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OCTOBER 2026 Dove Creek, Colorado Dolores County - "*Hidden Gems of the SW*" Activities and News Along the SWAC & Four Corners

FALL FOOD STORAGE SMARTS

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 10



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dove Creek Beat
Elections
Odd Cat & Book Review
Notices Weather &...
Mapping
Martial Arts
Beyond the means...
Family Link
SWACTV Events
Restauranting Shop Local
Ambulances
Spill the Beans
State of Real Estate
Four Corners News
Fall Fly Ins
Deep Dives - Links
For the Love of Food
Classifieds & Jobs
The World Stinks
Hunting Schedules
Water Woes
EPA WOTUS
Dolores County Sheriff
Commodities

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or call
970-394-0410

LEARN FROM THE BEARS...

By Kendra Cook

With cooler weather settling into the Four Corners, harvest season is a natural reminder that a well-stocked pantry is one of the oldest forms of self-reliance — and increasingly relevant as food and fuel prices stay volatile. Fall is the ideal time to can, dry, and store food for the months ahead. With bears in the news, as they search to fatten up for their hibernation, we could take a page from their natural instincts, and do some fall prep to be ready no matter what this winter brings.

A few common myths keep families from even starting, from 'it's too expensive' to needing a 'full pantry' and lots of specialized equipment. But a reasonable stockpile doesn't take a big upfront investment, it takes planning and dedication. Add a few shelf-stable items to each grocery trip, if you are fortunate to have surplus produce from the garden learn how to can, and be sure to stick to foods your family already eats.

As to actual storage - jars, sealed bags, and airtight containers can be tucked into closets, basements, and even under beds. Keep track of what you have and work the plan to use up old staples to rotate your food. More than ever there are also large cans and freeze dried items that can last many years, so it's actually an investment in you and your family.

Another myth: Preserved food tastes bad. Properly canned or freeze dried produce keeps most of its original vitamins, minerals, and flavor, and rehydrates well in cooking. And a tip on putting a lot of your food supply in freezers - power outages or compressor failures. You likely know yourself, or a friend, that has experienced a freezer full of meats and food that shuts off and you loose a lot of investment. A primary problem is that most storage freezers are set in a garage and not checked on, so at the sign of bloody water and a dank smell, the home owner has a proper mess on hand. Another challenge with being confident you have stored frozen nutrition, is not using the frozen food in a timely manner, so that it dries out, gets freezer burn, and eventually you end up throwing something out especially if it's not labeled or stuck to the freezer wall. That's where a little time and effort can protect your investment.

In these days, you can truly think of your food and water supplies as your investment in your future.

Preparedness advocates emphasize that the goal isn't stockpiling out of fear, but building steady, practical resilience — one jar, one bucket, and one grocery trip at a time.

This article is for general informational purposes and is not a substitute for guidance from your local extension office or a food safety professional. A good resource is your local University Extension office for guidance and classes.

"Fall is the best time of year to put up what the garden gave you — before winter takes the choice away."

PINTOBEAN.CO ONLINE

Always New Monthly Rabbit Hole

Dolores County School District RE-2J

Oct 1 Middle School Football Playoff
Oct 2 High School Volleyball (H) Cortez
Oct 3 Middle School Volleyball @Nucla Tri (Nucla/Telluride)
High School JV Football (H) Norwood
Oct 5 Middle School Boys Basketball Practice
KB (H) DC
School Pictures
Oct 6-7 FFA Hesperus
Oct 6 Middle School Volleyball (H) Mancos
Oct 8 High School Volleyball @Cortez
Oct 10 Middle School Volleyball SJBL Tourn
Middle School Boys Basketball @Telluride
High School Volleyball (H) Ouray
Oct 13 High School Volleyball (H) Dolores
Oct 14 High School JVFootball @Monticello
Oct 15 Mid Term
Middle School Boys Basketball (H) Nucla
High School Volleyball @Ouray
Oct 17 Middle School Boys Basketball @Ouray
Oct 19-22 Red Ribbon Week
Oct 19 KB @Telluride
Oct 20 Middle School Boys Basketball @Dolores
High School Volleyball @Nucla
Oct 21 School Board Meeting
Oct 22 FFA Chapter Speaking Night
Oct 24 Middle school Boys Basketball (H) Ridway
Oct 27 Middle School Boys Basketball (H) Mancos
High School Volleyball (H) Telluride
Oct 30-31 High School Volleyball SJBL Tournament



WANTED

local talented artists, jewelry exhibitors, photographers, crafters, cooks, and more to showcase their talents and treasures at the

Dove Creek Community Center's 34th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Date: 11/7/26 Saturday
Time: 10:00 am till 2:00 pm
Cost: $30 per table, plus completed Vendor Contract

Come get a jump on your holiday shopping and enjoy some great food and holiday treats! There will be unique gift ideas for everyone on your list! Be sure to come hungry and enjoy the famous Dove Creek Church chili dinner! Vendors must complete a vendor contract and must also contact Kristy Chadd to verify booth reservations. To sign up for a table or for more information please contact Kristy Chadd at dcrecdirector@townofdovecreek.com

NOVEMBER IS BEST FOR YOUR SEASONAL SALES! deadline 10/28



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VOTE NOV 3rd 2026

Mid-Term elections are upon us. The candidates are actively pursuing your vote, no matter what 'race' it is, local, state and national. In Colorado the state sends out a 'blue book' to help registered voting citizenry learn about the various propositions and amendments that will be voted on. Be sure to check that out to make the best educated decision. It comes to your mailing address on your voter registration. If you need to change your address, you can do it online or go in to the County Clerk office. As for any County, if you are registered to vote and did not receive a ballot in the mail, you can go to the appropriate courthouse and request a replacement ballot, obviously you are only able to submit one ballot or your vote will be disqualified when the voting is calculated.

There are 14 statewide measures on the 2026 CO ballot. Of these, six propose changes to the state constitution, seven propose changes to the state statutes, and one proposes changes to both. QR link:

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
November 3, 2026

ELECTORS OF DOLORES COUNTY

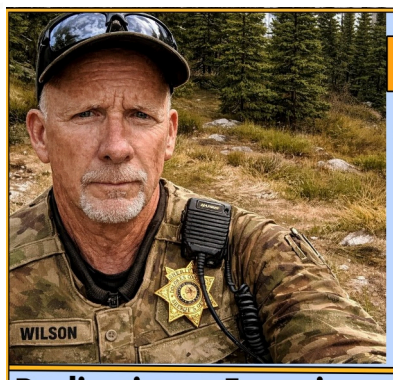
Election Date:	**Tuesday, November 3, 2026**
Election Type:	Mail Ballot
Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC)	Dolores County Courthouse – Clerk & Recorder's Office 409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek, CO
Days & Hours of Operation for VSPC	***October 19-November 2, 2026 (M-TH) –8:00am-4:00 pm*** ***FRIDAY, October 30, 2026-8:00 am-4:00 pm*** ***Saturday, October 31, 2026 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm***
Election Day Location:	***November 3, 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 November 3.***
Ballot Drop Box	**Drop Box – Available 10/12/2026 – 24/7 until 7:00PM 11/03/26,** **409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek (West Side)**
Ballot Content:	General Election – Federal– State – County- School District

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the County of Dolores this September 17, 2026 at Dove Creek Colorado.

LaRita Randolph
Dolores County Clerk & Recorder
Dolores County, Colorado

DOLORES COUNTY SEAL 1881 COLORADO

Check for your local polling center / drop boxes; in Dolores County, polling to drop ballot in person remains at the Courthouse in Dove Creek at 409 N Main St. starting October 19th, M-Th, then Oct 30, 31 Fri Sat for several hours, and election day ends at 7pm Nov 3rd. Drop box on the west side of the building will be available 10/12 24/7 until 11/3 7pm. Find your location and vote!



RE-ELECT SHERIFF DON WILSON

Dedication • Experience • Progress

I truly believe the progress we have made is making Dolores County a safer place to live, work, and raise our families.

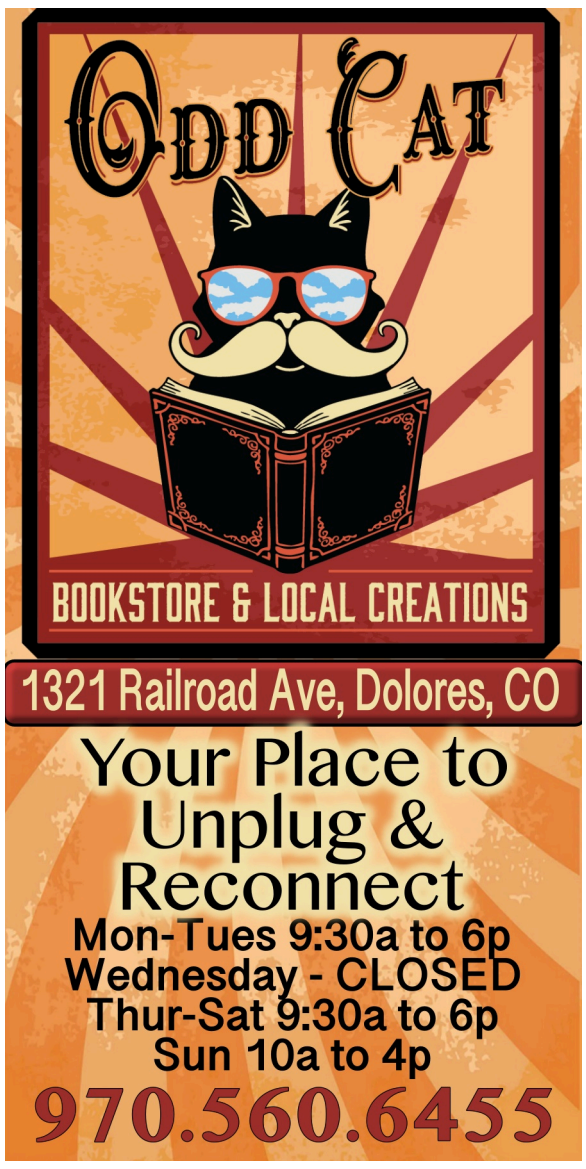
Public safety takes more than a badge; It takes experience, dedication, training, sound judgment, and a commitment to being both a peacekeeper and a law-enforcement officer.

The Dolores County Sheriff's Office continues to move forward through professional training, preparation, and a commitment to serving our community. I am proud of the progress we have made but I believe there is still work to do.

With your support, we can continue building on that progress and keeping Dolores County safe.

On November 3, 2026
RE-ELECT SHERIFF DON WILSON
Experience. Training. Leadership. Progress.
Paid for by Don Wilson

Halloween falls on Saturday Oct 31st this year, such that plenty of activities and trunk & treating or trick & treating activities will be available, check in on Facebook for our round up, and be sure to keep your kids safe.



From Odd Cat Angie B.

Many years ago, in my early 20s, a greatly respected coworker told me something that has stuck with me through the decades. I was likely grumbling about some task or other that I felt was beneath me when he said, "You know, you don't have to like your job to have pride in your work."

Oof.

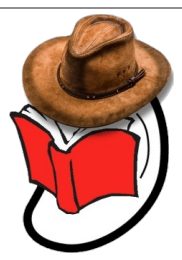
I stopped in my tracks. That simple sentence landed in my brain like a brick and over time it has resurfaced frequently. Fifteen short little words that hold so much importance. That concise sentence is dazzling in this, the Age of Boundless Mediocrity. The powerful thing that's hidden in there? The realization that whatever I produce or work on is a direct reflection of me and my character. It didn't matter if I was sweeping floors, cutting meat, or feeding 120 people- I would do the best job that I could do. I've had a lot of jobs that were difficult, unpleasant, or just downright awful. It didn't matter. I did (and do) the best I am capable of. So, what happens when you do things to the best of your ability? People notice. They put more trust in you. They understand you can be depended on. You can move about the world with a clear conscience. You earn freedom and respect. Does it always happen that way? Nope. But the truth remains- you can still have pride in YOUR work and the satisfaction it brings to know that you've done right by yourself and your job. You don't do your best as a favor to "the company", you do it for YOU.

Let us rebel against doing things half-assed. There's enough of that in the world already. Excellence is YOUR decision. Ready to set yourself apart from the pack?

PINTO BEAN BOOK CORNER

BEHIND THE BEARS EARS

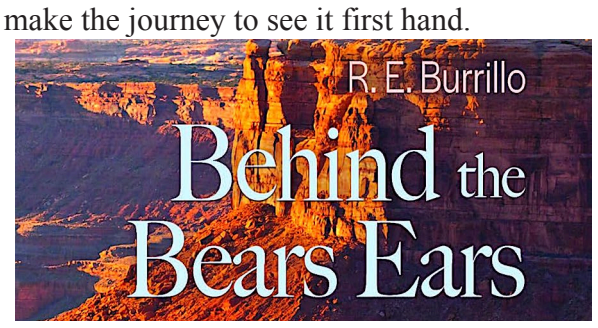
Local Author Book Spotlight By Kendra Cook

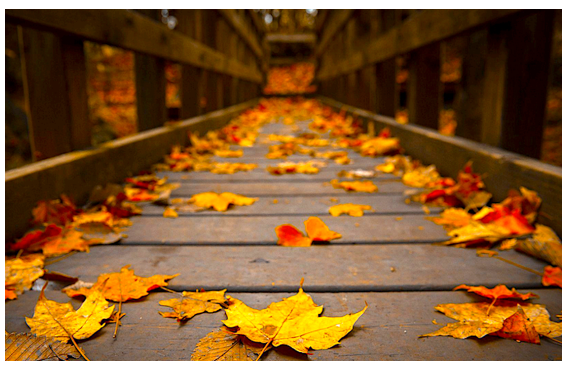


R. E. Burrillo is an archaeologist, conservation advocate and author. The Behind the Bears Ears gives the reader a detailed overview of the entire area with his personal conversational style of writing, blending historical references with his particular opinions. According to online book outlets "His writing has appeared in Archaeology Southwest, Colorado Plateau Advocate, the Salt Lake Tribune, and elsewhere. He splits his time between Salt Lake City, Utah, and Flagstaff, Arizona. He is also a cultural resource management specialist whose primary interests are the people and places of the greater Colorado Plateau region. Born and raised in upstate New York, he moved to New Orleans at 18 to attempt to become a writer. Five years of tending bar later, he took a seasonal job at a lodge in Glacier National Park, and ultimately spent another five years working for a series of concessionaires in wilderness destinations—including two summers living and working at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, where he discovered and fell in love with the region and its various communities. That led to spend the next five years at Northern Arizona University, where he graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in Anthropology.

While in graduate school at University of Utah, Burrillo gradually became more involved in the archaeology and conservation of the Bears Ears area. He was subsequently hired by a consortium of groups to help write the technical portion of a lawsuit that would ultimately be brought when an executive order drastically reduced the boundaries of Bears Ears National Monument. Upon the monument's restoration, he shifted focus to his home state of Arizona and continues to be a writer, researcher, and conservation advocate there." This book was released in 2020, since then the size of the monument has changed once again, however the importance of the area remains the same. He will be presenting a talk on "American Archaeology: The Past, Present, and Future of the Past" in Tucson AZ on October 6th, and Phoenix on the 15th - the presentation is based on his new book, American Archaeology: Living History, Stolen Pasts, and Defending the Future (Torrey House Press, 2026). He is currently on the board of the Bears Ears Education Center and has spoken and held book signings in the region.

The book, Behind the Bears Ears, is described as follows: "For more than twelve thousand years, the redrock landscape of southeastern Utah has shaped the lives of everyone who calls it home. R. E. Burrillo takes readers on a journey of discovery through the stories and controversies that make this place so unique, from traces of its earliest inhabitants through its role in shaping the study of archaeology itself—and into the modern battle over its protection." The book's forward emphasizes the need for healing understanding and for gathering, The author states his "hope is that telling the human story of the place in such a way will lead the reader into a deeper understanding of why it is so important to so many people." - and that he will answer that question. The book spans an anthropological socio cultural slant according to the archeological background and nature of the author, as it takes you through an extensive overview of the SW San Juan region that will entice you to make the journey to see it first hand.





It's Fall after all

By Kendra Cook

relief from searing sunshine
enters while feeling the days grow shorter

a celebration of harvest
even but a whisper of a crop this year

the pull of gravity on the leaves,
on the work to get ready for winter ahead

the year flies by, activities want for a
slower time, stop the rushing, the running

your body and soul sense the thinning
the turning towards an unknown winter

take the moment, breath in deeply of
a crisper air and pause

reflect back without regret, shine forward
with confidence and your clarion call

though winter is tugging on our heavy coats,
dust off the boots from the closet corner

the winds and clouds and rains flush off
the dry summer dirt and intensity

a steady pace is at hand, to prepare and
share, and greet and gather

it's fall, after all.



Come join us online at our
Facebook page
@ThePintoBean

Over 4.1K followers and we continue to grow, as we cover stories every day, - 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.

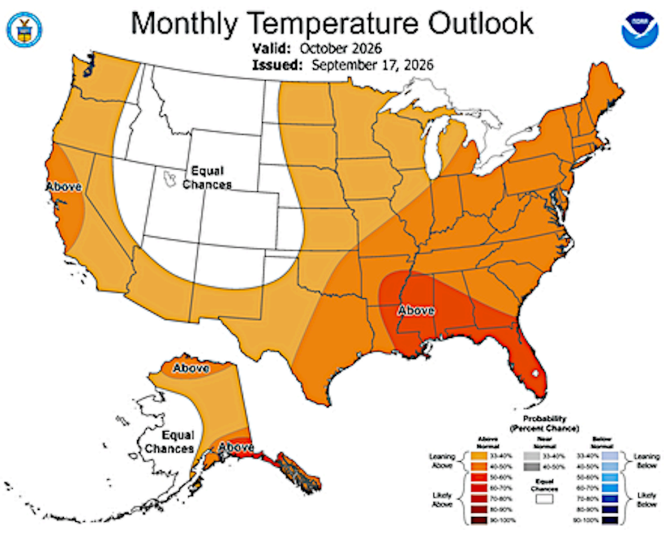
A weekly Dove Creek only "Between the Bean" is available through FB, local post office, substack and on our website. Follow us as we are unique in connecting with communities all around the four corners!





Annual fundraiser: The Pleasant View Charter School Harvest Carnival. Yummy Chili Dinner, Booths, Prizes, Silent Auction. Save the Date:

October 24th 4-7 pm.

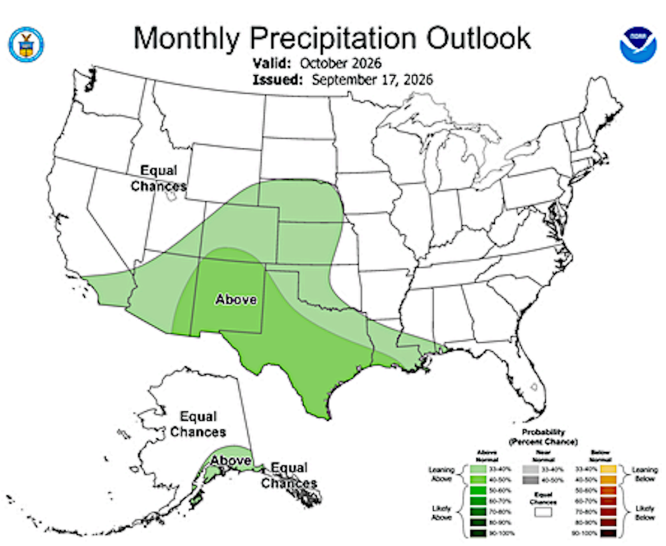


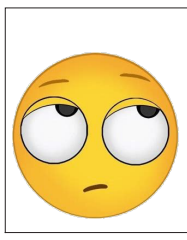
OCTOBER WEATHER

Fall with falling temperatures looks like we may get a little above average moisture at the beginning and at the end of the month, otherwise sunshine and cooling temps.

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





Where did Captain Hook buy his hook?
At a second hand store…
Know why mummies don't take time off
They are afraid to unwind…



How to mend a Jack-o-Lantern
with a Pumpkin Patch
You know why graveyards are so noisy?
Because of all the coffin…



OCT WHAT'S UP

Birth Flower - Marigolds
Birth Stone - Opal
Zodiac - Libra - Scorpio

OCT 1 Natl Pumpkin Spice Day
OCT 4 Natl Golf Lovers Day
OCT 5 Natl Apple Betty Day
OCT 7 Natl Coffee w/a Cop
OCT 9 Natl Curious Events Day
OCT 12 Natl Farmer's Day
OCT 14 Natl ER Nurse Day
OCT 17 Natl Pasta Day
OCT 21 Natl Apple Day
OCT 22 Natl Nut Day
OCT 24 Natl Food Day
OCT 26 Natl Pumpkin Day
OCT 27 Natl American Beer Day
OCT 28 Natl Chocolate Day
OCT 29 Natl Cat Day
OCT 31 Halloween

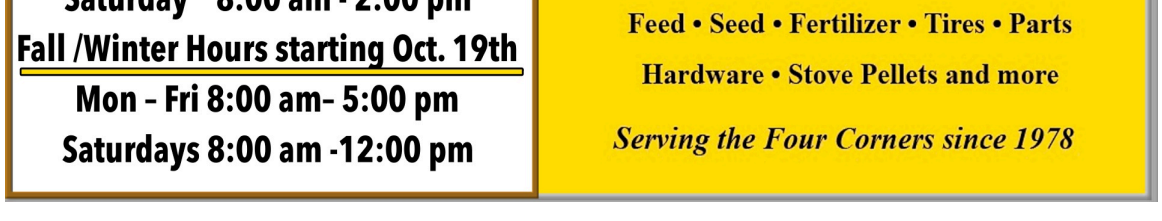
Day Light Saving Ends Nov 1 Fall Back an Hour

Moon Phases

OCT 10	- New Moon
OCT 26	- Full Moon
OCT 01	- Perigee
OCT 16	- Apogee

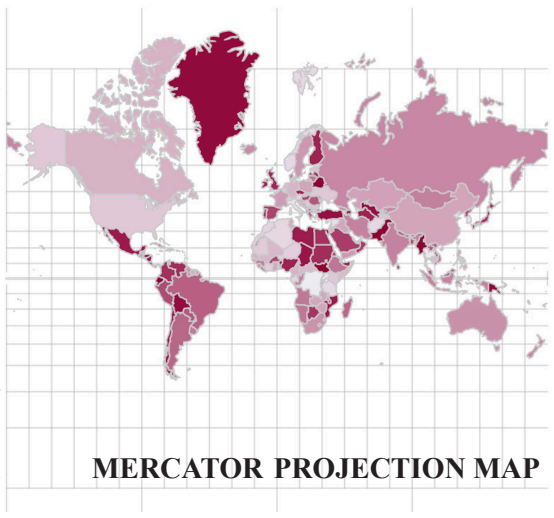


I'm not the drop
in the Ocean,
I'm the ocean
in the drop



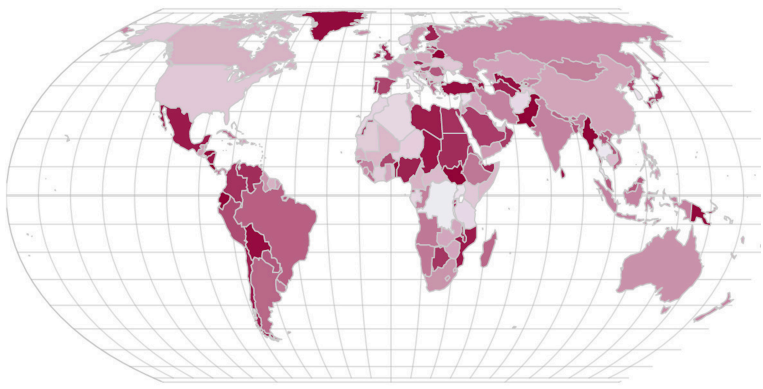
MAPPING MATTERS

By Sarah Toenin - special assignment



MERCATOR PROJECTION MAP

EQUAL EARTH PROJECTION MAP



Highcharts.com @Natural Earth copyright both maps

Geo politics are everywhere - even if you don't see it at first. If you've been alive long enough, have you noticed that the world map seems to change a bit? The positioning of north America over South America has shifted from maps in the 1970s. Of course the names also change, and borders will be moved, but land masses, shouldn't that be a known element that's stable? What else has 'moved' or 'changed' in relative size, and what is the purpose? Don't 'we' as a civilization, know how big every part of this dry earth we live on is, or not really?

In September, the United Nations - unelected global controllers, voted on an "Equal Earth Map" 164 to 1 - said to 'show countries and continents at their true sizes relative to each other'. The 1 vote opposed was from the U.S. This map was created by cartographers in 2018. One can't help but look at the "Correct the Map" initiative coming forward now, as being in response to Pres. Trump continued seemingly random renaming on maps; the Golf of America, and the Lake America, to saying the Strait of Hormuz should change to the strait of America. The biggest change is the larger size of Africa; So much positioning and strategizing, all a part of the larger geo political agendas.

The Equal Earth map projection is a new equal-area pseudocylindrical projection for world maps jointly developed by Bojan Šavrič (Esri), Tom Patterson (US National Park Service), and Bernhard Jenny (Monash University). It was created to provide a "visually pleasing" alternative to the Gall-Peters projection, which some schools and socially concerned groups have adopted out of concern for fairness. Their priority is to show developing countries in the tropics and developed countries in the north with correctly proportioned sizes.

Some of the 'challenge' is trying to put a flat map on what is claimed to be a sphere - forget 'flat earth' exactly, but consider the national personality for Science - Neil deGrasse Tyson - saying repeatedly that the earth is more oblate spheroid that is also slightly pear-shaped; wider at the equator and bulging 'below' that.

Maps matter. Borders matter. If you've never seen the Piri Reis Map said to be made in 1513 during the Ottoman Empire, truly you see that history books are written by the victors. It's an interesting partial mostly navigational drawing, showing a portion of the antarctic with details we were told were not discovered until centuries later.

Previously, The Mercator projection has been the map widely used across the globe but this initiative purports that it inaccurately depicts the sizes of countries and continents. The older map is said to show Africa around the size of Greenland and now it's being said it should be around 14 times larger. If you compare the maps, it also seems to reduce the North American space relative to the map scale. Almost seems that maps are as good as you can convince a public that they are correct - if at least for the moment that those in power want you to believe.

Cortez Martial Arts Students Take Their Skills to New York

Contributed Local Spotlight

Three young Cortez martial artists recently traded the Four Corners for the bright lights of New York City, returning home with medals and plenty of pride.

Cortez Martial Arts owner and instructor Joshua Glenn, a fourth-degree black belt with 24 years of martial arts experience, took students Kilee Yanito, Shayden Hackett and Gabby Young to compete in the NYTKD Tournament on September 19–20. Now in its 28th year, the tournament attracted more than 200 competitors, including participants from Canada and Ukraine.

The trip was a particularly successful one for the local students. Eight-year-old Gabby Young, a member of Cortez Martial Arts' new Tournament Team, took first place in the High Flying Kick competition and earned a silver medal in sparring. Yanito and Hackett also competed and successfully placed in their respective events.

Glenn opened Cortez Martial Arts about four and a half years ago with the goal of creating a safe, positive environment where children, young adults and adults could learn TaeKwon-Do while developing discipline, confidence and physical skills. The studio has grown to more than 80 students.



This year, Glenn added a Tournament Team, currently consisting of two students, with a focus on competition training, including patterns, kicks and sparring. The team hopes to compete in at least five tournaments each year, ranging from local events to national and international competitions.

Martial arts studios continue to be an established part of the U.S. fitness and recreation landscape. Industry research shows that participation and consumer interest remain strong, although studios also face competition from other fitness options and rising operating costs.

For Glenn, however, the focus remains on the students. "They all performed the best I've seen so far," Glenn said. "They are great young people and I am proud of them."

Cortez Martial Arts is located at 33 N. Elm Street, Suite A, in Cortez CO. For information about classes, the Tournament Team or supporting the program, visit cortezmartialarts.org.







Beyond the means…

Commentary By Aimee Tooker

When I was young, I often ran to the grocery store for my grandmother. When I returned, she expected every dime and penny in change—none could be tossed into my car console. I found it amusing and annoying then but later realized that her careful counting reflected lessons learned during the Great Depression.

The Great Depression changed the way an entire generation thought about money. Families who experienced unemployment, bank failures, foreclosure, and shortages learned that money could disappear quickly, while debts and obligations remained. As a result, saving, repairing, reusing, and living within one's means became important financial values. My great grandma used to clean and recycle her dog and cat food bags into packaging so that she would send us goodies from Colorado to California in. It was always fun to see which brand of pet food she would use. The distinction between a necessity and a luxury was often much clearer than it is today.

A necessity is something required for basic survival and security: food, clean water, shelter, basic clothing, sanitation, heat, transportation to obtain necessities or earn a living, and basic medical care. These needs have remained relatively constant throughout history. What has changed is the number of things modern society considers necessary. Electricity, automobiles, cell phones, internet service, and insurance may not be required for survival, but they have become functional necessities in modern society.

Luxuries are different. They improve comfort, convenience, entertainment, or status but are not required for survival. Restaurant meals, expensive vacations, luxury vehicles, designer clothing, recreational equipment, multiple streaming services, frequent technology upgrades, and oversized homes are examples. There is nothing wrong with enjoying these things. The financial problem begins when luxuries are treated as necessities or are purchased with money that has not yet been earned.

Constant exposure to others' spending can lead young adults to judge their standard of living against others' lifestyles rather than their own means. Problems arise when expectations exceed financial reality: wanting something does not create a right to it. A person raised in an environment where smartphones, internet access, air conditioning, multiple vehicles, frequent dining out, streaming services, vacations, and consumer credit are normal may perceive those things as ordinary parts of life rather than luxuries. This sense of entitlement can contribute to financial irresponsibility. Expensive coffee, car payments, and trips to Hawaii or Yosemite are luxuries, not rights.

I once watched a couponing show featuring a woman who measured affordability not only by price, but by the hours she had to work to pay for an item. Her question was simple: Was the purchase worth her time? For example, at the 2027 minimum wage of $15.71 per hour, a $90 family dinner would require about 5.7 hours of work. She used the same method to calculate the time needed to cover rent and utilities. Most importantly, she distinguished necessities from luxuries and decided whether each luxury was worth the work required to afford it.

Some people may need a hard financial reality check, while others may only need the governments to be "put back in their lanes" and conduct a redo and a reset of how regulations and policies limit, restrict, and confine the average citizen's ability to save, build wealth, and get ahead.

Aimee Tooker lives and works in Nucla CO in the 'West End', is the owner of 2 businesses, Town board member, mother and wife, and very active in regional politics and community.







WEST END FAMILY LINK

The Montrose County Board of County Commissioners voted during a special meeting Thursday, September 17, to provide $75,000 in one-time funding to the West End Family Link Center.

Based in Nucla, West End Family Link has served the area since 1993 and provides free services to residents in the West End and surrounding communities. Services include food assistance, senior food boxes, the BackPacks for Kids program, utility assistance and help connecting people with other resources.

West End Family Link asked the County for assistance with an immediate funding shortfall. After considering the request during the special meeting, commissioners approved the funding to help cover the immediate gap while the organization works to find other funding.

The $75,000 is a one-time allocation from the Board intended to help West End Family Link get back on its feet while it works to identify and pursue other funding sources.

For additional information about the West End Family Link, visit them online at https://westendflc.org/.

Southwestern Adventure Guide

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Green River
Oct 2-3 River Runners Hall of Fame Festival
@ The John Wesley Powell River History Museum

Moab
Oct. 2-4 Outer Bike Expo
Oct 3 Arches Marathon & Half
Oct 9-13 Moab 240 Endurance Run
Oct 16-18 Scots on the Rocks
Oct 29-31 Jeep Jamboree Moab
Oct 30- Nov1 Moab Ho Down Mountain Bike Festival
Oct 24 Canyonlands Ultra

Monticello
Oct 3 & 10 Astronomy Tour @ Glamping Canyonlands

Blanding
Oct18 Four Corners Lecture Series-Paradigm Lost: The Origin of Clovis in North America
@Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum

Bluff
Oct 8 Star Party Bluff Community Center
Oct 15-18 Bluff Arts Festival

La Sal
Oct 10 Country Market day

Flagstaff
Oct 3 Annual Flagstaff Oktoberfest.
Oct. 1-3 Star Party and Celebration of the Night
Oct 16 Flagstaff Shakespeare Festival
Much Ado About Dinosaurs
Oct 24 The Arboretum at Flagstaff Pumpkin Walk

SHARE YOUR EVENTS ON OUR NEW FACEBOOK GROUP !

Dove Creek
Oct 10 Croptoberfest Scrapbooking Crafters @Community Center
Oct 10 Banger's Bar & Pizza October Harvest Fest
Oct 31 Halloween @Stateline Bar & Grill

Cortez
Oct 11 20th Annual Golf Tournament for Local Veterans Conquistador Golf Course
Oct 15 15th Annual Pretty In Pink Fashion Show @: Four Seasons Greenhouse & Nursery
Oct 24 Community Market Heart to Heart

Mancos
Oct 4 Four Corners Farmers and Ranchers - County Convention
Oct 24 Mancos Cowboy Half Marathon, 5K, and Fun Run

Dolores
Oct 2-4 1st Annual High Desert Bike Festival
Oct 10 Orchard Social & Fall Heritage Apple Tree

Durango
Sept 30 - Oct 4 Durango Cowboy Gathering
Oct 4 Genuine Old West Chuck Wagon Breakfast
Oct 3 Cowboy Parade & Horseback Social
Oct 3 2nd Annual Harvest Festival Car Show
Oct 5 33rd Annual Toy Run Before Christmas
Oct 10-11 Apple Days Festival
Oct16-18 Animas Valley Balloon Rally
Oct 17 -18 Downtown Balloon Glow
Oct 25 Elevated Auto Enthusiasts & Durango Harley-Davidson 3rd Annual Trunks or Treat

Bayfield
Oct 23 Halloween Festival

Telluride
Oct 10 Oktoberfest @ Mountain Village
Oct 16-18 Telluride Horror Show
Oct 26 Gondola Closed for Maintenance
Oct 31 Telluride Historical Museum for Halloween on the Hill

Ridgway
Oct 2 Oktoberfest CO Boy Depot

Norwood
Oct 10 Harvest Dinner Celebration
The Livery 1555 Summit St.

Nucla
Oct 3 Fall Harvest Craft Fair

Naturita
Oct 3 Hanging Flume 50K
Oct 11 Pack Burro Race @ Down Town

Farmington
Oct 1- 2 Northern Navajo Nation Fair
@: Shiprock Fairgrounds
Oct 4 Aztec Highland Games and Celtic Music Festival Riverside Park
Oct 2- 3 Road Apple Rally
Oct 3 Farmington's Southwest Apple & Chile Fest!
Oct 11 Aztec Fall Festival and Car Show
Oct 11 Fall Navajo Song & Dance
Oct 23 10th Annual Robert's Halloween Maze

HALLOWEEN EVENTS WILL ALL BE GATHERED AND POSTED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. BE SURE TO SEND YOUR EVENT IN TO BE INCLUDED IN THE LISTINGS EDITOR@PINTOBEAN.CO

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DOVE CREEK AMBULANCE DISTRICT NEWLY AQUIRED M3







FERRIS FIRE CONNECTIONS HELP DCAD FOR M3

Contributed by AJ Fry,
Dove Creek EMS Chief



The Dove Creek Ambulance District (DCAD) is pleased to announce the addition of a "new-to-us" ambulance to its fleet, acquired through a generous partnership with Durango Fire Protection District.

The 2009 Dodge/AEV Type 1 4x4 ambulance was purchased at a price well below its market value. Durango Fire, which is currently upgrading its own fleet, offered the unit to DCAD in recognition of the district's operational needs and its limited purchasing resources as a small rural agency.

The acquisition was made possible in part by state reimbursement anticipated for equipment DCAD provided during this summer's Ferris Fire response, which helped free up district resources to pursue the purchase.

Once it is outfitted with DCAD graphics and equipment, the newly acquired ambulance will join the district's regular ambulance rotation. That will allow DCAD's oldest ambulance, which has increasingly struggled to keep pace with the district's needs, to shift into a dedicated backup role.

A reliable backup ambulance matters well beyond a major incident like the Ferris Fire. It doesn't take a wildfire of that scale to create the same need — a smaller, local wildfire earlier this year required DCAD to dedicate a second ambulance immediately, since an urgent response couldn't wait for one to become available. And on any given day, one of the district's ambulances may be out of service for routine preventative maintenance or a major repair, fire or no fire. Having a dependable second unit in reserve reduces the risk of a coverage gap whenever the district is stretched thin — whether by a wildfire response, a maintenance need, or both at once.

"This ambulance gives us a more dependable, more modern resource right when we need it most," said AJ Fry, DCAD's EMS Chief. "It also reflects the kind of relationship we have with our regional partners — agencies like Durango Fire step up for us, and we're glad to be able to do the same for them when the time comes."

DCAD is grateful for the continued partnership with Durango Fire and the broader regional cooperation among rural emergency service providers that makes moments like this possible. It's through relationships like these that small districts are able to support one another and keep their communities safe.



SPILL THE BEANS.....

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR / PUBLISHER





Kendra Cook

Is it Time.

Time is considered a constant? Or is it artificial imposition. We moved from lunar and solar observation, to clocks that were created to structure trade across distances they said - but is it just a form to standardize or create obedience and control? A homesteader knows when it's time to feed, time to eat, time to plant, paying attention to the natural environment, the sun the moon and the seasons. Life in that way is not tethered to a clock. The 12 based system is seen starting with the Sumerians thousands of years ago - It was in the 20th century during world wars that the powers of authority enacted daylight saving - with some mocking the concept of taking an hour off the top of the day and tagging it onto the end being ridiculous.

Here's another 'time' element, did you realize it was in the 1950s–1960s that scientists developed atomic clocks, using the incredibly stable frequency of cesium-133 atoms. In 1967, the international definition of the second was changed to the atomic definition. Then in 1972, the world adopted the system we essentially use today: UTC (coordinated universal time), generated from atomic clocks, but is occasionally adjusted with a leap second so it doesn't drift more than about 0.9 second from Earth's actual rotation (UT1). So today, atomic clocks determine what a second is, while Earth's rotation determines how closely our civil time is allowed to track the astronomical day.

Interestingly, that system is now being changed once again. Because leap seconds cause problems for computers, satellites and communications systems, international organizations are working toward UTC that won't require leap seconds, with the goal of implementing the change by 2035.

And then there's the Doomsday clock: As of January 27, 2026, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists set its Doomsday Clock at: 85 seconds to midnight, 1 minute 25 seconds from midnight being described in a way, as time's up, end of the world - the closest that Clock has ever been to midnight. It was 89 seconds in 2025. They base this on a range of geopolitical and socio economic assessments by the council that runs it.

The time concept is felt differently by every individual, their circumstances and perceptions. The big clock on the wall is there to trap and control the population so the works, the energy of the people, as represented by the 'hands' sticking to a constant tick tock tick tock. Hmm. Does it all seem like the construct of our lives has been a huge manipulation? The app, TikTok,



absorbing your precious energy by staring at a screen, scrolling as mere seconds are spent on short attention span video clips - tick tock and it's an hour wasted later. What if the population spent that 'time' and energy on something else - making or creating something, sharing time with others, and engaging in life, instead of being run out of time by this ever present clock over our heads. Seems like many fall prey to being manipulated.



But can 'time' actually be manipulated - some would say absolutely. A researcher named Guy Anderson has come out with books and a website to walk those new to these mind bending concepts. This is from a recent substack post that describes some other aspects of time travel and US projects, Mr. Anderson writes : "Project Pegasus operated under the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), before the organization became the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) during 1972. Andrew Basiago states that his involvement began in 1968, when he was only six years old and accompanied his father, Raymond Basiago, through a teleporter located inside the former Curtiss-Wright facility at Wood-Ridge, New Jersey. He officially entered Project Pegasus during the autumn of 1969, aged seven, after signing loyalty and secrecy documents issued by the United States Department of Defense. The children selected became known as chrononauts, receiving specialist instruction before testing experimental machinery designed to transport human beings across vast distances and different eras. Young volunteers were chosen because they adapted more successfully to temporal displacement and their smaller bodies made them better suited to equipment still undergoing dangerous development. Basiago has also described unsuccessful trials that left several youngsters seriously injured, demonstrating the considerable risks involved.

Project Pegasus relied upon several different technologies, which included Tesla teleporters, the Chronovisor, a plasma confinement chamber, Stargates, remote viewing, out-of-body exercises, the Montauk Chair and an early jump-room device. Basiago collectively referred to these systems as Quantum Access, describing them as different methods of gathering information from the past, present and future, either through physical travel or direct observation. According to his account, the program was designed to provide military and intelligence agencies with information unavailable through conventional means."

Quantum realm - where time and space combine. This excerpt gives you many options for your own research by looking into the key words from that quote. With programs like 'Montauk' creating a mastery of perception and chronology - it makes you think of time differently, and consider if time can be warped, history can be changed.

So are we now in what some call "Satans little season of deception" time? Do you sense time flying by faster, being bombarded by new technology changing life's patterns and habits faster and faster, having to work multiple jobs to just keep up with fiat currency to pay for 'life' and not having as much 'time' to put your attention to perhaps, the more important things in life - family friends neighbors and humanity?

Not just a political manipulation but are we being manipulated metaphysically? Earths rotation and magnetic density, being affected and destabilizing the natural rhythms and agriculture we can see for ourselves right here. Do we all agree just by habit and via authority telling us what time it is, that that is the truth? It's like a matrix upon us, even though it is subjective; With boredom time can drag on, while time flies when you're having fun. Or as the Chicago band song lyrics go "Does anybody really know what time it is? Does anybody really care? (About time) If so, I can't imagine why (Oh no, woah) We've all got time enough to cry - we've all got time enough to die." Let's make the most of our 'time' we have now.







STATE OF REAL ESTATE

By Staff

The Spitzer Group: Local Roots, Local Knowledge, A New Chapter in Real Estate

The Spitzer Group is a new locally owned real estate brokerage serving the Four Corners, bringing together Kimberly Spitzer, Casey Spitzer, Marti Spitzer and Lacey Murphy. While the name is new, the people and local experience behind it are not. The group says its goal is to provide honest guidance, personal service and the kind of local knowledge that comes from living, working and investing in the communities they serve. "We're proud to call the Four Corners home," the group says. "We're here to help our neighbors, support our community, and make buying or selling a little easier."

That local connection extends to Dove Creek, where Casey Spitzer has invested in the community through the purchase and ongoing renovation of the Dove Creek Inn. The property is becoming a new base camp for visitors exploring the area and its surrounding outdoor recreation.

A Changing Real Estate Market

The real estate market in Southwest Colorado continues to adjust to changing economic conditions. The recent increase in the federal funds rate — a quarter-point increase announced by the Federal Reserve in September — adds another consideration for buyers who rely on financing.

Locally, the Cortez market has shown signs of taking a little longer to move. Through August, homes were spending a median of 54 days on the market, compared with 48 days a year earlier, while the median sale price was approximately $315,000, down 6% from the same period last year.

For buyers and sellers, that makes local knowledge particularly important. Financing costs, pricing, inventory, property condition and the specific characteristics of each community can all play a role in a successful transaction.

For The Spitzer Group, the focus remains close to home — helping Four Corners buyers and sellers navigate a changing market with familiar faces, local experience and a personal approach.

The Spitzer Group 2122 E. Empire St., Cortez, CO Call Kim @ 970-301-0029

Follow The Spitzer Group on Facebook to see current listings, client stories, properties and updates from the team.

First Home Buyers...

For young couples hoping to buy their first home in Southwest Colorado or Southeast Utah, the housing market heading into fall looks less like the frantic market of a few years ago — but it is hardly easy. The biggest obstacle remains the cost of borrowing. The average 30-year fixed mortgage rate reached 7.03% nationally on Sept. 24, up from 6.30% a year earlier. Local advertised rates can vary considerably depending on the borrower, loan type, down payment and lender, making shopping around particularly important.

That combination of higher rates and relatively high home prices continues to put pressure on younger households trying to make the jump from renting to owning. "Southwest Colorado housing market" can be misleading as Durango, Cortez,



Spitzer Group House for sale on Dolores

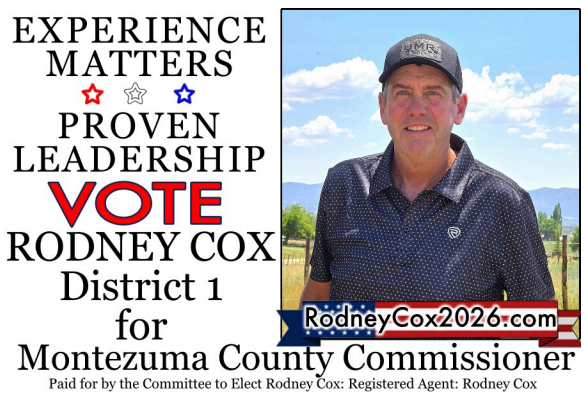
Norwood, rural communities and resort areas are behaving differently. Southeast Utah shows a similar divide. In Moab and Grand County, the median sale price was approximately $573,000 while Monticello, meanwhile, the median listing price was about $350,000 in June, down nearly 6% year over year, with substantially more inventory available than a year earlier.

The biggest wildcard is mortgage rates.

If rates remain around 7%, buyers are likely to continue feeling squeezed by monthly payments even where asking prices soften. A buyer who qualifies for a $400,000 mortgage at 7% faces a substantially different payment than the same loan at 5.5%.

But waiting solely for rates to fall carries its own uncertainty. Rates can move in either direction, and a lower mortgage rate could bring additional buyers back into the market. For someone who finds the right home today, the more useful question may be whether the current payment fits comfortably into the household budget, rather than trying to predict the precise bottom or top of the interest-rate cycle.

Check out the advertisement on the top of this page for an upcoming Home Buyer Education course hosted by Homesfund out of Durango CO.



CORTEZ CO

The City of Cortez is reminding all local businesses, accountants, and management teams of the upcoming Sales Tax Holiday, which will temporarily reduce the City's sales tax rate to 0% beginning October 18, 2026, before returning to the standard 3.85% on January 1, 2027.

This temporary rate change is part of the City's corrective effort to provide relief to residents following the overcollection of sales tax associated with the Cortez Recreation Center tax rate between 2021 and 2025. The City understands that these adjustments will require businesses to update their point of sale systems twice during the fourth quarter.

The City also recognizes that the timing of the sales tax holiday may help offset some of the administrative burden, and appreciates the continued cooperation of local businesses as these changes are implemented. The period from October through December is traditionally associated with higher consumer spending, including big ticket purchases and large seasonal gatherings. With added affordability during this time, the temporary reduction is expected to provide relief for residents and encourage increased shopping activity that supports economic growth throughout the community.

With the suspension of the City's portion of the sales tax, the aggregate rate will decrease from 7.69% to 3.84% for the remainder of 2026. This translates to savings of approximately 38 cents for every $10 spent; $3.85 for every $100; and $38.50 for every $1,000. Colorado's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) requires local governments to refund revenue that exceeds established limits. The temporary sales tax holiday is part of the City's compliance with this requirement.

Businesses are encouraged to contact the City of Cortez Finance Department at (970) 565 3402 with any questions as the City continues preparing additional guidance and resources for the community ahead of the Sales Tax Holiday.



News from Around the Southwestern Adventure Corridors

MOAB UT



The Moab City Council has approved a two-year sponsorship agreement with Jeep that will bring the city $125,000 a year in cash, along with the use of five Jeep vehicles.

The 4-0 vote came Tuesday, Sept. 8. Councilmember Jason Taylor, who owns a Jeep rental business in Moab, recused himself from the discussion and vote.

The agreement makes Jeep the "Official 4WD of Moab" and is the city's first formal sponsorship arrangement with the company. Jeep has been closely associated with Moab's four-wheel-drive and off-road recreation industry for more than 60 years.

In addition to the $250,000 in direct payments over two years, the city estimates the five loaned vehicles could save about $200,000 in vehicle, insurance and leasing costs. The city may also sell several of its existing vehicles.

Jeep will also support at least two Moab-area trail projects, sponsor two community events each year and produce promotional videos and social-media content featuring Moab.

In return, Jeep receives exclusive automobile sponsorship rights for the city and certain events. The company will also be allowed to use Moab's name, logos and event footage in its worldwide marketing.

One of the larger parts of the agreement is Jeep's commitment to pursue $10 million in advertising media value promoting Moab during the two-year agreement. The contract states that the advertising will be planned and placed at Jeep's discretion.

City officials said they will have an opportunity to review Jeep marketing that uses the city's name and logos.

City Manager Michael Black described the agreement as a two-year pilot program. Jeep was the only company to respond to the city's request for proposals for a vehicle sponsorship.

City staff will manage the agreement and coordinate Jeep's participation in community events and trail projects. The city plans to use some of the sponsorship money to help cover additional staff responsibilities.

Black said the two-year agreement will give both Moab and Jeep an opportunity to see what works before deciding whether to continue the partnership.



SAN JUAN COUNTY UT

Drivers traveling the remote roads of southeastern Utah have a smoother, safer route after the Utah Department of Transportation finished a $152 million project along State Routes 162 and 262. Known as the Energy Corridor, the 53-mile upgrade stretches from near Bluff through Montezuma Creek and Aneth to the Colorado state line. UDOT partnered with the Navajo Nation to secure a $48 million Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects grant to help fund the project.



The work, completed in September after about two years of construction, replaces aging pavement, widens shoulders, and adds key safety features. Crews installed more than six miles of guardrail, over 50 new cattle guards, and two livestock undercrossings. A new bridge spans McElmo Creek, and a roundabout now handles traffic at the busy SR-162/SR-163 intersection in Montezuma Creek. Drainage was improved, slopes reshaped for better recovery areas, and signs and lane markings updated.The corridor serves local residents, ranchers moving livestock, oil-field workers, and visitors heading to Bears Ears, Four Corners, and Hovenweep. It is also the main state highway access for Utah Navajo Nation communities. UDOT partnered with the Navajo Nation to secure a $48 million federal grant that helped fund the project. The result is a more reliable road through an area where steep drop-offs and narrow lanes once posed real hazards. The project marks a significant investment in one of Utah's most remote regions, making everyday travel safer for the people who live and work along these routes.



Fall Is Fly-In Season Across the Four Corners

By Kendra Cook

Cooler weather, spectacular scenery and a different way to see the Southwest !

There is something special about seeing the Four Corners from the air. The roads we travel every day become ribbons across the landscape, familiar mesas take on new shapes, and the canyons, rivers and mountains reveal a scale that is difficult to appreciate from the ground.

As summer heat gives way to cooler fall temperatures, pilots across the region begin taking advantage of some of the year's best flying weather. For general-aviation and backcountry pilots, that means gathering friends, fueling the airplane and choosing a destination.



Photos provided by Peyton Prevatte

For October 2-4 a sold out aviation event in partnership with the Colorado Pilots Association is a fly-in to Nucla, CO. The weekend is designed to introduce visiting pilots to Southwest Colorado's scenery, communities and history. Nucla's mesa-top airport offers spectacular views, and the gathering gives pilots an opportunity to explore the area rather than simply land, refuel and leave.

The Colorado Pilots Association has organized destination fly-ins throughout Colorado, including previous events in Southwest Colorado. These aren't necessarily traditional air shows. The emphasis is on flying somewhere interesting, meeting other pilots and experiencing a community from a different perspective.

Southeast Utah has its own active backcountry flying community. The Utah Backcountry Pilots Fall Fly-In is scheduled for October 10 at Huntington Municipal Airport. The organization promotes the use and preservation of Utah's backcountry airstrips and brings together pilots who enjoy exploring some of the state's more remote country.

That network extends into the Four Corners region. Pilots regularly visit destinations around Monument Valley, Valley of the Gods, Mexican Hat and Montezuma Creek, along with numerous smaller and more remote airstrips. Some of these flights never become formal public events. They are simply groups of pilots deciding that a particular canyon, mesa or community would make a great day's destination.



Both photos are from the beginning of September event that landed at the Blanding airport, and revolved around a stay at the Desert Rose in Bluff UT.

At the Cortez Municipal Airport, their active aviation community is headed up by EAA Chapter 1451, Black Cat Aviation. The chapter includes pilots, aircraft builders, restorers and aviation enthusiasts and has participated in Young Eagles and other community aviation activities.

Blanding Municipal Airport has also shown that Southeast Utah can attract pilots from well beyond the immediate area. A Southeastern Utah AirCam fly-in recently used Blanding as its home base for flights over the surrounding canyon country. (see photos) That event brought in pilots landing in Blanding, and spending time in Bluff and the surrounding areas.

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

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

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For the Love of Food

By Kendra Cook

Nothing is more indicative of the fall feeling, than pumpkin. The history of using pumpkins with a light inside making it a jack o lantern, is said to originate from Celtic influenced immigrants bringing their root vegetable carving traditions with them. The myths say, various northern europeans used to carve scary faces on a root vegetable commonly a turnip, and set a light inside making it a type of lantern. They were put on window sills to scare off evil spirits or the devil. In the US, the tradition made its way to being an icon at Halloween - the holiday that celebrates the thinning of the veil between this world and the realm of other spirits. It occurs on All Hallow's Eve - the night before the remembrance of saints (hallows) martyrs and departed faithful aka day of the dead.

Recipe

If you can use a fresh pumpkin, roast up enough for 2 cups, keeping half as small cubes the rest to be pureed after cooked (if not, then grab your classic pumpkin puree in a can, not the pie mix with seasoning unless you want that flavor, just pumpkin). Heating 2 tablespoons of evoo in a heavy pot, set to medium high then add the chopped onion, bell and jalapeño peppers, cooking til tender just a few minutes. Next add the garlic cloves thinly sliced, for another minute. Now add the pumpkin puree, smoked paprika and cumin and blend together for a couple of minutes. Cook up the ground beef, salt, Worcestershire sauce, and pepper stirring in the center of your pot (or you can use a secondary pan to cook that independently to drain off some of the grease and then add the meat already cooked into the chili), either way, stir it all together. At this point you'll also throw in the rinsed and drained black and pinto beans along with the fresh pumpkin chunks if available, with the chicken broth, tomatoes, and stir gently to combine. Bring it to a boil and then reduce heat to simmer, cover, but stirring occasionally, and cook til you like the consistency about 15-20 more minutes. To serve, you can top with grated cheese sour cream and chopped green onion. Or throw on some pumpkin seeds (shelled of course) on the sour cream, serve as a main dish with fresh bread or rolls or as a first coarse.

Spooky Hot Pumpkin Chili



Photo by KitchenYumm

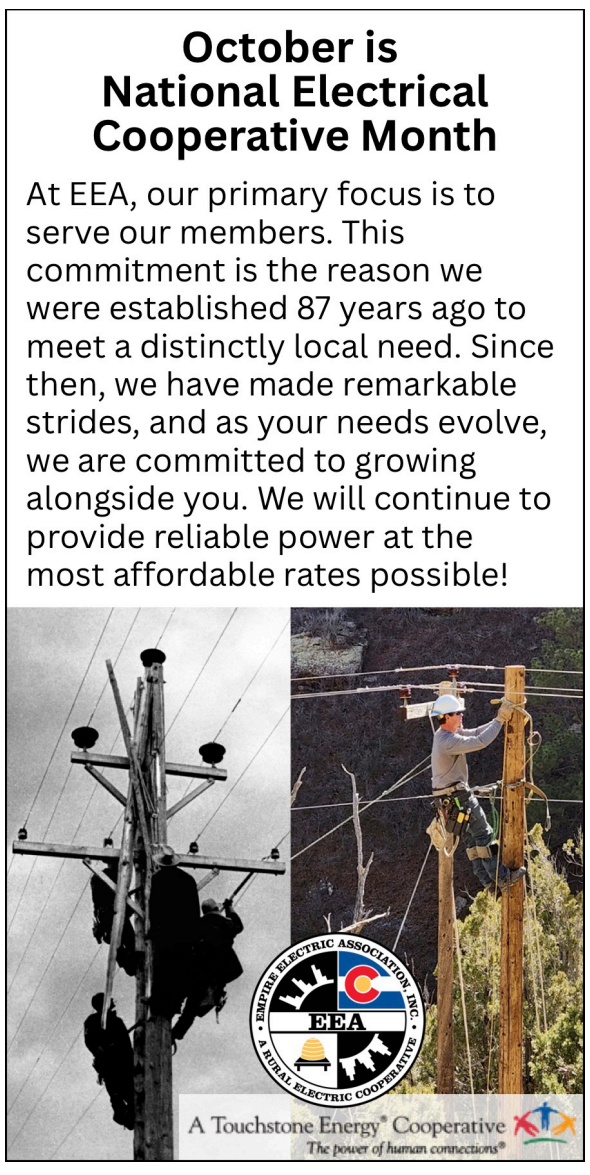
Ingredients:

2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1 onion, coarsely chopped
1/2 bell pepper diced
1 medium jalapeño, coarsely chopped,
4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
2 cups of pumpkin roasted half in chunks half puree
(or 1 15-oz. can pumpkin purée)
small can diced fire roasted tomatoes
2 tsp. smoked paprika
1½ tsp. ground cumin
1 lb. ground beef
2 tsp. himalayan salt
3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce, divided
Freshly ground pepper
1 15-oz. can black beans, rinsed
1 15 oz. can pinto beans, rinsed
4 cups low-sodium chicken broth



For pumpkin chili or soup, the best pumpkins are sugar pumpkins (also called pie pumpkins), Cinderella pumpkins, and other small-to-medium cooking varieties. These pumpkins have dense, sweet, flavorful flesh with less water than the large pumpkins grown primarily for carving. Cinderella/Rouge Vif d'Etampes pumpkins have a rich, creamy texture that works beautifully in soups. Other excellent choices include Long Island Cheese, Jarrahdale, and Kabocha squash, which is technically a winter squash but cooks much like pumpkin and has a naturally sweet, velvety flesh.







PUBLIC NOTICES MEETINGS & JOBS

The Town of Dove Creek is currently hiring for:
Town Clerk/Town Treasurer

The Town Clerk/Treasurer performs and manages a variety of duties, including administrative, operational, financial, court, human resources, and statutory functions of the Town of Dove Creek. The Clerk/Treasurer also ensures that accurate records are kept of all the official acts of the Board of Trustees and acts as custodian of the Town records and the Town seal. This includes maintaining official minutes and records of Town Board proceedings, processing applications for licenses, managing municipal elections, managing municipal court, providing administrative support to the Town Board, and ensuring the accurate and timely performance of all financial duties for the Town including but not limited to payroll, performs human resource duties, administrative work in conducting the treasury and administrative functions including managing the Town's risk insurance program, health insurance plans, retirement plan, and assists the Town Manager.

This position will be a full-time position, and the pay is bi-weekly with a salary range starting at $40,000 to $57,784 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. 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 fill out an employment application form from the Town of Dove Creek and return it completed with a cover letter, resume and references attached. The deadline for submitting the required information is October 13, 2026, at 12:00 noon to the Town of Dove Creek at 314 W HWY 491, Dove Creek, CO. Failure to include all requested information will result in the application not being considered for any position with the Town of Dove Creek. *ad runs 9/30 and Between the Beans 10/5 10/12 and advertised on Facebook The Pinto Bean.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS NOTES

San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners Meeting in Egnar Fire Station October 14 2026 10am -3pm bocc@sanmiguelcountyco.gov or call 1-800-816-5824

Colorado voters, ballots are mailed out beginning / middle of October, check your polling place if you have not received a ballot and are registered to vote.

October 31 Halloween falls on a Saturday this year, find events listed on our Facebook page and follow us there.

BEARS may still be out - real pumpkins could attract them to visit your porch. Just saying...







Colorado Agricultural Addiction and Mental Health Program

www.CAAMHPforHealth.org

Six Free Sessions with a licensed, ag-friendly counselor available wherever and whenever you need them.

Anonymous • Remotely Available
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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)

SHORT TERM RENTAL Dove Creek Furnished 2 bdr/1 bath Daily Weekly Monthly 3 beds, covered parking, full kitchen, private deck, WiFi, No smoking or pets. Call 970-570-3974 DoveCreekCabin.Com

SELLING / BUYING / LOOKING FOR... Perfect opportunity to get your message out in an affordable way to thousands of readers! Items may be included or not due to content issues, as well as the paper available across multiple states. It's dropped off in UT CO AZ and NM! or find us online PintoBean.CO

FOR SALE 3rd Season **Deer Voucher** Private Land CALL 970-560-8949

Have an **RV or a Car or Truck for Sale**? Advertise it here and reach thousands of people across 7 counties! Send in text and photo for a special price. Email: info@TPIProductionZ.com

Looking to upgrade your ride, find out about trading in your car or truck at **CANYONLAND AUTO** offices in Dove Creek and Moab. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary at a Customer Appreciation BBQ 10/8 3-7pm 1090 S HWY 191 in Moab UTAH

FOR RENT - Large building Monticello UT perfect for weddings, meetings, parties, classes, with hall, kitchen, restrooms, tables, chairs, & amenitites. $125 refundable cleaning deposit $125/day Contact Linda Wiggonton 435-459-9043 (see ad for photo)



Join the Groups on Facebook for posting your job listings and or looking for a job in the Four Corners - employees will drive for a good position - reach more people through this online option as part of your personel search.

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**



NEWSFLASH: The World Stinks!

Commentary by Julia Lupine

Confession: there was a time when I was as smelly as anyone else in civilization. In high school, I would lather with scented shampoo every morning, and then, as I blow-dried my hair, hose it down with hairspray and, for good measure, spritz myself with Estee Lauder perfume. Maybe rub some fake vanilla-scented lotion on my legs if it was summer.

My sense of smell barely worked. I could walk past the (scented) kitty litter box, and not notice that it was overflowing until my mom told me I should clean it. I don't have vivid memories of the smell of leaves in autumn, at that time, and it was only when the fish-smell of low tide was at its strongest that I noticed it. I went to Bath & Body Works with my friends at the mall, and thought it smelled "nice."

Then, I moved out West and became a "hippy," and stopped using all chemical body care products. I used Dr. Bronner's soap and made my own deodorant out of baking soda and corn starch. My sense of smell came back. I noticed autumn leaves and dog poop. I noticed the different scents of trees as I walked through a forest. I also began to notice that everyone else smelled really, really bad.

And that is what I'd like to point out here: it is not just the "canaries in the coal mine," people with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, for whom one whiff of scented laundry detergent causes nausea, and in extreme cases, anaphylactic shock. These synthetic scented chemical body care products are toxic for everyone. We are just so immersed in the dirty fishbowl at this point that we lose our ability to discern their toxicity.

My boyfriend, who regularly handles paint, gasoline, and WD40, and could live a normal life in civilization if he wanted to, still is grossed-out by the odor of dryer sheets or by the fumes that waft from any crowd of "normal" humans walking past: perfume, body spray, scented lotions, and other such products that people anoint themselves with because they confuse these smells with cleanliness.

But, to anyone with a functioning sense of smell (and this likely includes our dogs and cats), there is nothing "nice" about the assault upon our senses of these volatile synthetic compounds, which are designed to stick around in the environment, and often linger in a vapor cloud like a demonic fart, long after the perpetrator has left the building. Please consider dropping some or all of these scented body care products from your routine, to improve air quality. Even if you don't want to go full-on "granola," you can easily search out Unscented laundry detergent, and skip the perfume.

Thank you, from all of the Olfactory-Unimpaired.

Colorado Hunting Season Dates 2026

Colorado Elk Hunting Season

As mentioned earlier, 2025-2029 marks a new Big Game Season Structure (BGSS) for Colorado. So, if you're relying on information or processes from prior years, you'll want to double-check the latest information to make sure you plan a hunt during the right dates and can get your license before your hunt.

- **Colorado Elk Archery Season:** September 2 – 30, 2026
- **Elk Muzzleloader:** September 12 – 20, 2026
- **Rifle**
  - **First Season:** Oct 14 – 18, 2026
  - **Second Season:** October 24 – November 1, 2026
  - **Third Season:** November 7 – 15, 2026
  - **Fourth Season:** November 18 – 22, 2026

Additional season dates are available for limited license hunts.

Deer Season in Colorado

- **Archery:** September 2 – 30, 2026
- **Muzzleloader:** September 12 – 20, 2026
- **Rifle:**
  - **First Season:** Oct 14 – 18, 2026
  - **Second Season:** October 24 – November 1, 2026
  - **Third Season:** November 7 – 15, 2026
  - **Fourth Season:** November 18 – 22, 2026
  - **Plains:** October 24 – November 3, 2026

Additional season dates are available for limited license hunts.

Mountain Lion
* **Regular Season:** November 23, 2026 - March 31, 2027



Black Bear
* **Archery:** September 2-30, 2026
* **Muzzleloader:** September 12-20, 2026
* **Sept Rifle:** September 2-30, 2026
* **Sept Plains Rifle:** September 2-Nov 22, 2026
***Rifle:** Oct 14-18, Oct 24- Nov 1, Nov 7-15, and Nov 18-22, 2026
* **Private Land Only (PLO):** September 2-Nov 22, 2026

SMEEL OF HUNTING

DID YOU KNOW...
For deer and elk hunting in Southeast Utah and Southwest Colorado, natural scents that mimic the local environment—such as pine, cedar, sagebrush, or fresh earth—can help reduce unfamiliar human odors. During the rut, doe-in-heat and estrous scents are also commonly used by hunters to attract or hold bucks and bulls in the area.

2026 season dates in Utah

General-season dates

Buck deer hunts	Weapon type	Season dates
General-season units	Archery	Aug. 15–Sept. 11
	Extended archery	See page 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept. 23–Oct. 1
	Restricted muzzleloader	Sept. 23–Oct. 1
	Early any legal weapon (rifle)	Oct. 7–11
	Any legal weapon (rifle)	Oct. 17–25
	Restricted rifle	Oct. 17–25

Bull elk hunts	Weapon type	Season dates
Any bull units	Archery*	Aug. 15–Sept. 16
	Extended archery	See page 9
	Early any legal weapon (rifle)	Oct. 3–9
	Late any legal weapon (rifle)	Oct. 10–16
	Muzzleloader	Oct. 28–Nov. 5
Spike units	Archery	Aug. 15–Sept. 4
	Extended archery	See page 9
	Any legal weapon (rifle)	Oct. 3–15
	Muzzleloader	Oct. 28–Nov. 5
Youth hunts	General-season youth elk permit	See page 39 for dates
	Draw-only youth any bull/hunter's choice elk	Sept. 12–22

**No general-season archery elk hunt on the Paunsaugunt unit.*

WATER WOES

By Dexter Gill

Where's the water? The Colorado River is drying up! Panic has hit over potential loss of power generation and increased demand for both water and power. The three lower basin states need the water produced in the four upper basin states, with Colorado being the largest producer. We have all read the battle over who gives and who gets how much with it ending up in federal court, which will take years with the only winners being lawyers. This is election time, so naturally this is a point to consider. First thing you hear today is "Climate change" due to man burning coal and natural gas, heating the planet.

A short diversion to consider, the Earth is 71% water and only 29% land. On this small land base, only 20-30% is considered habitable, and of that small habitable portion, 50% is relatively untouched, leaving the small balance for cities, industry, power plants etc., for man to produce CO2 to cause climate change of the whole Earth. This year there are about 117 active volcanoes with an average of 20 spouting off tons of CO2 and other gasses on any given day. The CO2 from just one of the bursts is greater than all of mankind. Does CO2 cause global warming? I won't debate that, but to blame man's actions is only for fools to rush into, man is not going to save the Earth from Climate change. Only those suffering from a self imposed "god complex" believe they can. God of Creation laughs! Man must adapt to what nature delivers, not try to control nature.

So what has happened to the water? In looking at precipitation records for the past 100 plus years, we find lean years and wet years average out over time, showing what we need to plan for over the same time periods. Today's generation believes that the forested landscape they see, as they hike or ride their ATVs is like it has always been. They scream out "save our forest, and public lands". That opens Pandora's box as it is not "their" land and it is not the same as it was 100 years ago or even 50 years, or for that matter, yesterday! Trees, brush, animals are dying every day, creating CO2 as they rot. Now, getting to my point, 100 years ago the forest was managed and used, timbering for lumber to build "cost affordable housing", grazed the forage to produce meat for food. The timbering opened the forest canopy of old dying stands of Pine trees, making room for new seedling trees, which is most of what we see today. Fifty years ago that process was halted creating an overgrown and thicker and different forest with way too many trees for their own good as well as the rest of the environment. This is the Watershed where water from the sky fills the streams and lakes and rivers, to sustain ALL lifeforms. It has been turned into a recreational Disney Land and Zoo, that is DRYING UP the forest, rivers, and lakes. The slow death has been coming as old timers recall of springs and



seeps began disappearing.. The efforts of the environmental NGO's to stop The Natural processes of Life, Death, and Renewal of the Forest has resulted in greater deaths of the Forests and Economies.

Research at Western Colorado University shows that a tree canopy will capture up to 60% of precipitation, where evaporation begins, what does melt as "through-fall" is captured in the forest floor litter, where up to 50% evaporates. The forest floor litter and deadwood can catch and retain up to one fifth (1/5) of Annual precipitation.. Then comes the trees and under story vegetation that needs the water for their growth. Studies have shown that 35 to 80% of total precipitation can be lost to evaporation & transpiration. We must restart to manage and use the public land watersheds with WATER flow as the key purpose. To do that requires thinning the trees, grazing the forage, and doing it economically. That is now a problem, as the means to use and manage the forest economically has been mostly lost in Colorado, and all western states. The forests have been "Protected to Death", while "Saving the Earth" from itself, all to please special interests. No one's to blame but ourselves!

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WOTUS Rule: EPA public input

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of the Army announced Sept. 4 that they are seeking additional public comment on proposed changes to the definition of "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act.

The supplemental proposal follows the U.S. Supreme Court's 2023 Sackett v. EPA decision and will be considered alongside the agencies' 2025 proposed rule. The goal is to establish a clearer, more predictable definition of which waters fall under federal Clean Water Act jurisdiction and therefore may require federal permits for certain activities.

The agencies say the changes are intended to provide greater certainty for landowners, farmers, ranchers, developers, energy producers, businesses and others, while continuing to protect water quality. Waters outside federal jurisdiction may still be regulated by state, Tribal or local governments.

The agencies previously received more than 220,000 public comments during a 45-day comment period that closed Jan. 5, 2026. The new supplemental proposal presents additional regulatory alternatives and does not predetermine the final rule.

The supplemental proposal is asking for additional input specifically on:

The definition of "relatively permanent" waters

The definition of "continuous surface connection"

Adding a definition of "perennial"

Related regulatory language and implementation options.

The agencies are still considering the broader provisions of the November 2025 proposal, including proposed changes involving interstate waters, lakes and ponds, ditches, prior converted cropland, waste treatment systems and groundwater.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The supplemental proposal was published in the Federal Register on Sept. 9, 2026. The EPA and Army are accepting public comments through Oct. 9, 2026. Comments may be submitted through Regulations.gov under Docket ID EPA-HQ-OW-2025-0322.



DOLORES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ACTIVITY REPORT 08/14/2026-09/24/2026

08/14/2026-Deputies responded to Rico for a report of a suspicious individual who was yelling and using a shovel to strike vehicles. Deputies contacted the reporting party, and the suspect was advised to return inside and refrain from throwing objects into the roadway.

08/15/2026-A suspicious vehicle was reported at Cahone park. The occupants were contacted and advised moving the vehicle off the grass, where they had been staying overnight.

08/18/2026-A report of possible child neglect was received. The incident was investigated and determined to be unfounded.

08/18/2026- Dispatch received a transferred 911 call reporting a reckless driver northbound on Highway 491. The vehicle was reportedly unable to maintain a consistent speed, was swerving, and obstructing traffic in passing lanes, and was braking abruptly. A deputy was unable to locate vehicle.

08/19/2026-A theft was reported at a local business. The case remains under investigation.

08/19/2026-Deputies responded to a welfare check on a mental health concern. The individual was transported by ambulance to receive medical care.

08/21/2026- A traffic complaint was received regarding a semi-tuck traveling northbound on Highway 491 and reportedly swerving into oncoming traffic.

08/21/2026-A report of neglected horses on a local property was received. A deputy responded and owner states that the deputy is not allowed on her property. This case is under investigation.

08/21/2026-A deputy responded to an individual experiencing difficulty seeing in the dark. The deputy followed the individual to a safe place. Where they could remain overnight until it was safe to continue traveling.

08/28/2026- A theft of fuel was reported at a local business. No charges were pursued due to the small monetary loss, at the request of the store owner.

08/24/2026-A local bank reported an at-risk adult concern. This case remains under investigation.

08/24/2026-An individual reported that someone was stealing gasoline from his vehicle. The deputy advised the reporting party of available options for pursing charges. After further investigation, no charges were pursued.

08/24/2026-A business reported a possible crime. The business owner later contacted the Sheriff's Office and advised that he did not want to pursue charges due to concerns about retaliation against his business.

09/03/2026-A report was received of a possible firearm on the side of the road near the reporting party's residence. A deputy responded and determined the item was a toy gun, which was properly disposed of.

09/03/2026- A report was received of an individual trespassing on private property. The individual was contacted and advised not to return to the property.

09/03/2026-A deputy responded to a fatal traffic accident on Highway 145. The Colorado State Patrol investigated with assistance from the Dolores County Coroner.

09/03/2026-Deputies responded to a Domestic dispute. The parties involved were advised to separate for the night.

09/05/2026-A 911 hang-up was reported. A deputy responded, and the call was determined to have been an accidental activation after the caller dropped their phone.

09/08/2026-Suspicious vehicle reported at local business. A deputy contacted the occupant, who advised they were waiting for a family member to get off work before leaving.

09/11/2026-A theft was reported from a property. The case remains under investigation.

09/12/2026-A shoplifting incident was reported from a local store. The case remains under investigation.

09/15/2026-The Rico Fire and Rescue and Dolores County Sheriff's Office responded to an overturned semi on a FS road.

09/16/2026-A fuel theft was reported by a local business. The suspect was contacted and returned to the business to pay for fuel.

09/24/2026-A theft was reported from a local business. The case is under investigation.

09/24/2026-Brian Cory Gallegos was arrested on three active warrants out of Cortez Police Department, and Montezuma County Sheriff's Office while deputies had contacted him to investigate an earlier case.

All persons arrested or accused of a crime are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty.



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Commodity Pricing Sample

2026	Sep	Oct*
GOLD	$4,458.80 ↓	$4,286.15
SILVER	$66.44 ↓	$64.31
URANIUM	$89.85 ↓	$89.50
COPPER	$14,535.00 ↑	$14,740.00
OIL (wti)	$83.40 ↑	$92.41
NATURAL GAS (Henry Hub)	$2.89 ↑	$3.20
Live Cattle	$2.21 ↓	$2.19
Feeder Cattle	$3.21 ↑	$3.35
WHEAT (winter)	$13.00	$13.00
BEANS	$35.00	$35.00

sources: Business Insider / tradingeconomics / CSU & Local Producers *as of 9.25.26

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