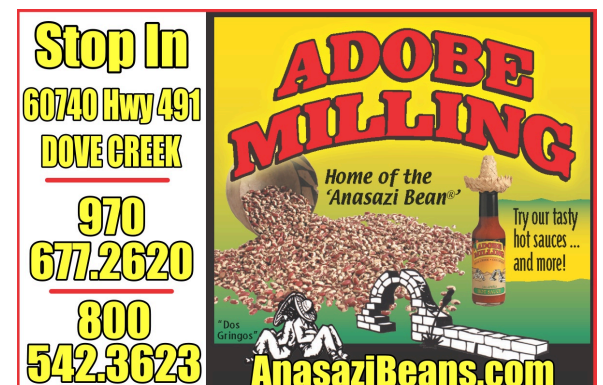
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Ancient 'god' Warning, Modern AI Machines Babel on...

The Staff

The ancient biblical story of the Tower of Babel has resurfaced in current debate - not over bricks and mortar, but over artificial intelligence. In his first major encyclical at the end of May, Magnifica Humanitas ("Magnificent Humanity"), Pope Leo XIV warned that humanity risks constructing a new "Tower of Babel" through unchecked AI development and technological ambition. The reference comes from the Book of Genesis, where humanity, united by one language, sought to build a tower reaching the heavens. According to the biblical account, God intervened by confusing their languages and scattering people across the earth, halting what was viewed as an act of pride and overreach or pride and fear. (Thus the use of a 'babbling idiot' someone talking on but not understood - also brook flowing.) For centuries, the story has symbolized human arrogance, centralized power, and the dangers of pursuing greatness without moral restraint. Now, Pope Leo says the same warning may apply to AI.

"Humanity... is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together," the Pope wrote in the encyclical released at the Vatican.

The document argues that AI itself is not inherently evil, but that the systems surrounding it - massive data collection, automation, military applications, surveillance, and concentration of power in a handful of technology companies - could create social fragmentation and "new forms of dehumanization." The general public is expressing their agreement. The Pope specifically warned that technology pursued solely for profit or dominance risks creating a society where human dignity is secondary to efficiency and control. He also criticized AI-driven warfare, saying, "There is no algorithm that can make war morally acceptable."

The Vatican's concerns echo broader global anxieties surrounding AI in 2026. Across governments, universities, and online communities, debates continue over whether artificial intelligence will improve humanity or deepen inequality, erase jobs, manipulate truth, and centralize unprecedented power. Our ever increasing distrust for those in positions of power would suggest the later. In the Genesis story, the builders of Babel believed human ingenuity could overcome every limit. Pope Leo suggests modern society may now face a similar temptation - believing artificial intelligence can solve every problem while ignoring moral, spiritual, and human consequences. In today's world, just which 'god' would be the 'punisher' is an interesting further debate - including those who see AI itself as



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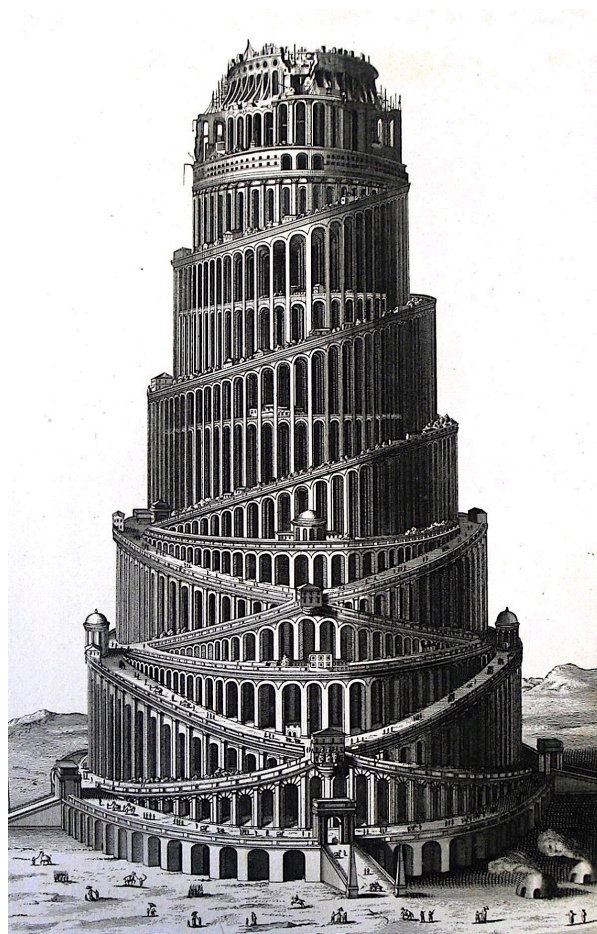
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Tower of Babel
Robert Bowyer (1758-1834)

becoming 'god'. You can view AI as a revolutionary tool or a looming threat, or perhaps it is both. The Pope's message places an ancient warning into a distinctly modern conversation: technological progress without wisdom may further divide humanity.

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Thucydides Trap - Works for today too
https://bibliotecapleyades.net/ciencia4/historia_humanidad443.htm

AI remote control Human Brain
<https://www.globalresearch.ca/lose-freedom-thought-wont-realize-it/5925445>

Lifting the Veil Occult Tech behind UFOs
<https://www.newdawnmagazine.com/articles/lifting-the-veil-the-occult-technology-behind-ufo>

Skills worth Knowing when No Internet
<https://www.lateprepper.com/p/print-it-save-it-learn-it-the-skills>



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For the Love of Food

By Kendra Cook

June is usually BBQ weather - from Father's day to weekends on a boat, camping, fishing, or just backyard hang outs. (Be aware of any fire restrictions and grill responsibly.) This month's corn featured dip is delicious as an appetizer to keep your group satisfied while you're grilling up the main feature.

If you've enjoyed 'mexican street corn', this mix will bring all those flavors together one scoop at a time. It's not complicated to make, and sure to please. Based on "Elote", the street treat that is an ear of shucked corn grilled to release the sweet nutty flavor and rich color. It's then coated with a combo of garlic, cilantro, chili powder, mayo, and cotija cheese, often with a squeeze of lime right before serving.

How to make this into a dip? First you can boil the corn in water with some of the chili spices and salt, sauté the diced red onion then add the diced garlic for the last two minutes. Drain off the corn water, and grill the corn to char it off. Slice off some of the corn into 2-3 row pieces that are cut into two inch lengths that will go on top of the dish. Cut the rest of the corn off the cobs and crumble into single kernel pieces. (You can make this dish with frozen corn, but getting the char on the kernels really adds that nutty flavor.) Place the kernel corn into a bowl, and add on top the butter first to melt in, then mayo, cream cheese, sour cream and sprinkle the spice mix and salt to taste over that, then gently blend the spices thoroughly into the mixture. Add in the

Mexican Street Corn Dip



onion, garlic and cotija cheese and work that through. Top with the cilantro and the lime juice. Serve with corn chips, using purple and yellow mix creates a festive inviting display. (You can make it ahead and refrigerate, then warm it up and top with the lime and cilantro garnish to serve).

Ingredients

- 6 ears Corn
- 2 tsp Chili powder*
- 1 tsp Smoked paprika*
- 1/2 tsp Cayenne pepper *
- 1/2 c diced red onion
- 1 tbsp evoo
- 2 cloves garlic
- Kosher salt
- 8 oz softened cream cheese
- 1/4 c Sour cream /mexican crema
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/4 c mayo
- 1 tbsp fresh lime juice
- 1/2 c cotija cheese
- Fresh cilantro torn
- *more mexican seasonings for boiling



CORN MAIZE TEOSINTE

Corn is the backbone of many iconic dishes out of Mexico - from enchiladas, quesadillas, to tacos and tamales. In the US, the flour tortilla has grown to be popular, but south of the border, maize is the star. The Mexico and Central America region has been home to many civilizations (that we know of) from Olmec, Toltec, Aztec, Zapotec and Mayan. The big kernel corn we have today may have started small. (The genetically modified versions modified not just for more kernels, but to defeat bugs, defend against pests and diseases by not dying from pesticides etc. is why there are health concerns on consuming GMO corn.)

Studies have found a wild grass called teosinte that mainstream outlets believe is the origin of corn from thousands of years ago, with small stony seeds. The commonly known selective breeding process - very old - of saving the seeds with the most desired properties and inter breeding or cross breeding other varieties also adds to the development of what corn has grown to be today.



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Tips to help you lower those summer cooling bills!

- ✓ Keep blinds, shades, and curtains closed on sun-facing windows during the day to prevent the greenhouse effect and reduce indoor temperatures.
- ✓ Ceiling fans can create a cooling effect of up to 4°F, allowing for a higher thermostat setting while keeping comfortable. In summer, set the blades to rotate counterclockwise to push air downward effectively.
- ✓ Install a programable thermostat. Set it to a higher temperature while you're away, and program it to cool down your home thirty minutes before you arrive. We have rebates for programable thermostats. For more details go to our website eea.coop.
- ✓ Clean or replace filters monthly during high-use periods. A dirty filter slows airflow and forces the system to use more energy.



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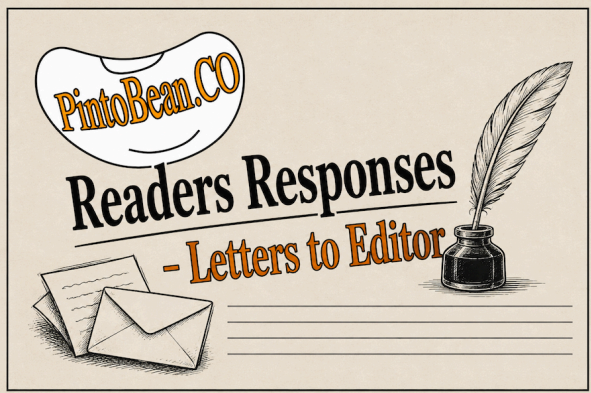
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Use the QR Code to read the entire Letters to the Editor / Reader Response - limited space in print, see full details online.



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



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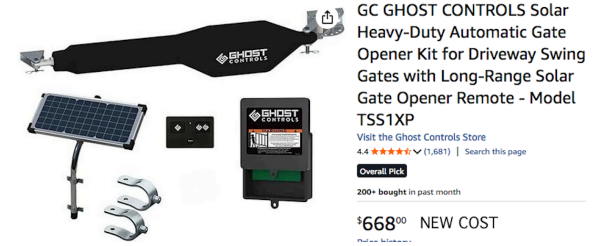
The **Town of Dove Creek** is currently hiring for: **Town Manager**

The Town Manager is under the general direction of the Town Board of Trustees to manage, direct, and supervise the daily activities and programs of the town. Provide professional guidance, leadership, and advice to the Town Board of Trustees. Direct the daily activities and programs of the Town through the Town's departments. Develops and maintains quality customer service to citizens and promote consistency and transparency in the Town's actions. Administer all Town departments, except the Town Clerk, Town Attorney and Municipal Judge. Serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees. Actively support and uphold the Town of Dove Creek's mission and values.

This position will be a full-time position, and the pay is bi-weekly with a salary of \$75,000.00 plus benefits annually. A background check, clean driving record and clean drug test will be required prior to employment and a drug test may be requested at any time during employment. A job description for this position and an employment application may be obtained at the Dove Creek Town Hall, (314 W HWY 491, Dove Creek, CO 8324) M-Th 7:30am-4:30pm or online at <https://townofdovecreek.colorado.gov>. Any person interested in applying for this position must submit a cover letter, resume, list of references, and employment application. Please send all correspondence, completed applications, or direct any questions to info@townofdovecreek.com, 970-677-2255. All information must be received by June 25, 2026, by 4:30pm to be considered for the position. Failure to include all requested information will result in the application not being considered for any position with the Town of Dove Creek.

Classifieds

\$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. \$2/ additional lines. Ask about Agency Notices.



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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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The Pinto Bean Facebook page runs two groups, one for Job Listings in the Four Corners Region - the other is for Four Corners Events - both are places you can share or make a post for free. The print paper has limited space, so if you'd like to pay for a Job posting or include an Event advertisement, send an email to: Editor@PintoBean.CO

TOWN OF NUCLA: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT The Town of Nucla is currently accepting applications for the following career opportunities within our newly restructured department: Public Works Director / Superintendent (Full-Time, Exempt) Public Works Level II – Lead Technician (Full-Time, Non-Exempt) Public Works Level I – Maintenance Worker (Full-Time, Non-Exempt) Application Deadline: Thursday, June 18, 2026, by 5:00 PM How to Apply: Full job descriptions, qualification requirements, and our official employment application form are available online. Please visit: townofnucla.colorado.gov and navigate to the "Jobs & Bids" section. Physical applications may also be picked up or dropped off in person at Nucla Town Hall (320 Main St.) during regular business hours: Monday through Thursday, 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Town of Nucla is an Equal Opportunity Employer

"Dove Creek: Fight or Die"
From: "A Concerned Dove Creek Resident"
"First things first, I am not a Dove Creek native. For those who immediately dismiss the opinions of anyone from outside the local community, now is the time to stop reading. For everyone else, let's address the situation directly.
I did not grow up in Dove Creek. I spent the first half of my childhood in a coastal state and finished high school in western Colorado communities along the I-70 corridor. Before anyone labels me as "one of them,"
I want to be clear: my family and I made a deliberate effort to acclimate to our new surroundings. We respected local precedent and values before offering ideas from our past experiences. This approach helped us integrate and become productive members of western Colorado. Respect for others and their beliefs has always been a core part of our family life.
With that said, let me first share why I believe Dove Creek is Somewhere Special. I have lived here for several years, and I see it as a great town in which to live and raise a family. The people here clearly love Dove Creek. What stands out most is the tight-knit community, the shared values, and the willingness to help neighbors in need. Most residents demonstrate the principle of "Love thy neighbor" in meaningful ways. This is a community of hard-working people who step up when things need to get done. For the most part, that strong work ethic has kept serious crime from becoming a major issue.
Unfortunately, there is another side to the story. After living here and observing the local dynamics for years, I have come to a difficult conclusion: Dove Creek is declining, and time is running out to reverse course."

The letter continues available online for the month - <https://PintoBean.co/responses-from-readers> - use QR code above.



DOLORES COUNTY

LaRita Randolph
County Clerk

Dolores County Clerk and Recorder
PO Box 58 • Dove Creek, CO 81324
Phone: (970) 677-2381
Email: County.Clerk@DoloresCountyCO.gov

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION
June 30, 2026**

ELECTORS OF DOLORES COUNTY

Election Date: Tuesday June 30, 2026
Election Type: Mail Ballot
Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC): Dolores County Courthouse – Clerk & Recorder's Office
409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek, CO
Days & Hours of Operation for VSPC: *June 22-26, (M-F) & June 29, 2026 – 8:00am-4:00 pm*
Saturday, June 27, 2026 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Election Day Location: *June 30, 2026 - 7:00 am. – 7:00 pm*
409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek, CO – Clerk & Recorder's Office
ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE LOCATED ON EAST SIDE OF BUILDING.
By Mail: Add appropriate postage and *mail ASAP so it arrives by June 30.*
Ballot Drop Box: **Drop Box – Available 06/22/2026 – 24/7 until 7:00PM**
06/30/26, 409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek (West Side)
Ballot Content: Primary Election – Federal– State – Local, by Party

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Dolores this May 18, 2026 at Dove Creek Colorado.

LaRita Randolph
Dolores County Clerk & Recorder
Dolores County, Colorado

Official Ballot for Democratic Party Primary Election
Dolores County, Colorado
Tuesday, June 30, 2026
Ballot Type: DEM
Ballot Style: DEM
Return only one ballot. If your mail ballot packet contains ballots for both the Democratic and Republican Parties, mark and return only one ballot and destroy the other. If you mark and return both party ballots, neither will count.
To vote for a named candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice. Use blue or black ink.
To make a correction in a race with more than one candidate, draw a bold line through the oval and candidate name marked by mistake, then fill in the oval next to the correct name. To withdraw a vote for the only candidate in a race, you must request a replacement ballot.
WARNING: Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both. Section 1-7.5-107(3)(b), C.R.S.
Federal Offices: United States Senator (Vote for One) Julie Gonzales, John Hickenlooper, Representative to the 120th United States Congress - District 3 (Vote for One) Alex Kelloff, Dwayne L. Romero
State Offices: Attorney General (Vote for One) Jena Griswold, David Seligman, Michael Dougherty, Hetal Doshi, State Board of Education Member - Congressional District 3 (Vote for One) Barb Clementi
Governor (Vote for One) Phil Weiser, Michael Bennet
Secretary of State (Vote for One) Amanda Gonzalez, Jessie Danielson
State Treasurer (Vote for One) Jeff Bridges
County Commissioner District 1 (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Clerk and Recorder (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Treasurer (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.

Mark both sides of the ballot

Official Ballot for Republican Party Primary Election
Dolores County, Colorado
Tuesday, June 30, 2026
Ballot Type: REP
Ballot Style: REP
Return only one ballot. If your mail ballot packet contains ballots for both the Democratic and Republican Parties, mark and return only one ballot and destroy the other. If you mark and return both party ballots, neither will count.
To vote for a named candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice. Use blue or black ink.
To vote for an eligible write-in candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of the write-in line and print the name of the candidate on the line. If a race does not contain a write-in line, you cannot vote for a write-in candidate.
To make a correction in a race with more than one candidate, draw a bold line through the oval and candidate name marked by mistake, then fill in the oval next to the correct name. To withdraw a vote for the only candidate in a race, you must request a replacement ballot.
WARNING: Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both. Section 1-7.5-107(3)(b), C.R.S.
Federal Offices: United States Senator (Vote for One) Mark Baisley, Representative to the 120th United States Congress - District 3 (Vote for One) Ron Hanks, Jeff Hurd
State Offices: Attorney General (Vote for One) Michael J. Allen, David Willson, State Board of Education Member - Congressional District 3 (Vote for One) Sherri M Wright
Governor (Vote for One) Scott Bottoms, Victor Marx, Barb Kirkmeyer, Write-In: _____
Secretary of State (Vote for One) James Wiley
State Treasurer (Vote for One) Kevin Grantham
County Commissioner District 1 (Vote for One) Jerry Baxter
County Clerk and Recorder (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Treasurer (Vote for One) Taylor L. Funk

Mark both sides of the ballot

Official Ballot for Libertarian Party Primary Election
Dolores County, Colorado
Tuesday, June 30, 2026
Ballot Type: LBR
Ballot Style: LBR
Return only one ballot. If your mail ballot packet contains ballots for both the Democratic and Republican Parties, mark and return only one ballot and destroy the other. If you mark and return both party ballots, neither will count.
To vote for a named candidate, completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice. Use blue or black ink.
To make a correction in a race with more than one candidate, draw a bold line through the oval and candidate name marked by mistake, then fill in the oval next to the correct name. To withdraw a vote for the only candidate in a race, you must request a replacement ballot.
WARNING: Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both. Section 1-7.5-107(3)(b), C.R.S.
State Offices: Secretary of State (Vote for One) Sean Vadney, Alex Astley

SAMPLE

Dolores County Offices
County Assessor (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Sheriff (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Surveyor (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Coroner (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.

SAMPLE

Dolores County Offices
County Assessor (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Sheriff (Vote for One) Krista M Schear
County Surveyor (Vote for One) There are no candidates for this office.
County Coroner (Vote for One) Aaron Hankins

SAMPLE

Mark both sides of the ballot

Mark both sides of the ballot

DOLORES COUNTY PRIMARY

Check with your local County Clerk for Primary Ballot information. May 18 2026, Dolores County Clerk and Recorder LaRita Randolph signed the public notice stating the following: The Dolores County Clerk and Recorder released the public notice of general election June 30, 2026 by mail ballot, voter service and polling center (VSPC) is Dolores County Courthouse - Clerk & Recorder's Office 409 N Main St Dove Creek CO, open June 22-26 (M-F) & June 29, 2026 - 8am to 4pm, Saturday June 27 8am to 12pm.

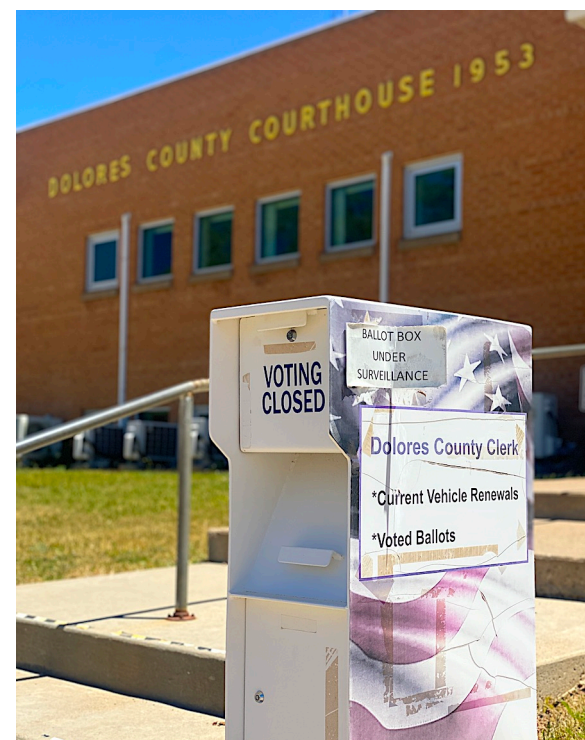
Election Day June 30, 2026 7am to 7pm 409 N Main St Dove Creek CO Accessible Entrance Located on the East Side of the Building. By mail, add appropriate postage and mail ASAP so it arrives by June 30 2026. There is also the Drop Box, available 6/22/26 24/7 until 7pm 6/30/26 on the west side of 409 N Main St. Dove Creek. The Ballot content is for Primary Election - Federal - State - Local by party.

There will be three party ballots - Libertarian, Republican and Democrat. The "sample" ballots are printed above to fit, and will be available on our website to view for Dolores County PintoBean.CO

Libertarian sample ballot shows Secretary of State Office: Sean Vadney or Alex Astley.

Republican sample ballot shows: Federal - US Senator Mark Baisley, Rep to 120th US Congress Dist. 3 Rob Hanks, Jeff Hurd. State Offices, Governor: Scott Bottoms, Victor Marx, Barb Kirkmeyer, or write in. Sec of State James Wiley. State Treasurer Kevin Grantham. Attorney General Michael J Allen, David Willson, State Board of Education Member Congressional List. 3 Sherri M Wright, State Rep District 58 Larry Don Suckla. Dolores County Offices: County Commissioner District 1 Jerry Baxter, no County Clerk and Recorder, County Treasurer Taylor L Funk, no County Assessor, County Sheriff Krista M Schear, no County Surveyor, County Coroner Aaron Hankins.

Democrat sample ballot shows: Federal - US Senator Julie Gonzales, John Hickenlooper, Representative to the 120th US Congress Dist. 3 Alex Kelloff, Dwayne L Romero. State Offices, Governor Phil Weiser, Michael Bennet. Sec of State Amanda Gonzalez, Jessie Danielson. State Treasurer Jeff Bridges, Attorney General Jena Griswold, David Seligman, Michael Dougherty, Hetal Doshi. State Board of



Education Member Congressional Dist 3 Bar Clementi, State Rep District 58 Susannah Smith. Dolores County Offices, County Commissioner Dist 1 no candidate, County Clerk and Recorder no candidate, County Treasurer no candidate, County Assessor no candidate County Sheriff no candidate, County Surveyor no candidate, County Coroner no candidate.

NOTE - Unaffiliated Candidates are currently in the process of petitioning to be on the November Election Ballot, for all of the same categories. There are no 'unaffiliated' primaries.

WATER AND FIRE

By Dexter Gill

The news and internet are rampant with concerns over the West drying up and burning up, blaming it on Climate Change caused by man existing, living, and creating economy on the Earth. While that is pure baloney, man's actions clearly impacts the results of the constantly changing climate and weather, on himself and others. The current foo-fa-rah is the drought and wildfire conditions, which are naturally occurring periodic events. What have we done to prepare for the next 1930's drought? Is this year the beginning? Probably not, but it is a very good "wake up call"! The river boaters are in panic mode that the federal government is not doing their job to provide for them.

What has the government not been doing? Managing the forested watersheds! Back in 1897, the national forests were authorized, 16 U.S. Code 475, to be established and administered for the purposes "to improve and protect the forest within the boundaries, or for the purpose of securing favorable conditions of water flows, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States. Note the last four words, "citizens of the United States". Was that "Nationalizing" lands and resources that had been designated to be the State of Colorado? That was just 21 years earlier, albeit for good cause, WATER and ECONOMY. The first "government land grab"?

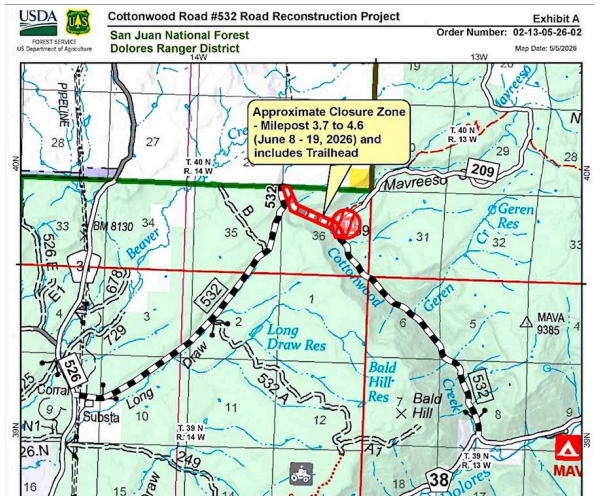
In 1960, Sixty Three (63) years later, which is the time for the next generation of politicians to be in control, the Multiple Use

and Sustained Yield Act was passed, which expanded the "uses" to be considered on the Forests, which included numerous recreation activities, but did not reduce the "Purpose" of WATER FLOW and TIMBER (economy). The Nation and States were building economy and the "Forests" were an integral part of life in the local economies of Counties and States. But Alas!

In 1976, just sixteen (16) years later, the "Federal Lands Policy Management Act" (FLPMA) was enacted, that locked up all the National Forests and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands into federal ownership in perpetuity, not part of States. New "Plans" were instituted at the same time for the National Forests via the "National Forest Management Act", (NFMA), which drastically changed both the 1897 and 1960 Acts. It eliminated managing the forests for timber, which is necessary for economically managing for WATER and protecting from wildfire damage. It switched to Recreation and environmental safeguards to maintain "Biodiversity" of the environment, a COST to taxpayers! It further gave ALL public, Maine to CA, including Tax exempt NGO's, the right to review all proposed management actions and sue the agencies., resulting in today's "Enviro NGO Land Grab" control. This has ended much good and economic management of the Forests for WATER and ECONOMY over the past 50 years by the recent generation of politicians, making the Public Lands and Forests more vulnerable to effects of drought including poor water flows, wildfires, and economic losses throughout States and Counties.

The recent move to decentralize the Forest

Service into each State is an "opportunity" to restore some level of State sovereignty over the lands and resources that were awarded to it in the Statehood Compact. The Enviro NGO's are beside themselves over this. Where do we go from here?



The San Juan National Forest has begun reconstruction of National Forest System Road (NFSR) 532, also known as Cottonwood Road. This project will continue through July, 2026, and temporary closures and delays will be required during reconstruction. Cottonwood Road is located north of the town of Dolores, Colo. on the Dolores Ranger District. The project will improve safety and access along the route, as well as making it more viable for timber hauling.

A full road closure will be required for the replacement of the Mavreeso Creek bridge, which will take place between June 8 and June 19 (see map). This closure will only impact a small segment of the Cottonwood Road between milepost 3.7 to and 4.6. The closure will prevent users from traveling from the Dolores Norwood road to the West Dolores road and visa versa. There will be no through traffic.



Moab Farmers Market
100 West and Park Drive
May Thu: 5:00 PM-8:00 PM

FROM FARM TO TABLE FARMERS MARKETS ARE OUR FUTURE BUY LOCAL SUPPORT YOUR FARMERS & RANCHERS

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORTATION.**



Dove Creek Local Market
Town Hall Building HWY
491 Saturdays July - Oct



Durango Farmers Market
8AM to noon TBK Parking Lot
Durango, CO Sat. Mornings



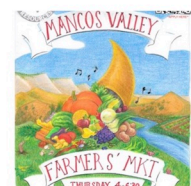
Telluride Farmers Market
May 29th 10:30am to
3:30PM South Oak Street



Cortez Farmer's Markets
20 S. Elm 7:30am - 11:30am
Saturdays June



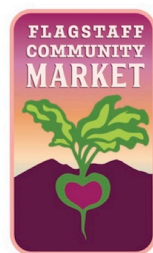
West End Community Market
152 East Main Street, Naturita,
CO June on Sat. 10am to Noon



Mancos Valley Farmers Market
Thursday Evenings to 6:30PM
Boyle Park in Mancos, CO



Bayfield Farmer's Market
Location: 1328 CR 501
Bayfield, Colorado
Saturdays 8:30am - 12pm



Flagstaff Community Market
Sunday Market
May 2026 8-1 pm
City Hall 211 W Aspen Ave



Dolores Farmers Market
Wednesdays 4 to 7PM
Flanders Park, Dolores CO



Farmington Growers' Market
Farmington Museum
Sat @ 9am to Noon



Ridgway Farmers Market
Hartwell Park, Ridgway, CO.
May 22 Every Friday 10AM - 2PM

Blanding UT
Farmers Market

Green River UT
Dunhams Stand

Bluff Farmers Market
Wednesday 5:30-7:00
Under big tree ~ from K & C

DOLORES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ACTIVITY REPORT: 03/24/2026-05/26/2026

- 3/27/2026 – A report of a tanker rollover was received. The/re were no injuries and the vehicle was removed.
- 3/29/2026- Received a request for assistance in Egnar with a possible domestic violence and DUI. The possible domestic violence is in San Miguel County's jurisdiction.
- 3/31/26- One individual was remanded into custody in court.
- 4/01/2026- A report of threats and harassment was reported involving juveniles.
- 4/15/2026- Multiple reports of students being harassed were received. Information was passed along to the school district and Deputies assisted.
- 4/16/2026- A vehicle fire was reported. By the time the call was received, the vehicle was fully engulfed. DCVFD put out the fire and deputies kept the scene safe.
- 4/17/2026- A purse was reported stolen out of a vehicle in the Superette parking lot. Incident is under investigation.
- 4/24/2026- A report of at least a \$10,000 theft was made. Incident is under investigation.
- 4/27/2026- An arrest was made on Michael Colton Bailey on an arrest warrant for burglary charges.
- 4/28/2026- An arrest was made on Cayden Micheal Martinez on an arrest warrant.
- 4/30/2026- A vehicle was reported to have

- driven into the side of the Lunch Box. There were no injuries.
- 5/10/2026- A county resident was scammed out of money. The individual was advised where to report the incident.
- 5/12/2026- An arrest was made on Nichole Alexandra Smith on an arrest warrant for a traffic violation.
- 5/12/2026- A report was made of a theft from an individual's vehicle in Rico.

- Incident under investigation.
- 5/23/2026- A caller reported the window on their vehicle was broken overnight. Incident is under investigation.

Dolores County
Colorado
Sheriff Office



VOICES AND VOTES
DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA

EXHIBITION AND EVENTS!

June 8 - August 7, 2026
Moab Arts Center, 111 E 100 N, Moab, UT

Exhibit Hours
Mon - Wed: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thurs: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Exhibition • Story Slam
Guest Lecture • Workshops
Activities, Games & More!

MOAB ARTS
UTAH HUMANITIES
IDEAS IN ACTION

Smithsonian

Voices & Votes: Democracy in America is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution, Utah Humanities, and Moab Arts.

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OIL (wti)	\$114.09 ↓	\$87.36
NATURAL GAS (Henry Hub)	\$2.77 ↑	\$3.29
Live Cattle	\$2.58 ↓	\$2.49
Feeder Cattle	\$3.74 ↓	\$3.49
WHEAT (winter)	\$10.00	\$10.00
BEANS	\$28.00	\$28.00

sources: Business Insider / tradingeconomics / CSU & Local Producers

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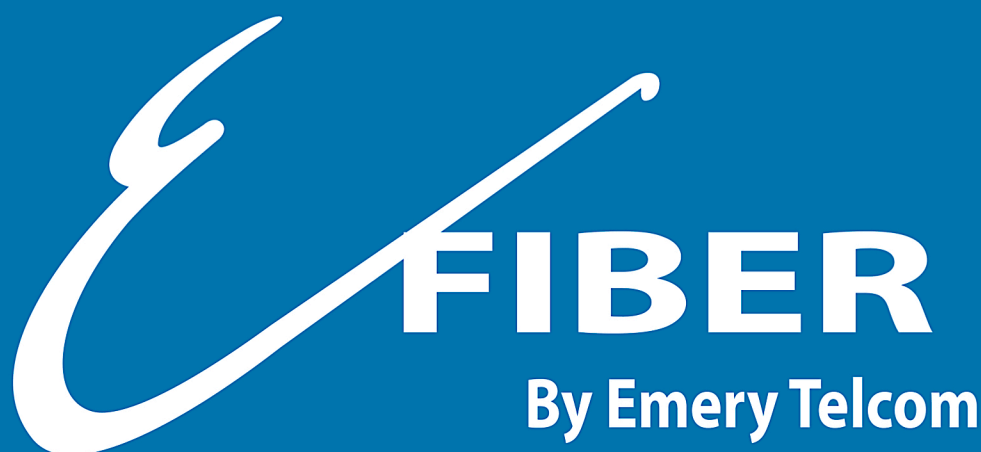
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