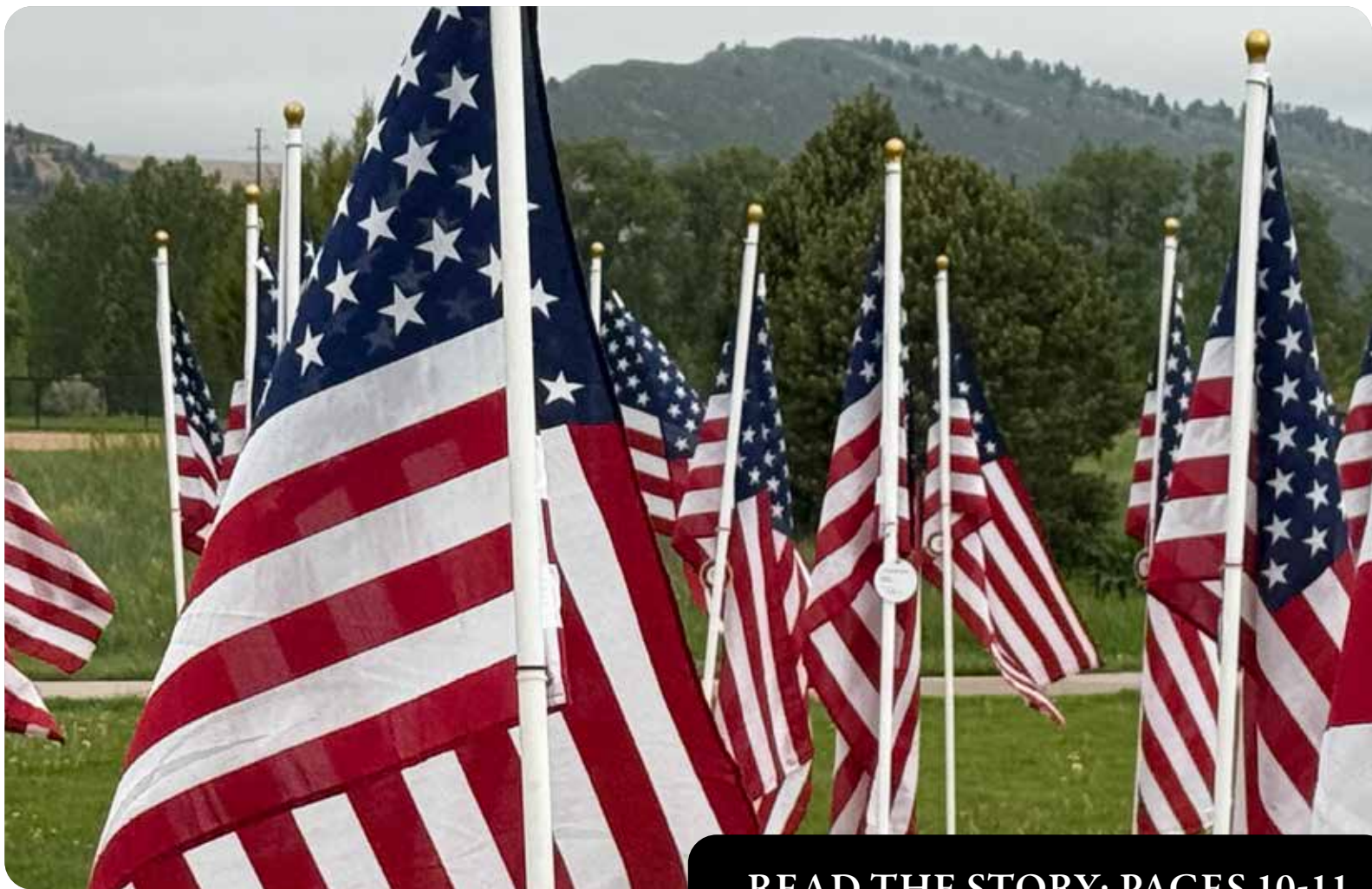


Honor & Remember

NORTHERN COLORADO REFLECTS ON MEMORIAL DAY TRADITIONS AND REMEMBRANCE



(Photo by Blaine Howerton)

READ THE STORY: PAGES 10-11



**It's not just news.
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week of
May 22, 2026

SPRING COLORBURST

A vibrant carpet of ice plant blooms lights up the landscape in Windsor, blending fiery orange petals with bright pink centers in a striking late-spring display.
(Photo by Randy Black, Windsor)



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The views expressed in this publication are those of the respective contributor and are not necessarily shared by the company or its staff.



(Photo by Blaine Howerton)

Remembering What War Leaves Behind

There are some holidays that carry celebration. Memorial Day has never fully felt like one of them to me.

My grandpa served in World War II. My dad served in Vietnam. My step-grandpa spent his entire career in the United States Air Force. Thankfully, all three made it home. I know many families cannot say the same.

But even when soldiers survive war, parts of war often come home with them.

Growing up around veterans, I saw that reality quietly and up close. Sometimes it was in stories told years later. Sometimes it was in the silence after certain names came up. Sometimes it was simply in the look that crossed their face when memories returned without warning.

I learned early that Memorial Day is not only about those we lost on the battlefield. It is also about the weight carried by the people who came home without all of their friends beside them.

That weight never fully disappears.

This week's edition of North Forty News reflects a Memorial Day weekend that feels very Northern Colorado. Across these pages are stories about flags filling fields in Windsor, music in Loveland, dancers gathering in Fort Collins, graduations, community markets, gardens, concerts, and neighbors coming together.

And honestly, I think that balance matters.

Because Memorial Day has always lived somewhere between remembrance and ordinary life.

Across Northern Colorado this weekend, families will gather for cookouts. Children will ride bicycles through neighborhoods. People will head into the mountains, attend local events, and spend time together under warm spring skies. At the same time, small American flags will appear beside headstones, veterans will stand quietly during ceremonies, and families who carry loss will remember names the rest of us may never know.

Freedom has always carried real names.

For me, this holiday also brings thoughts of my grandfathers and my dad — men who served, came home, built families, worked hard, and kept moving forward while carrying memories most of us will never fully understand.

I think about what they saw.

I think about who they lost.

And I think about how those losses continue echoing quietly across generations long after wars officially end.

Memorial Day reminds us that sacrifice is not abstract. It lives in empty chairs, old photographs, folded flags, and stories handed down over kitchen tables year after year.

So this weekend, while Northern Colorado gathers together, I hope we pause for a moment too.

To remember the men and women who never made it home.

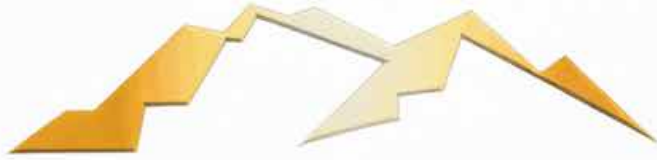
To honor the families who carry that loss.

And to recognize the veterans who survived war, but still carry pieces of it with them every day.

See you out there,

Blaine Howerton

Publisher, North Forty News



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start here  **NorthFortyNews.com**

Content



—Fort Collins

Fort Collins, at the foothills of the Rockies, is Northern Colorado's vibrant heart. Known for its historic Old Town, craft beer scene, and outdoor recreation, it blends urban energy with small-town charm.

**PLANTS THAT HELP
KEEP MOSQUITOES AWAY**
8-9

**MORRIS DANCERS
FILL FORT COLLINS WEEKEND**
15

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
CELEBRATES 8,460 GRADUATES**
23

XXXXIR
21

—Loveland

Loveland blends creativity with small-town charm. It's the Northern Colorado hub for Larimer County's events.

**MEMORIAL DAY
ACROSS NORTHERN COLORADO**
10-11

**THE PICKIN' PEAR
PLAYS LOVELAND SHOW**
16

**FIRE LEADER HONORED
AFTER 31 YEARS**
25

—Berthoud

Berthoud is a charming small town known as the "Garden Spot of Colorado," featuring a historic downtown, strong agricultural roots, and stunning views of the Front Range, all while offering a welcoming, close-knit community.

**FIRE LIEUTENANT
SERIOUSLY INJURED IN CRASH**
21

Northern Colorado Weekend Forecast

Memorial Weekend Warms Across Northern Colorado



(Photo by Blaine Howerton)

Northern Colorado heads into the Memorial Day weekend with a gradual warmup and only isolated rain chances.

Friday stays cool with increasing clouds and a slight chance of afternoon and overnight showers.

Saturday brings a mix of sun and a few afternoon thunderstorms, with highs climbing into the low 70s.

By Sunday, sunshine takes over across the region with warmer temperatures reaching the low 80s — a strong finish for holiday gatherings, travel, and outdoor events throughout Northern Colorado.

Content



Windsor

Windsor is a thriving town nestled between Fort Collins, Loveland, and Greeley. Known for its small-town charm and rapid growth, Windsor offers a perfect blend of modern amenities and a welcoming atmosphere.

**WINDSOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE
WINS AGAIN**
17

Greeley

Greeley, a dynamic city in Northern Colorado, is rich in agricultural heritage and cultural diversity.

**WELD COUNTY MAN
FACES 123 CHARGES**
22

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■ Marigold (Photo by Anna Krupa, Pexels.com)


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EDITORIAL:
by Blaine Howerton | NorthFortyNews.com

Simple garden choices can make Northern Colorado summer evenings more comfortable outdoors

There's something uniquely Northern Colorado about sitting outside on a cool summer evening after a hot day — the grill cooling down, the breeze finally settling in, and the sky stretching orange over the foothills. Unfortunately, that peaceful moment usually comes with one unwelcome guest: mosquitoes.

While bug spray still has its place, many gardeners are discovering that certain plants can help make patios, porches, and backyard gathering spaces a little less inviting to biting insects.

A number of common herbs and flowers naturally produce oils and scents that

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.



■ Mosquito (Egor Kamelev, Pexels.com)

mosquitoes tend to avoid. Many of them also happen to grow well in Colorado gardens and containers, making them practical additions to outdoor living spaces.

Plants in the mint family are among the most talked-about natural repellents. Lavender, basil, rosemary, thyme, peppermint, lemon balm, and catnip all release strong fragrances that can help discourage mosquitoes while adding aroma and texture to a garden. Bee balm, fennel, garlic, and beautyberry are also commonly associated with mosquito-repelling properties.

Annual flowers can help as well. Marigolds, lantanas, floss flower, and citronella geraniums are often used near patios and walkways because of their scent and visual appeal. Even lemongrass, from which citronella oil is derived, can grow well during Colorado's warmer months.

Still, gardeners should keep expectations realistic. Simply planting a few mosquito-repelling

varieties won't eliminate insects entirely. The strongest effects usually come from crushing leaves, using plant-based oils, or placing fragrant containers close to seating areas where people gather outdoors.

One of the biggest mosquito-control steps has nothing to do with plants at all: standing water.

Birdbaths, clogged gutters, forgotten buckets, overwatered pots, and rain barrels can all become breeding grounds during warmer weather. Reducing stagnant water around the yard is often more effective than any single plant.

For Northern Colorado gardeners, the appeal of these plants goes beyond mosquito control anyway. Many attract pollinators, provide fragrance, add color to outdoor spaces, and create a more inviting backyard environment during the height of summer.

And if they happen to help keep a few mosquitoes away while the sun sets over the Front Range, that's a bonus worth planting for.



■ (Photo by Chris F, Pexels.com)

MEMORIAL DAY ACROSS NORTHERN COLORADO

EDITORIAL:

Blaine Howerton | NorthFortyNews.com

REMEMBERING SERVICE, HONORING SACRIFICE, AND GATHERING AS A COMMUNITY

Every year, Memorial Day arrives with a mix of emotions across Northern Colorado. For many, it marks the unofficial start of summer — backyard cookouts, graduations, mountain trips, and long weekends. But at its core, Memorial Day remains one of the nation’s most solemn observances: a day set aside to honor the men and women of the United States military who died in service to the country.

The holiday’s roots trace back to the years following the Civil War, when communities across America began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and flags. Originally known as “Decoration Day,” the observance gradually evolved into Memorial Day and became a federal holiday in 1971. Today, it honors military personnel who lost their lives in all American wars and conflicts.

Across Northern Colorado, the meaning of Memorial Day often blends remembrance with community tradition. Veterans organizations place flags in cemeteries. Families attend ceremonies at local memorials. Small towns host gatherings, concerts, and commemorative events that bring neighbors together while remembering those who never came home.

In many ways, Memorial Day has also become a reflection of what communities choose to protect and preserve. The freedoms that allow local festivals, concerts in parks, parades, and public gatherings exist because generations of Americans served — and some sacrificed everything.

That balance between remembrance and community life is especially evident across Larimer and Weld counties this weekend, with ceremonies and public events taking place throughout the region.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.



■ USS Arizona Memorial, Hawaii (Photo by Blaine Howerton)

A HOLIDAY THAT CONTINUES TO EVOLVE

For some Americans, Memorial Day remains deeply personal — a day connected to military service, family loss, or remembrance ceremonies. For others, especially younger generations, the meaning can sometimes feel more distant beneath the pace of modern life and the excitement of a three-day weekend.

Yet the holiday endures because communities still pause, even briefly, to remember why it exists.

At cemeteries across Northern Colorado this weekend, small American flags will appear beside headstones. Veterans will stand quietly during ceremonies. Families will gather for meals. Children will play in parks beneath those same flags.

And somewhere between remembrance and ordinary life, Memorial Day continues doing what it has always done: reminding Americans that freedom came at a cost — and that honoring sacrifice can still happen alongside community, music, celebration, and time together.

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS AROUND NORTHERN COLORADO

Field of Honor

One of the region's most visual tributes returns this weekend as hundreds of American flags fill the landscape in Windsor. The annual Field of Honor display creates a quiet, reflective experience while honoring veterans, first responders, and loved ones remembered by the community.

Midwest Morris Ale

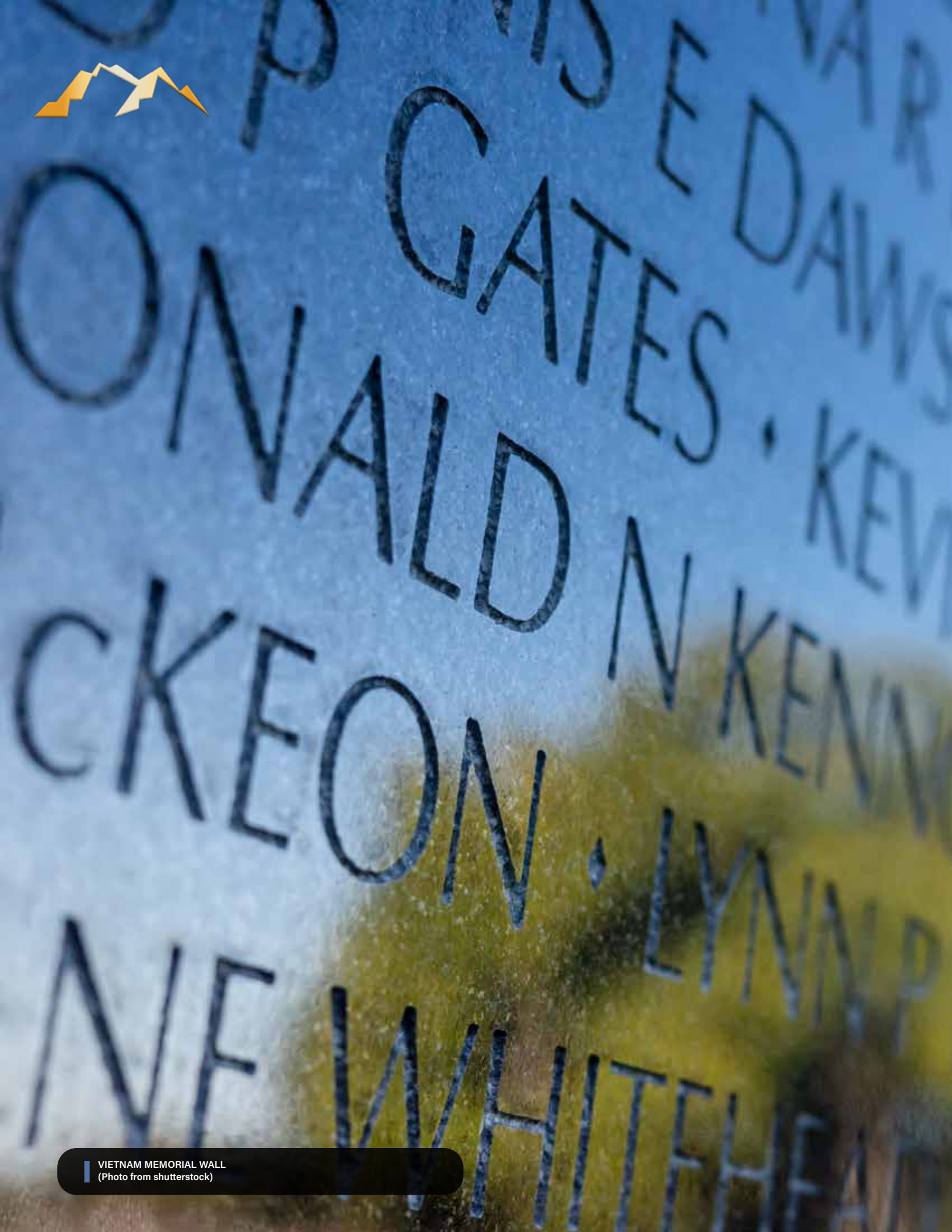
Fort Collins will also host an unusual and colorful tradition this weekend as Morris dancers from across the Midwest and Mountain States gather for performances around the city. The event connects old-world folk traditions with modern community celebration, bringing music, dance, and public performances to parks and downtown locations.

The Pickin' Pear at To The Fives

Loveland audiences can catch Colorado-rooted duo The Pickin' Pear during a Saturday night performance blending folk, bluegrass, rock, and improvisational energy. Events like these reflect the quieter community traditions that often define Memorial Day weekends across the region.

The Collective Market

Downtown Fort Collins' Oak Street Plaza becomes a gathering space for local artists, makers, and vintage collectors during The Collective Market. The open-air event highlights Northern Colorado's creative community while drawing residents and visitors into the heart of downtown over the holiday weekend.



VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL
(Photo from shutterstock)



Across the plains where meadowlarks rise
And morning settles soft on the foothills,
We remember them.

The sons and daughters of Colorado soil
Who walked beneath cottonwoods along the Poudre,
Drove county roads at sunrise,
And believed this country was worth protecting.

Some left from farm towns and Front Range neighborhoods,
From Fort Collins, Loveland, Greeley, and Wellington,
Where porch lights still wait through the night
And flags stir quietly in the spring wind.

Now Memorial Day returns
With mountain snow on distant peaks,
Barbecue smoke in backyards,
And children racing bicycles down familiar streets.

But beneath the gatherings and long weekends
Lives a quieter truth:

Freedom has always carried names.
Real names.
Etched into stone,
Spoken softly by families who still remember.

And here in Northern Colorado,
Where communities still pause for funeral processions,
Sacrifice is never abstract.
It lives in empty chairs, old photographs,
And stories passed down each Memorial Day.

Tonight the sun will fall behind the Rockies,
Casting gold across the Front Range.

For those who gave everything,
May we live worthy of the peace they left behind.

*With gratitude for the fallen and their families,
North Forty News*



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■ (Photo courtesy Morris Dancers)

Morris Dancers Fill Fort Collins Weekend

EDITORIAL

North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH FOLK PERFORMERS APPEAR ACROSS FORT COLLINS DURING MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Fort Collins will become a hub for centuries-old English folk dance traditions this Memorial Day weekend as the Midwest Morris Ale brings performers from across the Midwest and Mountain States to venues throughout the city.

The free performances run May 23–24 at parks, museums, breweries, libraries, and public gathering spaces across Fort Collins, giving residents multiple chances to experience Morris dancing up close.

Originating in England’s Cotswold region, Morris dancing combines live music, rhythmic stepping, colorful costumes, bells, sticks, and handkerchief choreography. Today, the tradition continues worldwide, with dozens of active dance teams

throughout North America gathering annually for the Midwest Morris Ale celebration.

Saturday’s performances begin at 10 a.m. at Rolland Moore Park before spreading throughout the city in the afternoon. Scheduled locations include the Global Village Museum of Arts and Cultures, The Lyric, Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, Old Town Library, Avogadro’s Number, The Exchange, and New Belgium Brewing Company.

The weekend concludes Sunday, May 24, with a 1:30 p.m. gathering at City Park.

The performances offer a rare opportunity for Northern Colorado residents to encounter an enduring cultural tradition in everyday public spaces throughout the city.

Find more events on our calendar at northfortynews.com/calendar.



■ (Photo courtesy Pickin' Pear)

The Pickin' Pear Plays Loveland Show

EDITORIAL

North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

COLORADO-FOUNDED FOLK DUO BLENDS BANJO, UKULELE, AND IMPROVISATION AT TO THE FIVES

Northern Colorado music fans will have a chance to catch a homegrown act with deep Colorado roots when The Pickin' Pear performs Saturday night in Loveland. Known for combining banjo, ukulele, folk, rock, and bluegrass into an energetic live experience, the duo brings an improvisational style that makes each performance distinct.

The show takes place Saturday, May 23, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at To The Fives in Loveland.

The Pickin' Pear features Tia Martini and Leon Elam, who first connected through the Northern Colorado music scene in 2014 before launching the band in Colorado. Since then,

the pair has toured extensively across the country, performing more than 1,000 shows in 40 states while developing what they describe as an “organic and all-natural blend of folk 'n' roll.”

Their story includes years of touring from a minivan and later an RV, along with performances at festivals, breweries, clubs, and music venues nationwide. Along the way, they've shared stages with nationally known acts including Fruition, The Travelin' McCourys, Kitchen Dwellers, and Trout Steak Revival.

For Loveland audiences, the performance offers a chance to experience a touring independent act that still maintains strong ties to the Colorado communities where the band first began.



(Photo by brongkie brongkie, Pexels.com)

Windsor Jazz Ensemble Wins Again

EDITORIAL

North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN INTERNATIONAL JAZZ HONORS FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR

Students at Windsor High School are once again receiving international recognition after the school's vocal jazz ensemble, Wizardry, earned top honors in the 49th Annual DownBeat Student Music Awards.

Wizardry was named the high school winner in the "Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble" category, marking the ensemble's second consecutive win in one of the most respected student jazz competitions in the world.

The recognition places Windsor students alongside elite music programs from across the United States and around the globe. Hosted annually by DownBeat Magazine, the awards celebrate excellence in jazz performance, composition, and musicianship at the middle school, high school, and collegiate levels.

In addition to the ensemble award, Windsor student Kimberlin Cohen

received an Outstanding Soloist Award for her featured vocal performance in Wizardry's competition submission.

According to competition organizers, submissions are evaluated by professional jazz musicians and educators using rigorous standards that include creativity, technical skill, improvisation, ensemble balance, and artistic expression.

"Wizardry takes on incredibly difficult music with curiosity, humility, care, and a lot of hard work," said Murphy, the ensemble's director. "When they are together, the room is full of laughter, the music is rich, and they truly see and honor one another. Witnessing this has been one of the greatest honors of my career."

The achievement highlights the strength of arts education in Northern Colorado and brings national attention to Windsor's growing music program.

More information about the awards is available through DownBeat Magazine.

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WEEKLY SNEAK PEEK



The Collective Market at Oak Street Plaza | Oak Street Plaza | 10 am-3 pm

A summer market series at Oak Street Plaza highlights local artists, vintage finds, and small businesses in the heart of downtown Fort Collins.

Friday, May 29

- 22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins | 10 am-5 pm
- 35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum | 11 am-5 pm
- At The Movies | The Lincoln Center | All Day
- Bird & Byron | 830 North - Live Music, Bowling, Arcade | 8-10 pm

- BlackBox Arts Collective Annual Art Show | The Downtown Armory | 5:30-7:30 pm
- Campfire Sessions Ft. Post Paradise | Riverside Colorado | 6 pm
- Chris Higgins | The Comedy Fort | 6 pm
- Comedy Brewers At The Lyric | The Lyric | 8-9:30 pm
- Dominick Antonelli | 2454 West | 8-10 pm
- Giant Walking Robots | New Belgium Brewing Company | 4 pm-12 am
- Golfing For Girls - Fundraiser | Mariana Butte Golf Course | 8 am-2 pm
- Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm
- Happy Hour for Everyday Heros @ Spirit Hound Lyons | Spirit Hound Distillers | 4-7 pm
- Jo Fuller Live | Red Barn Akers | 5:30 pm-12 am

- Johnny Johnston & Felonius Smith - Slide Guitar Extravaganza | City Star Brewing | 6-8:30 pm
- Laporte Festival | Greyrock Field | 4-8 pm
- Lions Club Bingo - Friday evening | Bingo Planet | 7-9 pm
- Live Music: Dennis Carder | Loveland Aleworks | 6-8 pm
- Matt Skinner Band | Tom Davis Saloon | 8 pm-12 am
- Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm
- Pub Quiz at the Big Thompson Brewery | Big Thompson Brewery | 6:30-9 pm
- Roma Ransom | Salt Road Brewing, LLC | 7 pm-12 am
- Shaped by the Land: A duo exhibition featuring Dara Weyna & Jai Cochran | Cornerstone Gallery | 5-9 pm
- SUNGRAVE & Pathos & Logos & Oyarsa | The Atrium At The Alley Cat | 7 pm-12 am
- Sweetheart City Singles Social | Grimm Brothers Taproom+Kitchen | 6-9 pm

Saturday, May 30

- 22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins | 10 am-5 pm
- 35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum | 11 am-5 pm
- At The Movies | The Lincoln Center | All Day
- Chris Higgins | The Comedy Fort | 6 pm
- Exhibit: Home News: A Greeley View of the Nation's Centennial | Greeley History Museum | All Day
- Exhibit: Our History, Our Voice: Mexican American History Project Greeley | Greeley History Museum | All Day
- Greeley Farmers Market | Lincoln Park | 8 am-12 pm
- Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm
- Karaoke | The 120 Bar and Grill | 6:30 pm
- Laporte Festival | Greyrock Field | 10 am-6 pm
- Open Weekends at Centennial Village Museum | Centennial Village Museum | 9 am-3 pm
- Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm
- Second Saturday Sound Bath, Meditation & Community Circle | Brookstone Recreation Center | 1-2:30 pm

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.



- SCENIC TRAIN RIDE THROUGH THE WYOMING OUTDOORS
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CALENDAR

Shaped by the Land: A duo exhibition featuring Dara Weyna & Jai Cochran Cornerstone Gallery | 12-4 pm

Sunday, May 31

22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins 10 am-5 pm

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Chicken Sh*t Bingo Pour Brothers Community Tavern 1-5 pm

FREE Prayers for World Peace Heruka Kadampa Meditation Center Fort Collins | 2-3 pm

Free to play Texas Hold'em Poker. Horsetooth Tavern | 6-10 pm

Geeks Who Drink Pub Quiz | The Tavern at St. Michael's Square | 7-9 pm

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

LOCO Uke Jam at Bootstrap Brewing! Bootstrap Brewing Company 2-4 pm

Open Weekends at Centennial Village Museum | Centennial Village Museum | 9 am-3 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Wild Embodiment Dance The Grange | 10-11:30 am

Monday, June 1

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Diabetes Prevention Program Yearlong Class Starting May 4th | UCHHealth Greeley Medical Center 12:30-1:30 pm

Free to Play Texas Hold'em Poker Wylers Pub | 7-10 pm

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

Live Jazz | The 120 Bar and Grill 6:30-9:30 pm

Loveland Boss Babes | Top of the Lake Coffee Co | 10:30-11:30 pm

Meditation as a Tool for Change FoCo Cafe | 6:30-7:30 pm

Memory Lane Spirit Hound Distillers | 6:30-7:30 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Retro Music Trivia/Bingo The 120 Bar and Grill | 6 pm

Verboten Brewing and Barrel Project Verboten Brewing | 6-9 pm

Tuesday, June 2

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Bingo hosted by the Knights of Columbus | Greeley-Evans Moose Lodge 6:45-9:15 pm

Brewery Bingo | Big Thompson Brewery | 6:30-8:30 pm

Free to play Texas Hold'em poker. Crooked Beech Brewing Company 6-9 pm

Free to play Texas Hold'em Poker Can't Dance Bar | 6:30-9:30 pm

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

Loveland West Farmers Market at JAX Loveland West Farmers Market at JAX 9 am-1 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Wednesday, June 3

22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins 10 am-5 pm

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Glass Fusing Night Loveland CreatorSpace | 5-8 pm

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

Jared Janzen Coopersmith's Pub & Brewing 7 pm-12 am

Lunchtime Meditation in Loveland: Inspiring Solutions for Difficult Times | Parker Hall at Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation Church 12-1 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Wild Embodiment Dance The Grange | 10-11:30 am

Thursday, June 4

22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins 10 am-5 pm

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Exhibit: Home News: A Greeley View of the Nation's Centennial Greeley History Museum | All Day

Exhibit: Our History, Our Voice: Mexican American History Project Greeley Greeley History Museum | All Day

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

Half Price Bottle Night & Live Music Kuper Wine Bar | 3-9 pm

Join Us for an Epic Karaoke Night! The 120 Bar and Grill | 6-9 pm

MUSIC BINGO at the Big Thompson Brewery | Big Thompson Brewery 6:30-8:30 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture | Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Friday, June 5

22nd Annual masks fundraiser & exhibition | Museum of Art Fort Collins 10 am-5 pm

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

Guided Wine Tastings | Sweet Heart Winery & Event Center | 12-6 pm

Happy Hour for Everyday Heros @ Spirit Hound Lyons Spirit Hound Distillers | 4-7 pm

Lions Club Bingo - Friday evening Bingo Planet | 7-9 pm

Outstanding in Our Field: CSU's Impact on Colorado Horticulture Colorado State University Home Morgan Library | 9 am-5 pm

Pub Quiz at the Big Thompson Brewery Big Thompson Brewery | 6:30-9 pm

Shaped by the Land: A duo exhibition featuring Dara Weyna & Jai Cochran Cornerstone Gallery | 5-9 pm

Saturday, June 6

35th Annual Colorado Governor's Art Show & Sale | Loveland Museum 11 am-5 pm

The Collective Market at Oak Street Plaza | Oak Street Plaza 10 am-3 pm

Exhibit: Home News: A Greeley View of the Nation's Centennial Greeley History Museum | All Day

Exhibit: Our History, Our Voice: Mexican American History Project Greeley Greeley History Museum | All Day

Gii Astorga | Mighty River Brewing Company | 6 pm-12 am

Greeley Farmers Market Lincoln Park | 8 am-12 pm

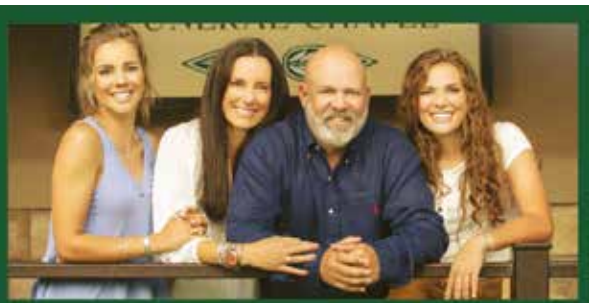


SODOKU SOLUTION

CHECK OUT THE SODOKU PUZZLE ON PAGE 24.

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- ACROSS**
- Family room staple
 - Refrigerator sound
 - *One of original Life Savers flavors
 - Diabolical
 - Supernatural life force
 - Dust allergy triggers
 - Magnesium silicate
 - Thor's father
 - Audience's approval
 - *Coconutty candy bar (2 words)
 - Baltimore player
 - Dip a _____ the water
 - Acronym, abbr.
 - *"The Freshmaker" candy
 - Deck painter, often
 - Flight info
 - Russia's plain
 - Nat of Jazz
 - N in RN
 - Across, in verse
 - *Inspired by "Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory"
 - Under the weather
 - Lipase or sucrose, e.g.
 - Part of a match
 - English traveling courts
 - Ones with title
 - _____ Aviv
 - Sign of life
 - Between Phi and Kappa
 - *Once known as Chicken Feed (2 words)
 - Trollop, in the olden days
 - Eyeball rudely
 - "I _____ wed"
 - Opposite of fires
 - Bear's den
 - Gives a hand
 - Between ids and super-egos
 - Symbol of industriousness
 - *Dad's _____ Beer Barrels candy
 - Lady's pocketbook
 - Narcotics agents
 - Light on one's feet
 - Relating to Scandinavia
 - Village V.I.P.
 - Catches one's breath
 - Ages and ages
 - *Pfefferminz, for short
 - *"Taste the Rainbow" candies
 - Broadway's news boy
 - Ray-finned fish
 - Decompose
 - Ardors
 - Bee's favorite drink
 - Like a Druid
 - Without illumination
 - Place for mutinous sailor
 - France's currency
 - *Other Rocket Fizz product
 - Kent State state
 - Do over
 - Hatchling's home
 - Café alternative
- DOWN**
- _____ good example
 - Like West Wing's office
 - 35mm, e.g.
 - "Little Men" author
 - Mecca pilgrim
 - Teamsters group
 - "Out of _____, one"
 - *Good & Plenty flavor
 - It will
 - Animal protein
 - Is, in France
 - Unassuming
 - Muhammad's birthplace
 - Gallows loop
 - *Polished off candy, e.g.
 - High IQ society

SEE THE SOLUTION ON PAGE 24.



FIRE LIEUTENANT SERIOUSLY INJURED IN CRASH

EDITORIAL:
North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

COMMUNITY RALLIES AROUND LONGTIME FIREFIGHTER AND TEACHER AFTER HEAD-ON COLLISION ON WAY TO WORK

A longtime member of the Berthoud Fire Protection District is recovering after suffering critical injuries in a head-on crash caused by a wrong-way driver in an HOV lane.

Lieutenant Ken Bradley, described by colleagues as a dedicated teacher and leader within the fire service community, was driving to work Sunday when the collision occurred. Bradley sustained multiple serious injuries, including fractures in both legs and his left arm, a dislocated shoulder, broken ribs, a pneumothorax, a concussion, and a significant leg laceration.

According to the district, Bradley has already undergone several surgeries and is expected to face additional procedures and a lengthy recovery process in the weeks ahead.

Bradley and his wife, Carol, have three children and are well known for supporting others in their community. Since the crash, family members have been traveling daily from Colorado Springs to Denver to remain by his side during treatment and recovery.

An online fundraiser has been established to help the family manage mounting medical bills, travel costs, and day-to-day support needs while Bradley heals. Community members who wish to help can contribute to the family's GoFundMe fundraiser.

The Berthoud Fire Protection District said the outpouring of support has already been deeply meaningful for the family as they begin what is expected to be a long recovery journey.




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WELD COUNTY MAN FACES 123 CHARGES

EDITORIAL:
by North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAYS INVESTIGATION BEGAN AFTER CYBER TIPS INVOLVING ALLEGED CHILD EXPLOITATION MATERIAL UPLOADS

A 36-year-old Weld County man was arrested Sunday following a lengthy investigation into alleged online child exploitation activity, according to the Weld County Sheriff's Office.

Investigators say Jonathan Najera-Rodriguez was arrested during a traffic stop near Highway 34 and 47th Avenue on suspicion of 123 counts of sexual exploitation of a child involving video material.

According to the sheriff's office, detectives launched the investigation on June 26, 2025, after receiving multiple cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children alleging that an individual had uploaded videos containing child sexual abuse material.

The arrest highlights the continuing role of cyber tip investigations in identifying and prosecuting alleged online crimes involving children across Northern Colorado and beyond. Weld County authorities said the investigation remains active.

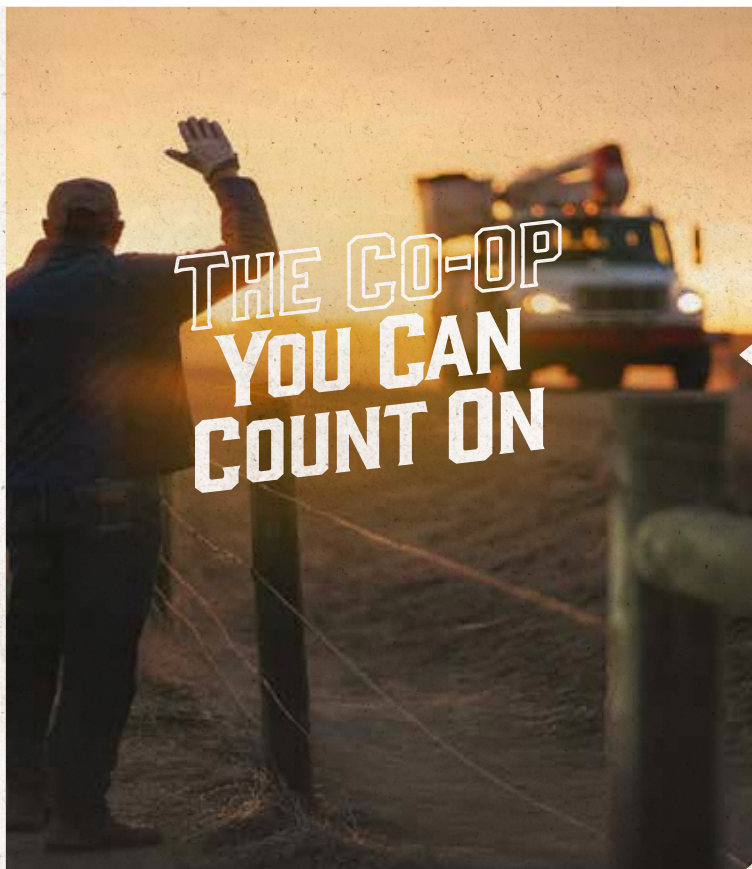
The sheriff's office stated it remains committed to pursuing investigations and prosecutions involving the exploitation of children online.

Anyone with information related to the case is asked to contact Detective Shagena at (970) 400-5381 or by email at mshagena@weld.gov.

All charges are allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.



Jonathan Najera-Rodriguez



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CSU students celebrate at the 2026 University-wide Commencement ceremony on May 16, 2026. (Photo credit Joe Mendoza)

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 8,460 GRADUATES

EDITORIAL:
by North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

Thousands gather at Canvas Stadium as Colorado State University honors graduates, Olympic athlete Hunter Powell, and former Gov. Bill Ritter Jr.

More than 8,000 Colorado State University graduates were recognized Saturday during the university’s 2026 commencement ceremony at Canvas Stadium, marking one of the largest graduation celebrations in the school’s history.

The university-wide ceremony celebrated 8,460 students earning bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees across Fall 2025 and Spring and Summer 2026 semesters. More than 6,000 graduates and approximately 40,000 supporters attended events across the Colorado State University campus throughout the weekend.

Fort Collins native and Olympic bobsledder Hunter Powell delivered the keynote address, encouraging graduates to pursue ambitious goals and embrace the growth that comes through challenges.

“We have a responsibility as people to chase our dreams,” Powell told graduates during the ceremony. “You owe it not only to yourself but to the people around you.”

Powell graduated from Colorado State University in 2019 with a degree in physics and competed in track and field before transitioning to Olympic bobsledding. He

credited part of that career shift to encouragement from his fiancée, Olympic bobsledder Kaysha Love.

The ceremony also honored former Colorado governor Bill Ritter Jr. with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Ritter, a Colorado State University political science graduate, was recognized for his work in public service, renewable energy leadership, and civic engagement.

Colorado State University President Amy Parsons praised Ritter’s commitment to education and bipartisan collaboration, noting his role in founding CSU’s Center for the New Energy Economy following his time as governor.

Ritter encouraged graduates to pursue what he described as “heroic ambitions” while remaining engaged in their communities and civic life.

Parsons also reflected on the role universities play in building lasting community connections and support systems, telling graduates that their time at CSU was shaped by friendships, mentorships, and shared experiences.

For Northern Colorado families, the annual commencement ceremony is both a milestone for students and a major community event that draws thousands of visitors, relatives, and supporters to Fort Collins each spring.



CROSSWORD SOLUTION

CHECK OUT THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE ON PAGE 20.

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SEE THE SOLUTION ON PAGE 20.



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■ Loveland Fire Authority honors Assistant Chief Greg Ward for 31 years of service (Photo courtesy Evans Emergency Photography)

FIRE LEADER HONORED AFTER 31 YEARS

EDITORIAL:
by North Forty News Staff | NorthFortyNews.com

**ASSISTANT CHIEF GREG WARD
RECOGNIZED FOR DECADES OF LEADERSHIP
AND SERVICE BEFORE MOVING TO FORT
LUPTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

The Loveland Fire Rescue Authority honored Assistant Chief Greg Ward on May 12, celebrating his 31 years of service and the lasting impact he made on firefighters, colleagues, and the Northern Colorado community.

The event brought together coworkers, friends, and community members who shared stories about Ward's leadership, mentorship, and dedication throughout his career. Speakers described him as a calm and steady presence who helped shape careers, supported others during difficult moments, and strengthened the culture within the organization.

According to the department, the strong turnout reflected the respect Ward earned during his decades of public service. Many attendees spoke about the positive influence he had on both the organization and the community it serves.

Ward is now stepping into a new role as Fire Chief for the Fort Lupton Fire Protection District. Loveland Fire Rescue Authority leaders said his legacy of compassion, courage, and commitment will continue to be felt for years to come.

More information about the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority is available online.

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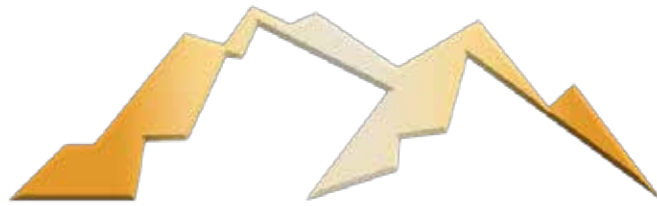
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