



North Forty News

Week of January 3, 2022 | Volume 29 | Number 39

NorthFortyNews.com

NORTHERN COLORADO'S WEEKLY INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS

THE ARIDIFICATION OF THE AMERICAN WEST

LA NINA IS HERE -- CLIMATOLOGISTS SAY IT'S PART OF A MEGADROUGHT

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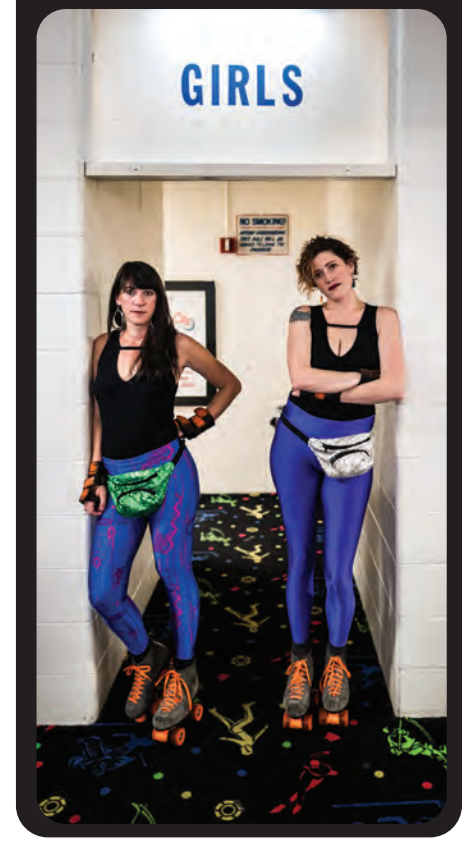


A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN NORTHERN COLORADO

Powered by Northern Colorado's Entertainment & Lifestyle Magazine

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Your New Favorite Local Band You Selfishly Hope Stays Local!

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Foxfeather (Photo by Courtney Nicholson Paine)

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Living Life Forward

For those of you who have followed my adventures, you probably know that I purchased mountain acreage a few years ago. I soon fell in love with the many surprises of nature in this environment -- wildflowers that seem to thrive and grow up out of the ash and fledgling trees that sprung up right in the roadway that I replanted where they could safely mature.

My young sons, ages 9 and 12, spent so many weekends on the mountain that I asked them how they'd feel about living there in our RV full-time, and they were on board with the experience. We had a fantastic time. But that was in spring, summer, and fall.

I always knew the challenges in the winter would be considerable. Fierce winds blew my shed down for the third time. I had to devise a heating system under the RV so the pipes and tanks wouldn't freeze. I even partnered with my neighbor to significantly improve the road, so it's now accessible via 2-wheel drive. It's much safer to reach my property (and his) now. The late fall was daunting but I kept rising to the challenge(s).

During recent high winds and Red Flag Warnings, I witnessed 16 inch / 60-foot trees snap in half and fly uphill. I saw a full 15-gallon can of gas lift vertically and fly through the air horizontally for about 20 feet. With the RV rocking back and forth it seemed there was nowhere we could go to be safe -- except away.

Always having our safety in mind, I decided we needed to leave the mountain until we can build a more permanent structure.

Luckily, in recent months, I heard of a rental property. It's in a beautiful historical setting. With the same daily commuting time to take the boys to school, space for all of us to breathe, a wood-burning stove, and a pastoral setting where we get to see cattle being led to grazing pastures -- we absolutely love it. This newspaper is now being produced from that setting -- another first!

My boys and I will be back on the mountain, weather permitting, on the weekends and on occasional weekdays. We will work together on a new cabin and someday soon, we will have a safe and permanent structure we can call home. Looking to the future, I'm excited that once again, it will be

LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER



Blaine Howerton on his mountain property (Photo by Rolly Medina)

the place I can't wait to drive up to.

In light of our recent weather changes, fierce winds, unseasonable wildfire risks, take care and be safe out there, everyone! Life is just too precious to take unnecessary risks.

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Blaine H.
Blaine Howerton

New Lemay Avenue Bridge Open to Traffic

NORTH FORTY NEWS

One of the most anticipated infrastructure projects in Fort Collins has opened to vehicular traffic.

The new Lemay Avenue bridge over Vine Drive and the BNSF Railroad opened to traffic in mid-December. "We're excited to be able to mark this significant milestone for Fort Collins," said Project Manager Tim Sellers. "Not only did crews with Ames Construction work hard to get the bridge open ahead of schedule, but it will also be completed within the estimated project budget."

It is a \$24 million project.

In addition to a new four-lane road, the new bridge and alignment will feature a multi-use path and connections to local streets at Buckingham Street/Duff Drive and Suniga Road. The new Lemay/Suniga intersection is built to accommodate the future extension of Suniga to the east.

Although the bridge will be open to traffic, lane closures will still be in effect as crews continue to address punch list items and install finishing touches to the structure and roadway through the spring. Drivers should use caution in the work zone.

"This project literally and figuratively bridges a significant transportation gap in our community," said Caryn Champine, the City's Planning, Development, and Transportation service area director. "Residents now have a safe, reliable connection from the northeast part of the city to the rest of Fort Collins."

For more information and resources about the project, visit fcgov.com.

North Forty News

OUR MISSION

As Northern Colorado's only independently-owned, regional weekly, we connect communities and the people who live in them by providing news of hyper-local events and of businesses, nonprofits, government leaders, and individuals who are working hard to make a difference while successfully meeting the challenges of our time.

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Winter Watering

BRYAN FISCHER | Gardens on Spring Creek

One of the brightest spots of living on the Front Range of Colorado is its winters. With more than 300 days of sunshine annually, we seldom see extended periods of the grey, chilly, precipitating skies common in so much of the country. It's not unusual for daily highs to make it above 50 degrees. Much of this we have our elevation and distance from an ocean to thank – our sunlight is more intense than at sea level and our humidity lower, resulting in greater warming during the day compared to regions of similar latitude to our east.

Unfortunately for many landscape plants, however, the significant day-night temperature differential this creates, spells trouble, when paired with our lack of soil-insulating snow cover. The resulting environment of warm days, frequent wind and intense sun increase water demand, while low humidity saps the soil moisture reserves that our limited precipitation may provide. Significant diurnal temperature swings – when paired with dehydration – contribute to plant stress and root damage, reducing overall plant vigor. Winter watering remains the best tool our region has against such conditions. It can be carried out easily with a

sprinkler and garden hose and takes little active management on behalf of the gardener.

As much as it hydrates the plant, winter watering also serves to displace air in the soil profile with water. Regardless of whether this water freezes at a later time or doesn't is unimportant, as temperatures of soils with noticeable water content fluctuate less than dry soils, due to the insulating, heat-



(Photo by Gardens on Spring Creek)

retentive nature of water. So, hydrated soils insulate roots and reduce temperature swings as well as hydrate the plants they envelop. This can have benefits beyond the roots, too, as there is some research to indicate that regular winter watering also reduces the likelihood of sunscald (also known as southwest injury).

Until established, all woody plants (trees and shrubs) should be watered up to twice monthly in winter (as temperatures allow). As a general rule, begin

“winter” watering in November (fall by the calendar, I know) and continue through March during periods without snow cover and without significant precipitation. Speaking broadly, I assume one year of establishment for every inch diameter of a tree trunk, so a tree with a two-inch diameter trunk (measured six inches above the soil line) would require two years minimum to reach establishment after transplant.

Many established woody plants benefit from winter watering as well, though this may be less essential than for recent transplants. I winter water established trees monthly in my garden and recently transplanted perennials and grasses somewhat less. I'm of the mind that fewer moving parts leave less available to fail, so I water with a solid cast-iron sprinkler at

the end of a garden hose, taking care to move the sprinkler every 15 – 30 minutes. Remember: the goal is not to deliver water to the tree as much as it is to hydrate the soil where roots may be, so wetting part of the root zone very well is less effective than wetting the majority of the root zone reasonably well. And, since the root system of a tree can extend up to three times its canopy width, ensure you water not only under the tree but around its perimeter, too.

Happy Holidays!

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WELLINGTON

Happening in Wellington: Contest Winners and Park Updates

ANNIE LINDGREN | NorthFortyNews.com

Holiday Season Contest Winners

The Wellington Main Street Program's Downtown Elf Hunt contest winner is Natalie Hoffman, and she won a \$200 #ShopWellington Gift Card. One hundred twenty-two people participated this year.

The Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce and the Wellington Main Streets program announced winners of 2021's storefront decorating contest. Committee members voted on the top 3 best holiday displays.

Here are the results:

1. First Place goes to Old Colorado Brewing Company and The BBQ LoveShack
2. Second Place goes to Soul Squared Brewing Company
3. Third Place goes to Wellington Auction Services

Special thanks to The Cakery, Zion Lutheran Church, Avuncular Bob's T-Bar Inn, and the Boys and Girls Club for participating.

The Town of Wellington's CAC (Community Activities Commission) is yet to announce winners of the Holiday Lights contest but will post on their website and social media outlets when they do.

Happening at the Parks

Main Street Market applications for the 2022 market open January 3, 2022. The Main Street Market is located in Centennial Park in downtown Wellington, held on Thursdays, July through September. Official hours are 4:30 - 7:30 pm (7 pm in September), and this year's market runs through September.

The Main Street Market features fresh fruit and vegetables each week and a wide variety of local handmade artisan items and cottage industry products.

For details visit: wellingtonmainstreet.org/mainstreetmarket

Help Name Two Parks. The Town of Wellington Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) wants to hear your name suggestions for two pocket parks in town. One is on Jefferson and Fox Chase Lane, and the other is near Harvest Village Townhomes off Ronald Reagan Avenue.

Submit anonymously with this link: forms.gle/ovdCfwWdL4V2YHL5A

Keep the following park naming parameters in mind. A person or family who has:

- Displayed outstanding long-term civic commitment and made significant contributions to the betterment of the community.
- Contributed service to the community above and beyond normal.
- Made a noteworthy contribution to developing and improving parks and recreation activities.
- Been prominent in the history of the development of the Town of Wellington.
- Is worthy of public commemoration.
- A person, family, or business that contributed significant funds for the specific park or for parks and trails in general.

Centennial Park received new picnic tables, and bike racks the last week of December. In addition, there are three new ADA wheelchair-accessible tables. These items were purchased using grant money through the Revitalizing Main Street grant, which looks to improve pedestrian multi-modal transportation needs and encourages people to spend more time outdoors. This project was facilitated through the Wellington Main Streets Program.

Drop your Christmas Trees off for recycling in the lot across from Wellington Middle School along 6th Street, December 29 through February 6. Make sure to clean all the decorations and non-tree items out of the tree.



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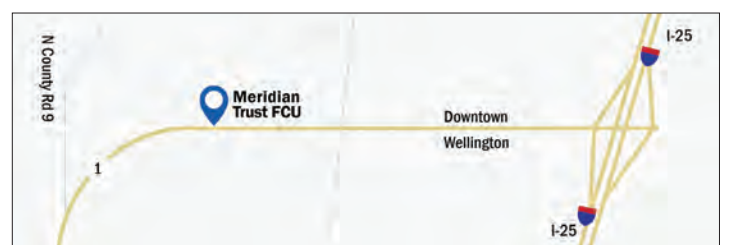
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WELLINGTON

Wellington-Waverly Kiwanis Club Receives Donation

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com



Wellington-Waverly Kiwanis Club

The Wellington Chamber of Commerce recently presented a \$1000.00 check to the Wellington-Waverly Kiwanis Club.

The check was a percentage of the proceeds from the Chamber's Annual Dinner Event and will be used in support of a new Youth Leadership program of the Kiwanis Club.

The Cleveland Crawl Warms Downtown Wellington this January

ANNIE LINDGREN | NorthFortyNews.com

The Wellington CO Main Street Program hosts the first-ever Cleveland Crawl on Saturday, January 22, from 11 am to 4 pm in downtown Wellington.

The Cleveland Crawl draws the community outdoors to support local downtown businesses during the slow season after the holidays. Each business will be utilizing its outdoor spaces, hosting fun, "winter-themed" activities for the entire Wellington community to enjoy. This winter-themed event is the perfect way to shake off those post-holiday blues. So dress up in your best cold-weather gear and enjoy activities like "snow golf" and a hot cocoa station hosted by your favorite downtown businesses.

Thirteen downtown businesses are participating:

- Trim Salon and Waxi Taxi are doing 'photos with Elsa'.
- Old Colorado Brewing Company hosts an obstacle course.
- The Cakery is 'cookie decorating.'
- Wellington Grill hosts 'Snow Golf'.
- Rust Vintage Market is doing 'a Snowy Short shorts shoot out'.
- Soul Squared hosts 'Hammer log'.
- Pizza Palace is doing 'Pin the pepperoni on the frozen pizza.'
- Integrity Insurance hosts a 'Snowball Roll.'
- Owl Canyon Coffee is doing a Hot Cocoa Station.
- Polished Spa is 'Ice Princess Makeover and Wonderland Shopping.'

- Thistle is doing a Photo Booth.
- The Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting Slurpz Food Truck.
- The Town of Wellington, still to be announced. Tickets are \$25 and include a fun interactive map of all the activities, a #ShopWellington bag, and a commemorative "Cleveland Crawl" beanie. Kids 12 and under are free, though if they want a beanie, it is an additional \$15.

The Cleveland Crawl is organized by the Wellington Main Street Program's Promotion Committee. This committee is responsible for promoting downtown Wellington through educational and community events and showcasing the community's unique characteristics. If you are interested in volunteering for events in downtown Wellington or being a part of the Promotion Committee, sign up online at <https://wellingtonmainstreet.org/get-involved>

"I am excited about having an event that will promote our local, downtown businesses, all while spending a beautiful winter day outdoors with friends and family. I hope to see you all at the Cleveland Crawl!" shares Erin Jerome, chair of the committee for this event.

Get your tickets through Eventbrite or by calling the Wellington Main Street Program at 970-568-4965. <https://wellingtonmainstreet.org/cleveland-crawl>

-CLEVELAND CRAWL-
2022

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FORT COLLINS

Ranger Brendan Unitt Community Service Award Recipient Named

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

Larimer County Natural Resources employee Bill Wilson is the recipient of the 2021 Ranger Brendan Unitt Community Service Award. Wilson is a gatehouse attendant at Horsetooth Mountain Park, one of the busiest parks and trailheads in the Larimer County Park system. Each day he interacts with hundreds of customers and consistently exhibits dedication and professionalism to the public, with an expansive knowledge of Larimer County Parks. He helps others to improve their interpersonal relationships and encourages those around him to serve others and to make a positive impact in our community.

Before his current position with Natural Resources, Wilson worked 14 years for the City of Fort Collins Parks and Recreation Department, ensuring the health and safety of the city's open spaces.

Wilson is also a small business owner and a veteran who honorably served in the Vietnam war with the 120th Engineering Division, 45th Infantry Battalion as a medivac medic.

Wilson continues to honor our veterans by planning the annual Veterans Day Breakfast at the Fort Collins Senior Center while also volunteering his time throughout the year working in various activities with veterans.

An avid angler, he also volunteers his time working in Larimer County's Catch a Special Thrill, [CAST] a foundation that enriches the lives of special needs children through sport fishing.

With over 3,000 hours of volunteer work in CAST, the Colorado Bass Nation nominated him for the National CAST Humanitarian Award. Wilson was president of the Centennial Bass Club for six years and also coordinated their Full Moon Open Tournament for 20 years, to promote good stewardship of our area & rivers and lakes, improving fishing habitat at Lon Hagler Reservoir and Boyd Lake. He was chosen from 14 nominees for the award, which reach across many community organizations in Larimer County including The Thompson School District, Poudre School District, Colorado State University, LatinX Advisory Board, Interfaith Council of Fort Collins, and Centennial Bass Club.

The Ranger Brendan Unitt Award is an award given to a community member in honor of fallen Ranger Brendan Unitt who demonstrates a passion to serve their community through selfless acts of community service.

Unitt was a Larimer County Natural Resources Ranger who lost his life while rescuing distressed swimmers during a sudden severe storm at Horsetooth Reservoir.

He served his community in many ways outside of his regular ranger position, volunteering in many organizations.

A graduate of Windsor High School, he served honorably in the United States Marine Corps with a tour in Afghanistan and was a 2019 graduate of Colorado State University.

Five Fort Collins Nonprofits Receive Elevations Foundation Awards

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com



Award Recipients at the reception (Photo provided by Elevations Foundation)

Elevations Foundation has announced \$55,000 in grant funding will go to 14 nonprofit organizations across Colorado – including five in Fort Collins. Every year, Elevations Foundation awards community grants to organizations that are making an impact across the state.

To determine funding priorities for the year, the Elevations Foundation grants committee reviews local research to see if there are gaps in services in Colorado. This year's grantees are organizations working in the fields of early childhood development, mental health, and environmental education and sustainability.

"This year's inspiring grantees were selected from a pool of over 50 applicants," said Eric Lentz, executive director of Elevations Foundation. "Each applicant amazed us with their passion for and commitment to their community. We are honored to be able to support organizations

that are making real change in Fort Collins and across the state."

This year's grantees in Fort Collins include the Alliance for Suicide Prevention of Larimer County, The Growing Project, Larimer County Partners, Audubon Rockies, and early childhood nonprofit The Matthews House.

"The funding we are receiving through Elevations Foundation will continue

to support our work with students who have experienced learning loss due to COVID-19," said Nicole Armstrong, Executive Director of The Matthews House. "All people deserve to belong and feel they are significant and grants like these allow us to serve the most vulnerable youth and families in our communities."

The Elevations Foundation grantees were celebrated at a reception on Tuesday, Nov. 30, where the Members' Choice grantee was also announced. Alliance for Suicide Prevention of Larimer County will receive an additional \$5,000 in grant funding. The Members' Choice grantee is selected by Elevations Credit Union members.

Elevations Foundation has provided over \$579,600 in community grants since 2010. To learn more about the Elevations Foundation grant program, visit elevationscu.com/foundation.

Could Covid Have Come From Outer Space?

COVID GALAXY

Local Author

MARK GOODE

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HEALTH



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Construction Begins on New Larimer County Behavioral Health Facility

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Construction is underway at the site of the new Larimer County Behavioral Health Facility located at the corner of Taft Hill Road and W. Trilby Road in Fort Collins.

The facility, is a 55,000+ sq. ft, 64-bed crisis care facility that includes a welcoming reception and lobby, public and first responder entrances, triage and observation space, crisis stabilization unit, detox, and short-term treatment units, pharmacy, laboratory, food service, exercise/wellness room, meeting space, and an administrative wing.

Project Manager Kevin Hoff said, "We are excited to be a part of these added services to our community. There will be minor traffic impacts to Taft Hill while bringing utilities to the site, but this should only be for a few days. Trilby will remain open except for paving operation in summer '23."

"We have a great team in place for this critical project and are very excited to see the construction begin," said Ken Cooper, Larimer County Facilities Director. "In the earliest discussions, our goal has been to build a facility that's welcoming, professional, and functional. We're very thankful the facility will allow these needed services to be provided to our community for decades to come."

Larimer County has contracted with SummitStone Health Partners along with UHealth to provide clinical care and treatment at the new facility.



Rendering of Larimer County Behavioral Health Facility (Image Courtesy Larimer County)

The facility will serve Larimer County residents in need of urgent help for mental health and/or substance use disorders. The innovative design of the facility and the unique approach to care will allow individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis to access multiple levels of care at one

location. Once open, services at the facility will include:

- Behavioral Health Urgent Care (Available 24/7)
 - Two Levels of Withdrawal Management
 - Social Detox
 - Medically Monitored Detox
 - Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
 - Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) - A short-term residential program for individuals with moderate to severe acute psychiatric or co-occurring crises.
 - Short-term intensive residential treatment (IRT) - A short-term residential program for clients focused on recovery after detox.
 - Care Coordination
 - Bridge Clinic for transitional care
 - On-site pharmacy and lab services
- Construction is expected to be completed and the facility open to the public in 2023.

For more information visit: larimer.org/behavioralhealth/facility.

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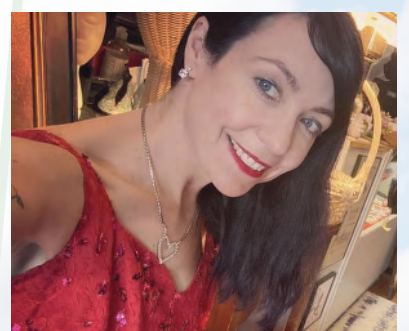
“ The North Forty News is a fantastic way for us to reach homes and businesses across Northern Colorado. Their quality content focuses on community, which aligns perfectly with our needs. We couldn't be happier in this partnership. ”

Sam Taggart
Strategic Communications Director
Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association, Inc.



“ Before we opened our new credit union branch in Wellington, we started working closely with the team at the North Forty News to help us get the word out to the local area. They helped us put together a plan that allowed us to communicate and promote our services to those who could benefit from them. They're great to work with and we've forged a successful partnership with them over the years. ”

Ed Beckmann
Chief Experience Officer
Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union



“ Several people have come into my shop and said they saw my (weekly) ad in North Forty News. Thanks North Forty! ”

Kim Sewald
Wear It Again, Sam
Downtown Fort Collins



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the new scene weekly

Foxfeather: Your New Favorite Local Band! (which you selfishly hope stays local)

JONSON KUHN | SceneNOCO.com

Okay, folks, by now you know the drill: there are bands around town, I interview them and ask really insightful questions that perhaps no other interviewer would ever even think to ask. So, this time it's no different; the band in question? Oh, just a little ole band called Foxfeather, ever heard of them? Well, you better get in the know while you still can because in no time at all this is going to be one of those local bands that is going to blow up and leave the rest of us saying petty things like, "I was a fan before everyone else!"

The band consists of Carly Ricks Smith and Laura Paige Stratton...sort of, but we'll get into that. Carly and Laura were dope enough to take some time out of their busy performing schedule to talk about their new album *Nature of Things* AND a really cool show coming up at Magic Rat on Friday, January 7 at 8 pm. New SCENE was able to secure a timeshare in the Alps, just outside of Liechtenstein and that's where my interview with the bodacious babes of Foxfeather took place. We only have the condo for half an hour out of the year, (as you can imagine, it's really expensive) so, this interview had to be cut slightly shorter than usual. Here now is that very conversation.

NEW SCENE: *Nature of Things* came out this year to my understanding, correct? It seems like such an appropriate title for the times we're currently living in; can you talk about where the idea for the album came from and what it was like recording with Octave Records?

FOXFEATHER: Yes! We were fortunate enough to work with PS Audio and Octave Records to release our new album 'The Nature of Things.' This is our fourth project as Foxfeather, our second full-length album, and our first experience with DSD. We were near the beginning of quarantine when we were approached by Octave Records and asked to be a part of their label and make an album. We were thrilled to be involved and immediately began piecing our record together. As

artists, we were processing our grief and shock in the best way we knew how -- by writing. All of this adds to the meaning and importance of the full album, "The Nature of Things."

NEW SCENE: *I see a lot of pictures that feature just the two of you but then occasionally I'll see some other folks featured in pictures, as well. Are there more people in the band or were those people superimposed into the photos to create the illusion of having a larger band?*

FOXFEATHER: While we (Carly and Laura) are the founders, managers, and principal writers/composers for the band, we have an amazing group of musicians behind us! We can play with a few as two (Carly and Laura) and have played with as many as nine! For the past few years, we have had the privilege to work consistently with Jay Elliott (percussion), Mark Dabrowski (bass), and Blake Smith (electric guitar.) These three are incredibly important to our sound and our progression as a group, and they all feel like family.

NEW SCENE: *"End of My Rope" is a really fun song, I had it stuck in my head all day. I love the title because I think it's (at least personally) very relatable as I feel I'm at the end of my rope on a daily basis, stuck in traffic, standing in a long line at Chipotle, etc. The lyrics are the most intriguing part, they talk a lot about toxic apples and give warnings to stay clear, are you able to share any insight into what that song is about exactly?*

FOXFEATHER: "End of My Rope" is definitely a band and fan favorite. When we (Carly and Laura) wrote the song, back in 2018, there was definitely frustration and a bit of anger boiling to the surface. The song, as stated in the chorus, is a warning. A warning to not doubt the power of the woman standing before you. This is an immensely personal song. But, our goal as songwriters is not simply to



Foxfeather (Photo by Courtney Nicholson Paine)

tell our story, but to create a template on which others can apply their own. We hope this song can do both, and we are thrilled that you enjoy it so much. Keep your eyes peeled for the release of the "End of My Rope" music video in early 2022.

NEW SCENE: *Your music sounds so fresh but yet so familiar at the same time, I listen to your songs and I can't help but wonder, "why aren't they opening for Brandi Carlile?!" So, I'm wondering if you could pick one band/artist to open for, who would you pick and why?*

FOXFEATHER: If you can get us that booking, we will be there! We adore Brandi Carlile! Her musicality and voice, as well as the subjects she covers in her writing, are all huge influences on us as artists. Other huge influences for our sound and our growth as musicians include Bonnie Raitt, Lake Street Dive, Beth Hart, Margaret Glaspy, Sharon Van Etten and so, so many more.

NEW SCENE: *Roller skating seems to be a big thing with you all; I think it's wicked cool, but I was wondering if you could perhaps unpack that a little? Also, have you considered approaching Sonic for sponsorship? (I don't*



(Photo by Foxfeather)

know, once upon a time, Sonic employees used to bring you food on skates but that was like back in the 1980s, so I don't actually know how dated that joke might be).

FOXFEATHER: Sonic approached us! Just kidding. But, yes, we do love to roller skate! Although, after the last two years of a pandemic and quarantine, we are probably a bit rusty. If you have seen the music video for our song "Come and Get Me," you have seen our skating skills in action. The lyrics to the song are actually quite sad and lonely, it tells the story of an empty house- a breaking house- and the hearts that are breaking along with it. The video juxtaposes this with fun and frivolity while transporting the viewer back to an era of naive hopefulness.

NEW SCENE: *You've got your show coming up on January 7 at Magic Rat at 8 pm with special guest TMule. For any of these fools out there who for whatever reason have yet to catch a live Foxfeather show, how might you describe that experience?*

FOXFEATHER: We are stoked for our evening at Magic Rat with TMule! We love Fort Collins. The music scene, the people, the vibe, all come together to make it one of our favorite cities to play. We also can't wait to play our first show with FoCo local and staple, TMule. He is an amazing musician who we have had the pleasure of knowing for many years. Foxfeather likes to balance the soft and intimate with the soulful rocking, so be prepared for a roller coaster of emotions. We will have the full band set up, including electric, bass, percussion, and keys. See you there!

My many thanks to Carly and Laura of Foxfeather for giving the New SCENE some of their time and attention and for traveling all the way to Europe, and for covering their own costs!

For more information about the upcoming show, please visit foxfeathermusic.com or MAGICRATLIVEMUSIC.COM.

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CITY BUZZ

CUPS WINDOW SHOW: BREWING UP A ROCKIN' 2022

TIM VAN SCHMIDT | SceneNOCO.com

Photos by Tim Van Schmidt

There's a coffee shop/cafe in my neighborhood that I like to frequent -- Cups Community Coffee, near Taft Hill and Elizabeth.

One day, I got to talking to owner Amy Snider about an article I had just published in the North Forty News/New Scene Weekly about the great NOCO band the subdudes.

When I asked her if she had heard of them, Snider proudly declared that she and her husband used a subdudes song -- "Sugar Pie" -- for their wedding dance. Apparently the band's album, "Annunciation", was on the jukebox in an area bar when Amy and her husband Matt met in college in upstate New York -- and the subdudes became one of their favorite bands.

I knew I had met a kindred spirit.

In a later conversation, Amy credited Matt as "the musician and musical seeker of the two of us". But she "goes along for the ride" and they have developed a taste for local music of all kinds.



Page and Plant

through for my usual large Snickerdoodle drink, I watch Snider interact with other customers with the same welcoming attitude.

Snider says, "I believe I get just as much happiness from seeing my customers as I hope they do from me. There are so many interesting people to meet. I feel very fortunate to do what I do to get that in-person interaction. It's nice to be around other people and find out what they are up to. When I'm busy and overworked at the shop at least I can get some vicarious living going on through the stories of others!"

This is only the second public show I've ever done with my work, so I want to get it right.

The first was a collaborative effort with Fort Collins' longtime high-end audio dealer, Audio Alternative. The store, then on College Avenue, had a long hallway that just begged for some art -- a little like that window at Cups.

In a world where photos are not even a dime a dozen -- more like a dime a million -- I felt like if I wanted to entertain a viewer with my rock and roll stuff, it would have to be about more than a few photos. That's why I developed my "Time Capsule" designs, to give my show a bigger bang.

It was a real project. Just the diversity of artists I had to choose photos from was daunting, but I think I picked some interesting ones including Paul Simon, David Byrne, Roger Waters, Metallica, Neil Young, and Eric Clapton.

I also made some compilation designs, suggesting my own Hall of Fame, from Bjork to Stevie Ray Vaughan; one on musicians who have famous fathers, like Sean Lennon, Rosanne Cash and Dweezil Zappa; also a look at the great Lollapalooza Festival over several years.

That was only half of it. I also plumbed the depths of my concert scrapbooks to pick out appropriate ads, flyers, ticket stubs, and the like to back up the images.

For me, my "Time Capsules" show is a kind of summary of a lot of my work -- if you can call rock and roll work. For Snider, it's a perk for her shop.

But more, it is just another part of the community-building Snider is doing at Cups, serving up coffee and food and lending customers an ear -- and a window.

Tim Van Schmidt is a photographer and writer based in Fort Collins. See his "Time Capsules" at www.ItsAboutRockAndRoll.com and on his YouTube channel at "Time Capsules by Tim Van Schmidt" -- and, of course, see his "Rockin' 2022 Window Show" at Cups Community Coffee thru January 31. Cups is located in Fort Collins at 1033 South Taft Hill.



David Bowie

"We've always sought out local music to watch and support," Snider says. "We even built a stage in our backyard a few years ago to host music and have neighborhood parties. We have been missing those! We had planned to have live music at the shop but CO-VID hit, so we've not been able to do that yet -- but someday."

These are kindred spirits indeed.

Here it is a year after our first conversation and I find I am working with Cups to hang a show of my photos for a "Rockin' 2022 Window Show". My pieces are called "Time Capsules" -- they are collages of not just my original rock and roll photos but also memorabilia to represent multiple stages in the careers of artists such as Page and Plant, Melissa Etheridge, Jethro Tull, Madonna, The Black Keys, David Bowie, and more.

The show is at Cups because, well, I just feel comfortable there, Snider is a friendly and welcoming shop owner -- and I really liked their window.

There's a big window back by the side door to Cups that sparked my imagination. I figured that, especially in the midst of a pandemic, it would be great if my "Time Capsules" could be displayed facing outside through the window, so that if someone wanted to see my stuff, they would have a 24/7 opportunity to do so.

Of course, there'd be more on display inside Cups as well.

This wouldn't be possible if Snider wasn't so supportive. She welcomed my kind of far-out idea of a window show, but then that just seems to be the kind of person she is. Often, when I stop



SHOUT OUT!

Blaine's Livermore Shout Out:

Forks Restaurant (17685 US-287 #3) has one of the closest things I've seen to the famous Pueblo, Colorado "Slopper." It's a fabulous open-faced burger. Give it a try on a cold day -- just ask for the 287 Burger. Order it smothered with EXTRA Green Chile!

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Happy Holidays!

(from all of us at North Forty News)

RICHIE FURAY AT THE STANLEY HOTEL

NEW SCENE | SceneNOCO.com

Richie Furay is an American music luminary, a Colorado Music Hall of Fame, and a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee. He is celebrated for pioneering Country-Rock as a founding member of the legendary and quintessential groups Buffalo Springfield, Poco, and the Souther-Hillman-Furay band.

Richie Furay, best known for his time with the timeless band Buffalo Springfield, will be making an appearance at The Stanley Hotel Concert Hall.

General Admission: \$45 | VIP \$65
January 15, 2022, at 7 pm

Tickets are available at stanleylive.com.

CITY BUZZ

PHOTO OF THE WEEK: OHhh WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN DECEMBER



The photo of the week comes from Rolly Medina. It was taken on a beautiful sunny day in late December (in Livermore) of deer on a nearby hillside.

ALL NEW! Sanderosa Art Gallery in Laporte is our new sponsor. Each Week North Forty News features a photo submitted by one lucky reader. The chosen submitter will receive a \$25 gift certificate to be used for merchandise at the gallery.

Your photo might capture a moment in time of scenery, animals in the wild, a wildfire, your friends or family, or a recent local event.

Send us your best shot!

No purchase is necessary, and multiple

submissions are permitted. One photo per email, please.

Please include a photo caption in the subject line (include your name, phone number, and location), and you could be our next weekly winner!

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North Forty News and Sanderosa Art Gallery

We reserve the right to use the photo wherever we see fit, including our front page —crediting you as the source of that photo.

Submit Your Photos to:
yourphotos@northfortynews.com



ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Greg Fladager
Silk Screen, Etchings, Oil Pastels,
Charcoal and Black & White Photos

SANDEROSA ART GALLERY

Tuesday -- Saturday, 11am - 5pm
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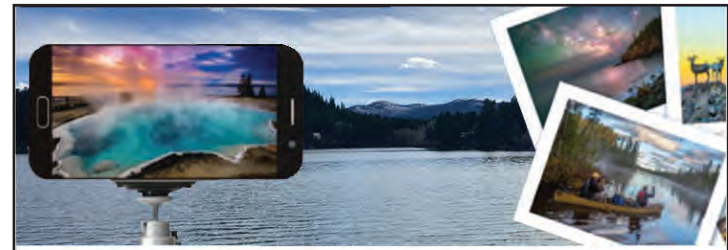


PHOTO CONTEST TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT!

Each Week the North Forty News will feature a photo submitted by one lucky reader. Your photo might capture a moment in time of scenery, animals in the wild, your friends or family, or a recent local event.

Just take your best shot and you could be our next weekly winner to receive a \$25.00 Certificate from Sanderosa Art Gallery in LaPorte.

No purchase necessary and multiple submissions are permitted, one photo per email please.

Just take your best shot and submit your photo to yourphotos@northfortynews.com.

Please include photo caption in subject line (include your name and location) and you could be our next weekly winner!



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THINGS TO DO IN NORTHERN COLORADO WHEN YOU'RE (NOT) DEAD

JONSON KUHN | SceneNOCO.com



First and foremost, I just want to make clear that the headline to this article is supposed to be a direct reference to the 1995 Andy Garcia film "Things to Do in Denver When You're Dead." So, now that you understand the reference, we can all agree

it was really clever on my part and we can move on without being the least bit disturbed or offended, yes? Here we go!

Oh, that weather outside is frightful, eh, folks? Or, well, maybe "frightful" isn't entirely accurate, but the song doesn't go, "Oh, the weather outside is unusually warmer than it's supposed to be for this time of year..." I guess warmer weather in December is "frightful" enough on its own, but no matter the temp, just because the summer is over, you shouldn't let it deter you from getting out there and enjoying all that Northern Colorado has to offer year-round! Here is just a brief list of some of the stuff you can check out for yourself.

1. Fly High and Whetstone Climbing

This first one is kind of a two-for-one if you will because it offers a little bit of something for everyone. Fly High Trampoline Park has been flying high at the base of the mountains of the Front Range in Fort Collins for quite some time now. Whether it's booking parties or just killing an hour or two for fun, they offer great family activities for all ages. But if jumping on trampolines isn't your thing, just drop the kiddos off and check out Whetstone Climbing literally right next door; let the kids release their energy while you release the inner climber you know you've always had in you!

2. Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising

This little hidden gem is Colorado State University's historic collection of apparel and textiles. The museum is always completely free and open to the public, with four galleries in two locations across the CSU campus. Honestly, it's a really fun way to take a look into the past because instead of just being overwhelmed with historical facts, you can actually see history change over time through the telling of global stories of people and their textiles, dress, and interior furnishings. The Avenir Museum collection got its official start back in the early 1950s as a small teaching resource for faculty in the former Department of Home

Economics. Set yourself up a little tour today at chhs.colostate.edu/avenir.

3. Mulberry Indoor Pool

Despite the weather this winter so far being warm enough for outdoor pools, don't count on it staying that way forever and whenever winter does finally get its act together, you're going to need a place to swim, am I right? Well, look no further than the Mulberry Indoor Pool! located near Downtown Fort Collins, is one of three indoor aquatic facilities operated by the City of Fort Collins Recreation Department, but it's the closest one to my house, so that's the one we're going to talk about. This pool has it all and it's open year-round! It includes a large "child-friendly" interactive play area with slides and other fun water features, but it's also popular with lap swimmers looking for an early morning or mid-day workout.

4. Snowy Range Ski Area

This spot isn't technically in Northern Colorado, but it's located so far in Southern Wyoming that it still sort of works out. I felt like including this one simply because it often gets overlooked. People don't often think of the great state of Wyoming when they're thinking of skiing getaways, but I'm here to tell you they should start because Snowy Range has just as much to offer as your usual hotspot ski resorts. You can take classes or ski at your own leisure, you can book lodging or easily drive up for just the day; you can even book your wedding there, or your divorce too, for that matter! Snowy Ridge officially opened their doors on December 10, so what are you waiting for? Give them a call at 307-745-5750!

5. Best Trails in Fort Collins

With global warming seemingly on the rise, why not look for a silver lining and take advantage of the nice weather while it's here, no? It's like the old saying goes when life hands you 70-degree weather in December, you go for a hike! And being in Fort Collins, you can hardly ask for a better place for hiking; no matter if you're getting ready to hike, bike, trail run, or explore other outdoor activities, AllTrails has you covered with 62 scenic trails! Explore one of 34 easy hiking trails in Fort Collins or discover kid-friendly routes for your next family trip. You can also check out trails with historic sights, or adventure through the natural areas that are perfect for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts at any skill level.

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new scene weekly

WEEKLY SNEAK PEEK



RELIX PRESENTS JERRY DANCE PARTY, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm, January 14

Wednesday, January 5
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm
Songwriters' Workshop - Fort Collins, The Purple Cup Café, 5:45 pm

Friday, January 7
The Tointon Gallery Reopening Reception and First Friday Art Event Featuring the exhibit "A Vision of Community," by artist **Sieger Hartgers**, Tointon Gallery, 5 pm -7 pm
Vintage Theatre presents "Fireflies", Vintage Theatre, 7:30 pm -9:45 pm

Saturday, January 8
Fairy Gardening Class, The Windsor Gardener, 10 am -11:30 am

Sunday, January 9
Story Maker with Daniel Jaspersen, Bas Bleu Theatre, 7:30 pm
Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 11 am -2 pm

Wednesday, January 12
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm
Essential Steps to Starting Your Business, Larimer SBDC, 1 pm -3 pm

Mugs & Mornings with the SBDC, CF&G Public Market & Coffeehouse, 8 am -9:30 am

Thursday, January 13
Develop a Business Plan with Purpose and Durability - 2-part session, Harmony Library, 9 am -12 pm

Friday, January 14
RELIX PRESENTS JERRY DANCE PARTY, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm

Saturday, January 15
Rialto Presents Season: THE HILLBENDERS, Rialto Theater, 7:30 pm
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
Tipsy Terrariums, The Windsor Gardener, 10:30 am -12 pm

Sunday, January 16
Stories on Stage and Buntport Theater Company - "High School Confidential", Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center, 2 pm
Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 5 pm

Wednesday, January 19
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm

[Webinar] **Sell Online with E-Commerce Tools**, Online, 12 pm -1 pm

Thursday, January 20
Develop a Business Plan with Purpose and Durability - 2-part session, Harmony Library, 9 am -12 pm

Friday, January 21
6-Pack Laughs Comedy Night, High Hops Brewery, 7 pm -9 pm
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
Stories on Stage and Buntport Theater Company - "High School Confidential", Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center, 2 pm

Saturday, January 22
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
Sipping with Succulents, The Windsor Gardener, 10:30 am -12 pm

Sunday, January 23
Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 11 am -2 pm
The Animated Orchestra, a Musical Adventure for Kids and their Families, Timberline Church, 3:30 pm -4:30 pm

Wednesday, January 26
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm
Sparge Veteran and First Responders Beer Club, Sparge Brewing, 6 pm
STRFKR W/ SPECIAL GUESTS, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm

Thursday, January 27
TAXES - Get Informed and Organized Now!, Larimer SBDC, 8:30 am -12 pm

Friday, January 28
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
The Good Morning Guys Habajeeba Show Featuring a Performance by **George Birge**, Union Colony Civic Center, 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 29
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm

Sunday, January 30
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 2 pm
Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 11 am -2 pm

Tuesday, February 1
Shen Yun, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 7:30 pm -10:30 pm

Wednesday, February 2
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm

Improve Your Local SEO - a 6-Step Blueprint to Boost Your Local Search Rankings, Larimer SBDC, 8:30 am -10:30 am
Songwriters' Workshop - Fort Collins, The Purple Cup Café, 5:45 pm

Thursday, February 3
QuickBooks Online: 3 Part Series, Front Range Community College - Challenger Point 225 (upstairs), 1 pm -5 pm

Friday, February 4
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
The Little Dog Laughed, Bas Bleu Theater: 401 Pine St, Fort Collins, CO 80524, 7:30 pm
We Are Messengers, Union Colony Civic Center, 7:30 pm

Saturday, February 5
Fort Collins Symphony February 5 Concert: Igor Stravinsky & Samuel Barber, Lincoln Center, 7:30 pm
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm
The Little Dog Laughed, Bas Bleu Theater: 401 Pine St, Fort Collins, CO 80524, 7:30 pm

Sunday, February 6
All Them Witches w/ Blackwater Holylight - Presented by 98.7 KGNU, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm
Chamber Music Mixer with Silent Auction, Blendings Winery, 3 pm -6:30 pm
Comedy Brewers Improv, Bas Bleu Theatre, 7 pm
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 2 pm
Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 11 am -2 pm
The Little Dog Laughed, Bas Bleu Theater: 401 Pine St, Fort Collins, CO 80524, 2:30 pm

Monday, February 7
Bard's Confession, Innosphere Ventures, 7 pm -9 pm

Tuesday, February 8
Metta Musical Journey with Michael Kimball, Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, 7 pm -9 pm

Wednesday, February 9
Colin Davin House Concert, Home of Jim Kelly and Betsy Markey, 7 pm -8 pm
Creative Insight Journey: 8 week class (Wednesdays), Blue Moose Art Gallery, 5:30 pm -7:30 pm

Thursday, February 10
QuickBooks Online: 3 Part Series, Front Range Community College - Challenger Point 225 (upstairs), 1 pm -5 pm
Shai Wosner Solo Recital - Beethoven's "Diabelli Variations", Grace Church, 7 pm -9 pm

Friday, February 11
Rialto Presents Season: CA Guitar Trio & Montreal Guitar Trio, Rialto Theater, 7:30 pm
Sense and Sensibility Presented by OpenStage Theatre, Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre, 7:30 pm

SODOKU SOLUTION

CHECK OUT THE PUZZLE ON PAGE 15

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8	5	4	6	2	7	1	9	3
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

CHECK OUT THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE ON PAGE 15

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new scene weekly

Calendar.SceneNoco.com

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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HAPPY
Holidays

TO ALL OUR DEAR & VALUED FRIENDS

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season,
 and a healthy, joyous & prosperous 2022!



AROUND OUR AREA

Peak Kia North Surpasses Driving Change Goal for Major Gift to ChildSafe

Fort Collins

Peak Kia North celebrated Driving Change for Children this November and December by supporting ChildSafe Colorado and its mission to break the cycle of abuse and heal childhood trauma in Weld and Larimer counties. Through this campaign, Peak Kia North and its community raised a total of \$19,214 for ChildSafe.

"On behalf of our entire team at Peak Kia North, we are so blown away by the generosity of our community and their support of ChildSafe Colorado," said Jeffery Taylor, Owner of Peak Kia North.

ChildSafe is a nonprofit organization that provides therapy to victims of childhood trauma resulting from abuse and neglect.

For more information visit: peakkianorth.com/our-dealership.

An Invitation to Our Readers

NOCO

Were you an English major? Or are you a retired journalist? Or perhaps you always got an "A" on your compositions. We're reaching out to our readers who might like to contribute an article on their topic of interest with a focus on Northern Colorado, our coverage area.

We practice "solution-driven journalism" which translates to no rants or doomsday topics. Stylistically, we place only one space between sentences and we don't refer to folks solely by their last names, preferring first names or first and last names together.

We reserve the right to select only writings that fit into the character of our newspaper. And we may edit the piece to match our style -- but if we do, you will see the edited version before it goes to print to confirm your approval.

We report hyperlocal news of happenings and events often not reported elsewhere.

Send your contributed piece (one submission per email) to: features@northfortynews.com

Tree Recycling Programs in Northern Colorado

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

Ready to recycle that live, or once-alive, Christmas tree? Here are some locations throughout Northern Colorado.

The City of Fort Collins and Larimer County teamed up to provide a place to recycle your Christmas tree. The program runs from December 27 through mid-January and is free to residents. No decorations, including lights, ornaments, tinsel, wire, hooks, nails, plastic bags, and fake snow. No wreaths or artificial trees.

What happens to the trees?

Recycled trees will be repurposed and used for landscaping application in the spring, so wood mulch produced from these trees must be contamination-free.

Christmas trees will be collected and chipped on-site at the following drop-off locations:

- Edora Park, 1420 E. Stuart Street (Tennis court parking lot)
- Fort Collins Streets Facility, 625 Ninth Street (Southwest corner of Vine Drive and Lemay Avenue)
- Fossil Creek Park, 5821 S. Lemay Avenue (enter from Lemay Avenue)
- Larimer County Landfill, 5887 S. Taft Hill Road (Monday - Saturday, 8 am - 4:30 pm)
- Rolland Moore Park, 2201 S. Shields Street (Southeast corner of the parking lot)
- Wellington Recycling Drop-Off Site in the lot across from Wellington Middle School along 6th Street, December 29 through February 6.

Other regional locations:

Loveland Recycling locations, open from December 27 to January 31, 2022:

- Centennial Park at W. First and Taft Avenue is on the south end of town.
- Drop off at Kroh Park, north highway 287, and 52nd Street.
- For West Side drop off at the Loveland Recycling Center off first street and Wilson Avenue. Make sure you have a current Yard Waste Debris Permit for this location.

Windsor Tree Recycle Location is at Chimney Park Athletic Fields Parking lot, 200 East Chestnut Street, from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. You can also drop off at the Recycling Center at 801 Diamond Valley Drive.

In Greeley, you can drop off at Greeley Organic Waste Center, 1130 E. 8th Street. They are open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm.

Miss the cut-off?

Options for recycling Christmas trees after mid-January are available at the following locations (residents should anticipate being charged a recycling fee):

- Larimer County Green Waste program, 5887 S. Taft Hill Road - (Monday - Saturday, 8 am - 4:30 pm)
 - Timberline Recycling Center 1903 S. Taft Hill Road in the Hard-to-Recycle-Materials Yard (Tuesday - Saturday, 8 am - 4:30 pm)
- Businesses such as Hageman's EarthCycle also accept trees for a fee.

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COVER STORY



Warm Winter Persists as Second 'La Nina' Year is Predicted

JONSON KUHN | NorthFortyNews.com



■ Lake Powell displaying record low levels (Photo by Brad Udall)

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...with the exception of snow, of course. I know, I know, we've seen a little snow so far, some parts of the state more than others, but it's been minimal at best and it's certainly not as though we didn't see it coming. These warming conditions are becoming so persistent that experts can actually predict it months in advance, they just can't, unfortunately, do much about it in the way of preventing it from happening.

Peter Goble, a climatologist with the Colorado Climate Center at Colorado State University, was able to explain that much of the predictions being made regarding warmer temperatures for this winter revolved around the evidence that we were headed towards a second "La Nina" year, which according to Peter, has very much come to fruition.

"One of the big reasons we expected it to be dryer than normal is our fall season is typically wetter during El Nino or neutral years and dryer during La Nina and it looked like it was going to be a second-year La Nina; we had one last year and it looked like it was going to repeat, which it has. That second-year piece is key because the last two times that we've had these double-dip La Nina years where it comes back a second year in a row have been really dry falls and early winters across much of the central portion of the US, including Colorado, and really only wet in the northwest and northeast corners."

With so much of the entire planet experiencing an increase in overall warmth, you're not alone in asking just what exactly happened or is happening altogether. It's easy enough to assume global warming is caused solely by people, but then that would suggest there's still something we could do about it...but is there? Peter says there's certainly no denying the contribution people have made to speeding the process up, but to a large extent, the planet appears to be getting hotter regardless of anything people do at this point.

"When it comes to the entire globe, research shows pretty clearly that trend (of global warming) is largely to do with human activities. Now when

it comes to the precipitation deficit that we've faced in the Southwest US over the last couple of decades, I think a lot of that is natural variabilities."

Lakes and reservoirs all throughout the state are experiencing record low numbers. It's not, however, just a matter of having a lack of precipitation; we could have torrential snowfall followed by a tremendously wet spring but still be below expected water levels by the summer simply because temperatures are so hot that

whatever water we do get is long evaporated into extremely dry soil before it even reaches the riverbeds.

Riverbeds much like that of the ever-so-popular Colorado River, which has been supplying 7 different states with water through the Colorado River Compact for the last 100 years. According to an article published by Colorado Public Radio last month, the flow of the Colorado River has dropped 20 percent since the 1990s and according to Brad Udall, a senior water and climate scientist at Colorado State University's Colorado Water Institute, we can attribute half of the percentage drop

"It really hasn't been a 'drought' since the year 2000 -- it's something else."

- Brad Udall, Climatologist
Colorado Climate Center,
Colorado State University



■ McPhee Reservoir showing record low water levels (Photo by Peter Goble)

to natural climate change.

"It really hasn't been a 'drought' since the year 2000, it's something else. You can call it a megadrought, a bunch of us are now calling it the aridification of the American west, the long-term warming, and drying. Because of these ever-increasing temperatures, soils are drying out, snowpack runs off earlier in the year, we have these big forest fires and areas may not have it regenerated because of climate change, so yeah, this is not just overuse or additional use of water, this is really a strong climate change signal."

Despite increasing temperatures and little to seemingly do about any of it, Brad still maintains that conservation is the name of the game. Though the news is certainly a cause for concern, Brad suggests, "no one should discount our ability to conserve water; there's still a lot of room for growth in that area. I think the action items here really start with conservation; trying to use less water and trying to model less water use for others in your community."

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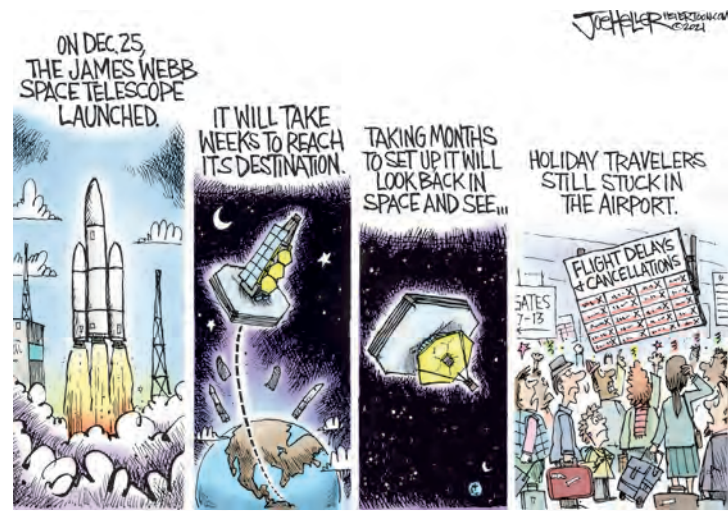
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AMERICAN AUTHORS

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A Little Humor



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ACROSS

- Cause for a duel
- Nelson Mandela's org.
- "_____ in the shade"
- Andean people's chew
- "White Wedding" singer
- Like a haunted mansion
- South American tuber, pl.
- Type of cotton fiber
- Desired forecast?
- *"The Underground Railroad" author
- Like West Wing office
- Not silently
- "When We Were Kings" subject
- Hand over (2 words)
- Barbecued
- The Jackson 5 1970 hit
- Repressed
- "Alice Doesn't _____ Here Anymore"
- State of dishonor
- Three, to Caesar
- Brightest star in Cygnus
- Performer's time to shine
- "No.1 Ladies Detective _____" book series
- African migrator
- *"The Night Watchman" author
- *"Little Women" author
- Poor man's caviar
- Analyze
- Canter or gallop
- *"A Farewell to Arms" author
- Latin dance
- Club on the links
- Kind or courteous
- Los _____, CA
- Round feed storage
- Not odd
- Colonial times laborer
- Band performance
- Theodores, to friends

DOWN

- Flat-bottomed boat
- Scottish lake
- Antioxidants-rich berry
- Popular primo dish in Italian restaurant, pl.
- Bye, to Edith Piaf
- Wanderer
- Garbed
- *"Moby Dick" author
- Length times width
- Call someone, in the olden days
- Poetic "ever"
- Apple invention
- Food contaminant
- Run off to wed
- Jean of Dadaism
- Out of style
- Find repugnant
- Burn with coffee, e.g.
- *Ursula K. Le _____
- Jargon
- It happens at a certain time and place
- First novel, e.g.
- Near in space or time
- Not a win nor a loss
- *"Song of Solomon" author
- *"Chronicles" author and songwriter
- *NY Times bestselling author Atkins or playing card
- Gambling venue
- Smidgins
- Young swan
- Eagle's nest
- Young salmon
- *"Miss Lulu Bett" author
- Highest adult male singing voice
- Snake's warning
- Take as a wife
- Got A+
- Desires or cravings
- Sticky substance



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