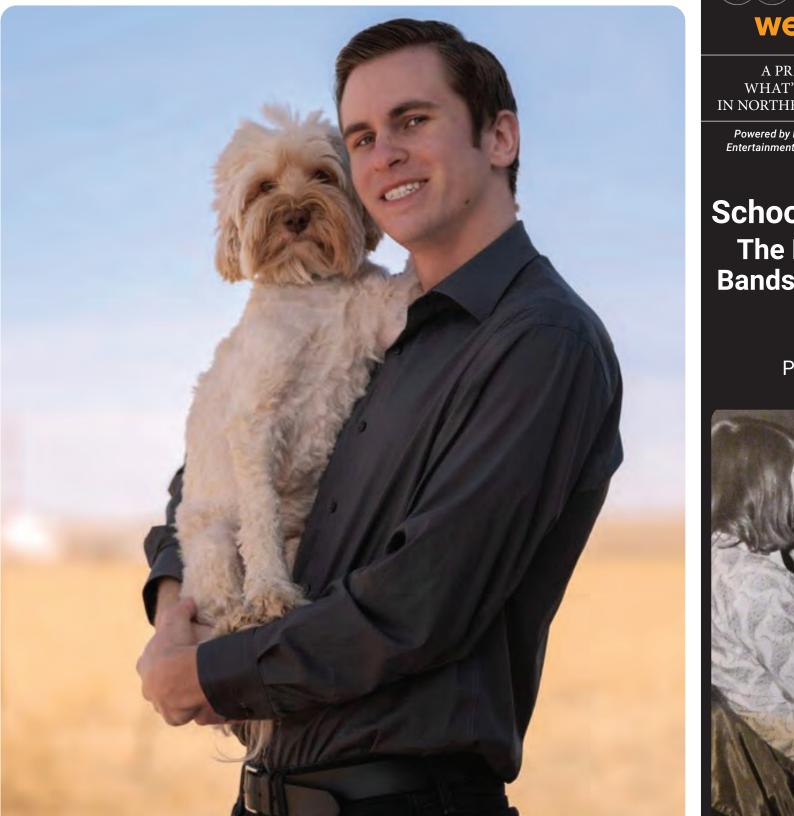
### CONNECTING COMMUNITIES



# FINDING OPPORTUNITY

### LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER'S WORK TO GO INTO COLORADO'S WALLETS

See Page 14





A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN NORTHERN COLORADO

Powered by Northern Colorado's Entertainment & Lifestyle Magazine

## School Music: The Biggest Bands on Earth

PAGE 9



Tim Van Schmidt playing in the Pep Band

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⇒Driveway÷	North Forty	Wellington	Fort Collins	Loveland
DELIVERY NorthFortyNews.com/driveway-delivery	Gardening for Our Times	Wellington's 11 Candidates for 2022 Municipal Election	City Council Exploring Community-Wide Contract for Trash and Recycling	Loveland Police Chief Robert Ticer Accepts New Post in Arizona
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## International Women's Day

International Women's Day is on March 8.

According to UNWomen.org, 2022 is pivotal for achieving gender equality in climate change and environmental disaster risk reduction.

Historically, according to the International Women's Day organization, the day has been observed since the early 1900s.

In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay, and voting rights. On February 28, 1909, the first National Woman's day took place across the United States.

Then, in 1910, Clara Zetkin tabled the idea of International Women's Day. She proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration on the same day. The day was officially sanctioned and has taken place since.

Join us in celebrating and recognizing the women of the world, and right here in Northern Colorado!

Let's celebrate equality every single day.

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# Happy International Woman's Day from a Solo Traveler

ANNIE LINDGREN | NorthFortyNews.com



The author, Annie, and her loyal companion, Maverick, while on the road (Photo taken by Annie Lindgren)

International Women's Day celebrates the achievements of creating a world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. One that is diverse, inclusive, and equitable, and in which differences are valued and celebrated.

I was fortunate to grow up in a rural household where women felt equally capable of achieving all that men could achieve. I grew into an independent woman who owned and managed a farm on her own for over a decade before moving onto a lifestyle of traveling solo and engaging in activities, such as mountain climbing and off-road driving, traditionally held by men. I have never allowed my gender to hold me back in my career path. I will never let my 'single' status impact opportunities to experience the world and live life to the fullest.

Through my travels, I experience the most reminders that biases and inequality still exist. People worry about my safety while I am out alone and concerned strangers stop me while I am out to make sure I am not lost or in need. I have visited countries where I needed guides to ensure my safety and changed how I dress and handle myself to fit into the local culture.

Why shouldn't a woman be as safe traveling solo as a man?

The value in traveling to other countries is understanding that just because we have freedoms and equality in America does not mean women across the world have those same freedoms. When I visited Nepal, I had to wear clothes that covered my shoulders and legs to be respected. I cannot visit some countries alone because it is not safe for women.

The value in my solo travels through America is role-modeling to women that with the proper education,

resources, and awareness, it is safe to travel solo. There is a world full of things to explore around us, and no reason to have to wait around for others to feel safe doing it.

Check out my blog or social media sites to learn more about my travels. I am typing this piece from my camper in Sedona, AZ, during a month-long hiatus from Colorado's winter to work remotely from the desert country. Follow Sunshine Ink on Instagram or Facebook or visit SunshineInkLLC.com.

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#### 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.

North Forty News is published weekly by North Forty News LLC and mailed to subscribers in Northern Colorado. The publication is available at another 800 locations throughout Northern Colorado. The advertising deadline is 10 days prior to distribution.

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## Gardening for Our Times

ROBYN DOLGIN | Wild Iris Living, LLC



Rabbt and broom in winter (Photo by Robyn Dolgin)

moisture levels, numbers of pollinators, and disease and insect populations.

Wisely designing your yard for resiliency will lead to healthy spaces providing year-round beauty. With forethought, landscapes can require less water and maintenance while supporting a diverse range of wildlife. These approaches can lead to less stress, as it's hard to watch our plants struggling with harsh conditions or due to the lack of timely care. Re-establishing our connection to the natural world offers profound positive effects while worldly circumstances continue beyond our control.

Planning includes thoughtful plant and hardscape selection and placement, adequate soil preparation, adaptable irrigation systems, and site-specific mulching practices. Essentially, these encompass the tried-and-true water-saving Xeriscape<sup>™</sup> principles that have guided us for years.

The initial design phase can designate a mix of plants with varying water needs. Simply group them together by exposure tolerances and similar water needs. Consider having plants with more aesthetic appeal closer to the house while using native shrubs out towards perimeter areas. Natives can have a beautiful yet rangier appearance but they'll be tougher than those unaccustomed to receiving only moisture from snow or rainfall.

As garden lovers, we're learning to play by a different set of rules. We're realizing there's no such thing as an average year as it applies to the growing season, t e m p e r a t u r e fluctuations,

If you have a vegetable garden and fruiting bushes or trees, install a variety of native plants nearby to support our local pollinators. Colorado's 946 native bee species are the champion pollinators of local gardens and many small farms. Reducing reliance on pesticides such as insecticides, fungicides, and weed killers is critical to the protection of pollinators, which includes not only bees, but also butterflies, moths, bats, birds, and hummingbirds. Instead, support the diverse natural systems that reduce pest problems.

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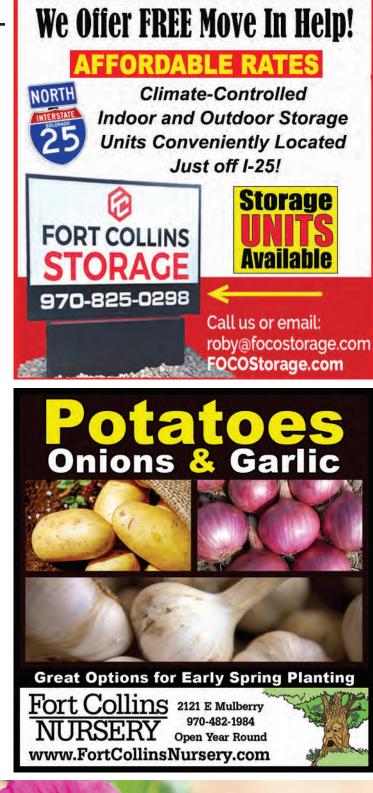
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When planting, dig the holes two times the width of the container as this allows for expanded root systems and a larger area of loosened soil for water to soak into. Mix 1/3 compost in with the soil you've removed from the hole. In our clay soils, this looser soil combination helps all plants to become established in the first few years before water is intentionally reduced.

Drip systems and soaker hoses should be installed under your mulch. In approximately three years after installation, extend the tubing outward to accommodate a spreading root system. Select a high-quality, easily programmable hose bib irrigation timer for smaller gardens not on an automatic system.

Mulch around plants to protect their roots from extreme temperature fluctuations and to keep moisture in the ground. Fibrous woody products like gorilla hair and shredded cedar are less likely to sail away with our desiccating winds. Pea gravel and 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch size stone are even more windproof. These sizes are much easier to weed or walk through than larger gravel.

Landscaping with a sense of place while facing climate challenges can still be done well. Luckily there's a host of plants, many of them tough and less thirsty, to integrate with your yard for yearround splendor and resiliency.



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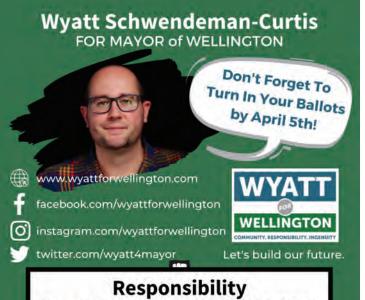


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## Wellington's 11 Candidates for 2022 Municipal Election

WELLINGTON

#### NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

Wellington is seeing a record-breaking turnout for the 2022 municipal election. As voters prepare to make their choices, here is information on the candidates.

The Town of Wellington will be conducting the regular municipal election on April 5, 2022, for the following seats on the Board of Trustees:

- Trustee At-Large 4-year term, three (3) vacancies
- Mayor 4-year term

There are three candidates for the mayor position and eight candidates for the three trustee vacancies. Below is information about each candidate, provided by the candidates.

#### **Mayor Candidates**



Wyatt Schwendeman-Curtis Hi Wellington! I'm Wyatt Schwendeman-Curtis. I am running for Mayor of Wellington because we need strong leadership to guide us through

our infrastructure and growth. I want to foster Community, Responsibility, and Ingenuity to help build the future of Wellington. These words will guide me to strengthen our home and create a strong foundation for our community to succeed upon. I am currently the Chair of the Community Activities Commission, and I sit on the Citizens Commission for Wastewater. I look forward to earning your vote! To learn more about me, visit my Facebook page @WyattforWellington and my website www.wyattforwellington.com

Calar Chaussee

Calar Chaussee grew up in Wellington and attended Wellington Junior High School. He showed steers in 4H and danced in the country swing team. Now, he is the volunteer leader and youth pastor at his church. Led by his core values of faith, integrity, and hard work, he is running to be the next Mayor of Wellington because he cares about the people of the town and wants to help it grow responsibly. He believes in a safe community for our families and most importantly, keeping Wellington affordable for its citizens and businesses.

Ashley Macdonald

Colorado native & Wellington resident for over a decade, Ashley represents the diverse fabric of our community. The working mother of two can be found coaching,

face-painting, & volunteering.

As a second term Trustee, she contributes vision, leadership, and service in major community accomplishments such as the new High School Wellington Community Park. She realizes continued education and growth are essential to quality community leadership. She has a formal education in Public Administration, National Emergency Incident Management & Water Fluency.

Professionally, Ashley has experience in real estate, government acquisitions, grants management, and special district administration.

As Mayor, Ashley will bring proven leadership, diverse perspectives, commitment to community, and a team-oriented approach to governance. **Trustee Candidates** 



Timothy Whitehouse

Timber framer and owner of Arris Timber Works located in Wellington. I have cut timbers from Maine to Georgia, including international projects in England

and Poland.

(Timothy Whitehouse continued: see "Candidates" on page 8)



## WELLINGTON

## Housing In Short Supply – The Crisis Continues as New Listings Drop 39.6%

### KAREEN KINZLI LARSEN | RE/MAX Alliance



The Northern Colorado Real Estate market is nearly at a standstill for homebuyers. Last year's shortage of homes brought multiple offers and buyers paying tens of thousands over the asking price. According to the Fort Collins Board of Realtors, the January Fort Collins inventory of new 2022 listings was down 39.6% compared to January of 2021. If you look back a few years, starting in January of 2019, 279 homes were listed in the greater Fort Collins and Wellington areas in January. In 2020 the number was 234. In January of 2021, the number declined to 203 new listings and in January 2022, only 134 new listings hit the market. That means 57% fewer homes are on the market this January than in 2019. The Colorado Association of Realtors stated that statewide, new listings are down 44.5%. The situation for buyers just went from bad to worse.

What is happening? The problem began with increased demand for Colorado real estate. According to 2020 census data, provided by the Colorado State Demography Office, Larimer and Weld Counties were among the fastest-growing counties in all of Colorado with Weld adding 30% in population and Larimer adding 20%. The pandemic is adding to growth with new work-from-home freedom, as many are moving from the Denver Metro and other densely populated areas to enjoy our idyllic Northern Colorado lifestyle.

The market can usually count on new construction to fill the supply gap in times like these, but builders have been challenged with labor shortages, dramatically higher costs of goods, supply chain issues, and most critically the lack of available water taps. Northern Colorado Water Association, servicing areas north of Fort Collins, stopped issuing taps in June of 2020. The Town of Wellington is rationing taps until the expansions of both the water treatment and sewer treatment plants are complete in two to three years. North Weld County Water District (NWCWD), servicing eastern Larimer and northwest Weld County, is limiting new taps to 120 per year until additional infrastructure can be completed. This announcement directly limits the Town of Severance as the town's water is provided by NWCWD. Northern Colorado is growing faster than the infrastructure can keep up.

Compounding factors, such as the rush for buyers to lock in low rates as interest rates continue to rise and the seasonal slowdown of listings during the winter months, are contributing to the perfect storm of keeping demand for homes high. But why the dramatic drop in new listings?

The Northern Colorado real estate market is stuck in neutral. Most buyers have a home to sell. It sounds exciting to have a bidding war for your current home, but then, what are you going to buy? If you have a contingency of a home selling, your offer won't stand a chance in a multiple offer shootout. Countless homeowners would like to move and upsize, downsize, or move to the country, but they are unwilling to uproot their lives and families without knowing they have a house to move to. The lack of mobility is preventing would-be home sellers from listing their homes.

While measurable inventory may not increase anytime soon, what is certain to rise in the coming months is the value of Northern Colorado real estate.



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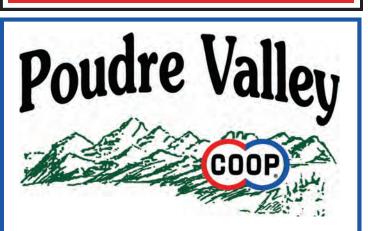


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## City Council Exploring Community-Wide Contract for Trash and Recycling

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

Fort Collins City Council has adopted several priorities to reach sustainability goals, one of which explores creating a community-wide contract for household trash and recycling collection. This would mean that rather than each household selecting their own trash hauler, the City would contract with one hauler to service single-family homes in a neighborhood. There would be fewer trucks on each street, which would mean less wear and tear on roads and fewer emissions. If a household wanted to select a different hauler, they could pay an opt-out fee.

The City is currently looking for community input on the following questions related to this topic.

- What is most important when selecting a trash and recycling hauler?
- What concerns do community members have

when considering creating a community-wide contract for these services?

• What potential benefits would community members prioritize?

Those interested in learning more and sharing their thoughts should visit ourcity.fcgov.com/ Contract-For-Trash to leave comments or request a meeting with City staff. The City also invites community members to join a virtual public forum where staff will share findings from previous Fort Collins studies and other Colorado communities that have awarded similar contracts, and answer questions from attendees.

- Thursday, March 10, 7 8 p.m.
- Friday, March 11, 12 1 p.m.

More information can be found at: ourcity.fcgov.com/Contract-For-Trash.

## Avelo Airlines Announces Partnership with Colorado State University Athletics

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

Avelo Airlines recently announced a strategic partnership with Colorado State University Athletics. Avelo serves two popular destinations from Denver's Northern Colorado Regional Airport (FNL): Las Vegas and Los Angeles. As part of the partnership, Avelo will have premium asset placement at Colorado State men and women's basketball, which include digital graphics, promotional contests, signage, PAannouncements and more. Avelo and CSU will also be giving away a trip to the Mountain West Basketball Championship in Las Vegas, including airfare, hotel and tickets to the tournament.

"We are thrilled to partner with Avelo Airlines as they expand their services into Northern Colorado and our community," said Colorado State Director of Athletics, Joe Parker. "With the exponential growth of our region, it is exciting to see a commercial carrier operating out of the Northern Colorado Regional Airport, and we look forward to working together to grow in that space."

The partnership will also give CSU students, fans and alumni the opportunity to win complimentary Avelo tickets, receive exclusive promotional codes and more at all home men and women's basketball games.

"We're excited to be a Proud Partner of Colorado State University Athletics," said Avelo's Head of Marketing Travis Christ. "We look forward to cheering on The Rams as we continue building awareness for the convenient, reliable and affordable air travel Avelo brings to the area."

Northern Colorado's Gateway to Outdoor Adventure

In October 2021, Avelo initiated service to Los Angeles' most convenient airport – Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR) and added service to Las Vegas in December. Both routes operate twice weekly Boeing Next Generation 737-800 aircraft from Denver's Northern Colorado Regional Airport (FNL).

Amidst the crowds, long lines, lengthy walks, traffic congestion, and train and shuttle transfers frequently encountered at Denver International Airport (DEN), FNL offers a refreshingly smooth and simple hometown airport experience.

## Public Review Sought for Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Adaptive Management Plan Draft

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com



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Shoreline Trail at Horsetooth Reservoir from Lory State Park (Photo by Samantha Lieurance)

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources is seeking public review of the draft management plan update for Horsetooth Mountain Open Space. The draft document can be found at the project's engagement page and will be open for public comment through March 13.

Feedback solicited from the community, technical and group stakeholders, and department advisory boards over the past year informed the draft plan. Recommended future management actions consider three primary objectives: recreation use and visitor experience, ecological health and conservation of natural resources, and operational sustainability/financial feasibility. For more information, please visit larimer.org/ naturalresources.

The Natural Resources Department manages Larimer County's magnificent open spaces and water-based recreation areas and fosters responsible land stewardship through weed management and healthy forest practices. *To learn more, visit larimer.org/naturalresources* 

## New Health and Wellness Center Opens at Lincoln Middle School

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com



(Photo provided by Poudre School District)

More than 50 people came together on February 21, to celebrate the opening of the Health and Wellness Center at Lincoln Middle School in Fort Collins. The new health center gives students access to physical and behavioral healthcare services from a familiar and easily accessible location: at school.

Poudre School District Superintendent Brian Kingsley was honored to cut the ribbon alongside Merry Hummell, Health and Wellness Center director and an employee of Every Child Pediatrics, which oversees the clinic.

"When kids thrive physically, emotionally, and mentally, their families thrive, and communities thrive," Hummell said. "I would like to thank The Colorado Health Foundation, Larimer County Behavioral Health Services, Bohemian Foundation, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for their financial support of this capital project."

About the new center:

Hours are 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday The center will see any PSD student enrolled for care with Every Child Pediatrics.

There is an external entrance for non-Lincoln

students and an internal entrance for Lincoln students.

No student enrolled in care at the center is ever turned away for an inability to pay for services.

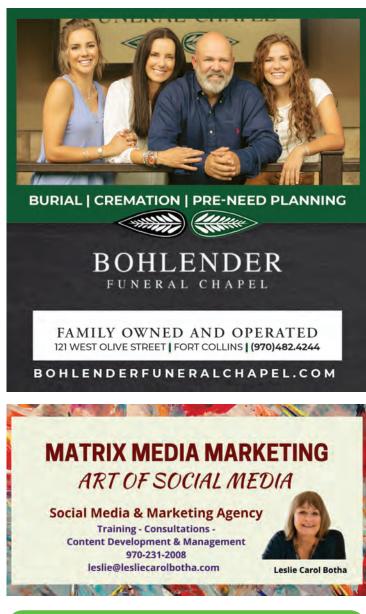
It is 1,054 square feet.

The Health and Wellness Center is the second school-based health center (SBHS) in PSD. There are about 70 SBHCs in Colorado and more than 3,000 across the U.S.

The center includes space for PSD nurses, a health technician office, an observation room, a bathroom, a virtual mental and behavioral care health room, a virtual medical room, a lab for immunizations, a medical exam room, and more.

Staffing at the center is the same as the Health and Wellness Center at Centennial High School – director, physician assistant, five patient care assistants (three are fluent in Spanish), and two mental and behavioral health specialists. Staff are shared between the two health and wellness center locations.

To learn more about the Health and Wellness Centers at Lincoln Middle School and Centennial High School, visit the Health and Wellness website.



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## Sorth Forty News

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## Minimally Invasive Heart Valve Repair a Game-Changer

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com



Beauprez and Slater (Photo provided by Banner Health)

inch to insert the robotic tools that are controlled by the surgeon at a console. Mitral valve repair or replacement is necessary if a patient has a leaky valve.

A leaky mitral valve causes poor blood flow and symptoms including an irregular heartbeat, difficulty breathing while lying flat or with exercise, swelling, fatigue, and coughing. Untreated, it can cause heart failure. With early intervention, the patient can avoid further heart damage and return to a normal lifestyle with a normal life expectancy.

Banner cardiothoracic surgeon introduces surgery in Northern Colorado

When Jeffrey Beauprez of Wiggins agreed to be the first patient to have a robotic-assisted heart valve repair at Banner North Colorado Medical Center, he told his physician that being the first to do something was a lifelong goal. With that, Beauprez helped the cardiothoracic surgery program at Banner's Greeley hospital introduce a higher level of care to patients in the region.

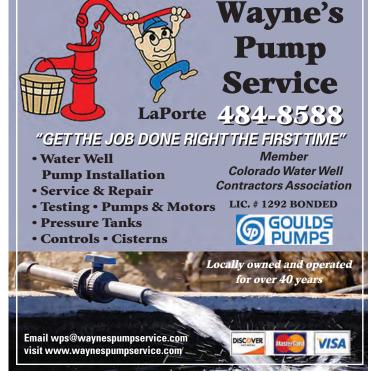
Banner cardiothoracic surgeon Dwight Slater, MD, said this type of minimally invasive surgery means patients can have life-changing heart surgery with less pain and a shorter time to recover. In this case, the patient was able to return to work in 2 weeks.

Traditional heart surgery requires a 6- to 8-inch opening and separation of the sternum so the surgeon can physically access the heart. However, the robotic-assisted mitral valve repair is done with several smaller incisions of less than 1/3 of an Beauprez met with Dr. Slater in August 2021 when Dr. Slater first joined Banner. Beauprez knew he'd been having symptoms and shared that he did not want a valve repair through open-heart surgery. Dr. Slater asked for time to get to know his colleagues and the operating room team before scheduling the procedure. From there, Dr. Slater prepared the team rigorously going step by step and covering the "what-ifs" to make sure they were prepared.

"This wasn't my first time doing this type of surgery, but it was the first time this team did it and we wanted to be prepared," he said.

Now, Dr. Slater said Banner's cardiovascular team can treat a broader scope of heart concerns. The team of diverse specialists collaborates to discuss different ways to care for each patient and determine which approach is the best for each person.

For more information, visit BannerHealth.com.



## WELLINGTON

## Candidates (from page 4)

Education:

- B.A. History, Trinity College
- B.A. Industrial Design, Rhode Island School of Design
- I have served Wellington as:
- Trustee since 2017
- Planning Commissioner since 2018
- Larimer County Watershed
- Larimer County Regional Transportation Taskforce
- My proven Trustee record demonstrates my commitment to addressing our biggest present and future challenges:
- Water and sewer plants upgrades
- Transportation upgrades
- My small-town campaign is 100% selffunded.

Get to know me better at: www.timwhitehouseforwellington.com David Wiegand

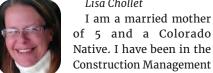


Dave grew up in a small town in Illinois and remembers the joy and benefits of a close-knit community. His family

left Illinois because of major economic downturns to Colorado in hopes of a better life.

Hard work, determination and a love of working with people have brought Dave success and he feels blessed for the chance to make the most of his opportunities.

He is active in the community through church and being a business member and serving as an ambassador for Realities for Children. Always looking for challenges, he recently went skydiving for the first time. Wiegand4trustee.com



Lisa Chollet I am a married mother of 5 and a Colorado Native. I have been in the

industry for over 30 years. I have been actively involved in PSD for the last 8 years and more recently with the Town of Wellington as a member of the Sewer Rate Roundtable.

I am running for Trustee because I want to be a voice for every citizen, especially those who have been most adversely affected by our recent rate changes. I plan to bring sensibility, transparency, accessibility, and accountability to the Board. I want to rebuild trust within our community.

Lowrey Moyer



I have been a resident of Wellington, Colorado for the last five years. My husband and I first came to Wellington, with our

four children, after falling in love with one of the town's most historic properties. For the last seven years, my experience has been in non-profit work, with a focus on affordable housing and housing equity through my 6 year+ career with Greeley-Weld Habitat for Humanity, where I serve as the Senior Development Director. I believe that our town is in a unique and exciting time. There is exponential growth, and with that, comes tremendous opportunity and responsibility. Wvatt Knutson Wyatt Knutson joined the Wellington Board of Trustees in 2016 and was re-elected in 2018. He has worked hard to keep the town fiscally responsible and helped in the development of the water and wastewater plant expansions. He is the Vice President and Regional Manager for CTL Thompson, Inc. and manages the Fort Collins, Colorado and Cheyenne, Wyoming offices. He is also a member of their Operating Committee and serves on their Board of Directors. He uses his engineering background to help him make information-based, concise decisions. He



looks forward to serving another term. Melanie Murphy Hello! I am Melanie

enjoys serving as a Wellington Trustee and

Murphy, a lifelong Coloradoan, Wellington resident for 18 years. I am a charter member of our

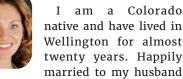
Kiwanis Club as well as a volunteer for many other local organizations. As the proponent of 28 and 300 I have already shown you that I am not afraid to put in the work, hold the town accountable, fight for your rights and stand up for what I believe in. There are many issues our town faces. With the passing of these initiatives, we have already made steps in the right direction to help our community prosper and thrive. Let's grow responsibly.

Brian Mason

I've been a resident of Larimer County since 1998, and have lived in the Town of Wellington

from Front Range Community College with an Associates's Degree in Computer Science. I am a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and was a delegate to the State Convention in 2016. Prior to moving to Wellington, I was a Systems Engineer for Hewlett-Packard in Fort Collins, and I currently work as an Escalations Engineer for a software security company. Over the next four years, my goals are to be pro-resident, pro-business, fiscally responsible, and most importantly, listen to the voice of Wellington residents!

Shirrell Tietz



Cam, the mother of 3, and a local business owner. My background is in electrical contracting, and business management. I volunteer on the CAC citizen board in Wellington and run a non-profit organization. As a trustee, I will bring responsible growth, a citizen-focused budget, and transparency from our administration to YOU to make our town a better place to live. I want to represent YOU and work together to make the community what you want it to be. www. Shirrell4trustee.com

The Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting two candidate forums, on March 2 and March 24, at the Leeper Center (3800 Wilson Ave. Wellington, CO). They are also broadcasting it live via Facebook.

The election is on April 5, 2022. Visit the Town's website for more information, townofwellington.com.

## Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary Raises \$2,500 for Alternatives to Violence **Through First Garden Hearts Program**

LOVELAND

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

The Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary showed how big their hearts are by supporting victims of violence in the community with a donation of \$2,500 to Alternatives to Violence (ATV). ATV is a Loveland nonprofit that provides advocacy, resources, and education to people impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Members from Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary presented a check for \$2,500 to Alternatives to Violence on February 24.

The money for Alternatives to Violence was raised through the club's first Garden Hearts program, which ran from June to January. The Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary commissioned a high school art student from the Thompson School District to design a metal heart sculpture that was then sold to the community to enjoy in their gardens or in their homes. All profits from the sales of the hearts went to Alternatives to Violence. 2021 was the first edition of the Garden Hearts program and will hopefully be the start of many years of collectible hearts benefiting a different nonprofit each year.

"We are so grateful to the Loveland

Thompson Valley Rotary for supporting our mission with this year's Garden Hearts program," said Executive Director of Alternatives to Violence, Kari Clark. "It's a great program that not only helps a local cause but also promotes the community's young artists."

This edition's "Garden Heart" was designed by Haley Lawton. Lawton graduated from Thompson Valley High School, Class of 2021. While at Thompson Valley she completed the AP Capstone diploma. Lawton also received a Silver Medal from Scholastic's National Art and Writing Awards and the Loveland Rotary Club's Dan Chenowith Scholarship. Lawton is currently attending The School of the Art Institute of Chicago majoring in studio fine arts with a focus on painting.

With the motto, "The Club with Heart," Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary looks to find ways to spread the love around the community with various initiatives.

The Loveland Thompson Valley Rotary Club has provided approximately \$785,000 to the local community, youth, and international and environmental programs.

## Loveland Police Chief Robert Ticer Accepts New Post in Arizona

### NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

After serving the Loveland Police Department (LPD) for almost six years, Chief Bob Ticer is leaving to serve as chief of police for the Prescott Valley Police Department in Prescott, Arizona. Chief Ticer starts his new post on April 11.

The City and the LPD are working on transition plans which will include announcing an acting police chief and identifying a third-party recruitment firm to assist with the hiring process for this critical community position.

"I want to extend my deep appreciation

to Chief Ticer for his nearly six years of leadership, stewardship, and vision for Loveland. We wish him the best in his new role," said Loveland City Manager Steve Adams. "As for the Loveland community, we will build upon recent progress in strengthening trust in our police department. Your Loveland Police Department remains one of my top priorities."

### City to Resume Utility Late Fees and **Disconnects After Temporary Suspension**

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

As the weather begins to warm, the City of Loveland has ended its year-long suspension of utility late fee collection and service disconnects. The communityowned utility provider will resume late fee charges and disconnect notifications in April and will begin disconnecting utility service for unpaid accounts in June.

The City initiated the temporary

suspension in June 2021 to alleviate severa hardships that were impacting customers including longer-lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather and transitions that occurred with the launch of the City's new utility billing software.

More information can be found a lovgov.org/UtilityBilling.



I am a Colorado native and have lived in Wellington for almost twenty years. Happily

# since 2016. I graduated

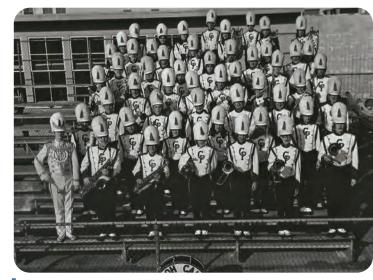




# the new seense weekly



CSU Ram Band helps debut the new stadium 2017



My high school marching band circa 1973

## School Music: The Biggest Bands on Earth

#### TIM VAN SCHMIDT | SceneNOCO.com

Over the years, a number of people have given their record collections to me. They're usually downsizing, moving, or just plain getting rid of stuff -- and I find piles of old stuff interesting.

Recently, I finally got around to listening to an unusual record I received in one such pile -- a five-piece mini-LP recorded by the 1963-64 Fort Collins High School Symphonic Band. Under the direction of conductor Curtis Johnson, the record is an example of just how successful school music programs can be.

Forget that description -- "school music programs" -- for a moment. When I listened to this record, featuring compositions by DeNardis, Bach, Nelson, Reed, and Seitz, I was struck by just how successful these MUSICIANS had been. The sounds they made prompted me to listen to and enjoy what they were doing. These weren't just students, they were artists.

. What did I like about it? Through the wists and turns in the music, the changes in dynamics, and the blending of a lot of instrumental voices, I think this band really knew the music. I could hear a genuine attachment to it.

This takes more than just learning how to play an instrument in school. It takes more than just playing the right notes on the sheets of music. What it takes is a group vision of creating something fine and the FCHS Symphonic Band of

1963–64 had it.

My first experiences with music in the schools, back in my hometown in Illinois, were not quite so successful.

The day came around when the beginning music teachers first asked us to pick an instrument -- besides the "fluteo-phone", that is. I had just watched Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass on TV and wanted to play the marimba. But the school had only one marimba and they gave it to another student.

Next, I asked to play drums, but, as you might expect, many of the other little boys (and girls) in my school wanted to play drums, so I didn't make that list either.

Interestingly enough, many years later, when I was visiting my grandmother, the next door neighbor lady came to visit and it turned out the girl who got the marimba instead of me was her granddaughter. She informed me that her granddaughter went on to be "state champ" with her instrument.

I guess the school made the right choice. It took a move to Phoenix, Arizona to get me back into music at school. One day, I found myself going to school with a trombone in hand and was placed in the beginning band. From then on, I played in the bands in all of the schools I attended.

In elementary school in Phoenix, I played in the "B" and "A" bands and got my first taste of performing on a stage. In high school in California, I joined the marching band, which was also a concert band in the spring season. This was also the case when I finished up high school in Washington State.

These experiences were just great. It was an extra social scene for us, we got out of PE, we got to travel, and we got to play music together. There was a special bond among band members that made it exciting -- and sometimes the music really rocked.

Once I graduated from high school, though, I put down the trombone and kind of got lost in guitars and rock and roll

My interest in school music programs was revived when my daughter was going to Lincoln Junior High here in Fort Collins. She was in the starter band and I attended one of their programs.

I was shocked when they successfully played Holst's composition, "Mars". I was impressed enough to write to the band director to congratulate him and the band on attempting such a dynamic piece. To my daughter's chagrin, the director read the letter out loud to the band.

Also, I just loved hearing and seeing the CSU Ram Band perform at more than a decade of football games, underscoring that school music programs don't just end with high school. Over and over again, I watched the Ram Band stoke up the people in the stands and then fully take over the field at halftime for big-time entertainment.

#### Photos by Tim Van Schmidt

One of the grandest days of all was Band Day, when CSU hosted high school bands from around the region in one big gathering. On one occasion, I watched as the entire football field filled with bands, and I wondered if I might be seeing the biggest band in the world at that moment -- I estimated there were some 500 musicians on the field playing together.

Here's the thing -- they are all big bands; truly, the biggest bands on earth in terms of really giving kids the opportunity to enjoy success with music.

Of course, today's music programs have so much more to offer. At FCHS today, for example, the music program boasts orchestras, bands, and choirs. But more, they also offer courses in "unified music, music technology, AP and beginning music theory, beginning and advanced guitar and piano, and history of rock and pop". Fantastic!

Finding that FCHS record from so long ago was such a powerful reminder of an important part of my life. It also sounded great.

It was a recording that was reaching out to me over a span of 59 years with a message: support school music programs.

Tim Van Schmidt is a writer and photographer based in Fort Collins. Check out his YouTube channel at "Time Capsules by Tim Van Schmidt".



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## CITY BUZZ LIVE AT THE LINCOLN CENTER PART II

TIM VAN SCHMIDT | SceneNOCO.com



Benise 2022 (Photo by Tim Van Schmidt)

They announced it proudly from the stage. The recent sold-out show by Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis was the first full capacity show at The Lincoln Center in Fort Collins since the pandemic shutdown in 2020. The news was greeted with hearty applause and cheers from the completely masked and vaccinated audience.

But the cheers and applause didn't end there. It continued all night long as the JALCOWWM punched through the pandemic blues with topnotch jazz charts and dramatic performances.

Marsalis MCed the event from the top riser, sitting in the trumpet section, rather than announcing from the front. And Marsalis played plenty of solos, but this concert featured everybody in the group. Original music, innovative arrangements, and rousing solos were passed around the stage throughout the evening. In short, everybody was a star.

And yet, the 15 musicians in the band easily played together like a singular unit. There is a

special power in full horn sections going at it together and the JALCOWWM took full advantage of that. So did the audience that frequently cheered their efforts.

A week later, I returned to The Lincoln Center once again to check out Benise. This show was originally scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to the pandemic. Finally, though, "The Prince of Spanish Guitar" brought his rapid-fire guitar work, live band, piped-in soundtracks, video backdrops, and troupe of dancers to the Lincoln Center stage for a lively and colorful presentation.

Does this indicate a return to normal? Wearing masks to a concert and getting checked for vax status isn't the "normal" we think of after more than two years of the pandemic. Maybe you could call it "post-normal". In any case, it's great to hear some real live music again. Check out the full Lincoln Center schedule at www.lctix.com.

Tim Van Schmidt is a writer and photographer based in Fort Collins.

## SCOOTER BROWN HONORED AT THE Rocky mountain country music awards

NEW SCENE | SceneNOCO.com



Scooter Brown

The Rocky Mountain Country Music Awards recently hosted their seventh annual ceremony at the Union Colony Civic Center in Greeley.

Scooter Brown took home the coveted Hadley Barrett Person of

Year Award which is presented to a person from the Rocky Mountain country music scene that has done incredible things for their community. Scooter is a combat veteran who works with several organizations that help other veterans and families and was ultimately chosen for this award for the work he does for vets and beyond.

period," said the founder of the RMCMA and iHeart radio host, Shawn Patrick.

Scooter has previously won the 2020 Fan Army Award and 2019 Male Vocalist of the Year Award at the RMCMA.

Scooter was joined by world-renowned violinist, Donnie Reis, to play two songs, "Killing It" and "Wicked Game." The two recently joined forces to create the duo, War Hippies. Donnie served in the U.S. Army from 2001 to 2009 and did one combat tour in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Stay tuned for a further announcement and new music from the duo out this year.

War Hippies is a brand new country duo and lifestyle brand from USMC and US Army combat veterans, Scooter Brown and Donnie Reis. Forming in 2022, each has enjoyed an extremely successful career of their own. Reis is a world-renowned violinist who has spent years on the road with various artists playing violin/fiddle, piano/keys, guitars, and contributing vocals. His work over the years has included a wide range of artists, groups, television, and film projects spanning the genres of Country, Rock, Pop, Gospel, and Singer-Songwriter. Donnie's achievements include 26 Billboard Top 10's and 4 songs on the Billboard 200 chart. Scooter Brown formed the Scooter Brown Band over ten years ago and began playing mainly in and around Houston, Texas. They have since toured North America and opened for some of their biggest influences including the Charlie Daniels Band, Travis Tritt, Dwight Yoakam, Lee Roy Parnell, and the Marshall Tucker Band, just to name a few. War Hippies has become known for their stellar live performance including tight harmonies and a wide range of song selections. Expect great things in 2022.

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"It's always great being recognized for the music but I've always believed and hoped for that the music would become a platform to shine a light on causes I am passionate about. Having been involved with RMCMA for the past four years, I know how much the Hadley Barrett Person of the Year award means to the organization. I am humbled and honored to have received it this year and hope I've inspired others to try and do more good in the world to help our fellow human beings," said Scooter Brown.

The Hadley Barrett Person of the Year Award is named in honor of the late rodeo announcer who was very involved in the community throughout his career and given to a person from the Rocky Mountain region each year who exemplifies a commitment to serving their community.

"Scooter could, and probably should win this award every year. He makes a difference in so many lives every day. No one more deserving,

## CITY BUZZ

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK: "WELLINGTON WINDMILL SUNRISE"



The photo of the week this week is from Jim and Arloa Gundred. Jim built the tower during the covid lockdown in 2020. He bought the Aermotor 702 in New Raymer, and raised it in June 2020. They enjoy many beautiful sunrises and sunsets on the ridge east of Wellington, and they like to feature the windmill when they take photos.

Sanderosa Art Gallery in Laporte is our 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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Submit your photos to: yourphotos@northfortynews.com

## SCENE PICK

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### ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Lisa Downs Photographer with natural love of and fascination with peace found in nature

### SANDEROSA ART GALLERY

Tuesday -- Saturday, 11am - 5pm 3101 Kintzley Court, Laporte, CO sanderosaartgallery@gmail.com



Each Week the North Forty News will feature a photo submitted by 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 Sandserosa 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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**new sceneweek** 

#### Wednesday, February 23

Colorado Fires Benefit Event 2, Your Mom's House, 7:30 pm -12:30 am Fire in the Belly – Zoom Chakra Mandala Drawing Class, Online, 9

- am -11 am \*Free\* 'Black Art' Exhibition Reception, Tours, & Film Screening, Gregory Allicar Museum of Art at Colorado
- State University, 4 pm -8 pm \*\*FREE\*\* Electronic Wenzdaze at 2454 West (Greeley) ft. DocFunk w/ Samson, Violet Svnset, 2454 West, 8 pm
- Sparge Veteran and First Responders Beer Club, Sparge Brewing, 6 pm

#### Thursday, February 24

Beginner Abstract Landscape: Level One, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 1:30 pm -4 pm

- Design a Silk Table Topper: This class is so fun and easy!, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 10 am -12 pm
- Kiss the Tiger performing live at Bluebird Theater - Denver, CO on Thursday, February 24th - Support for Low Cut Connie https://www. axs.com/events/416666/low-cutconnie-tickets, The Bluebird Theater, 7 pm
- OtterJ Cruising Party / A Sleazy Underwear Nite, Hi-Dive, 9 pm -2 am **RFC Networking Luncheon - Tilted** Barrel Brew Pub, Tilted Barrel Brew
- Pub, 11:30 am -1 pm Sports - Get A Good Look World Tour, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm
- Women of Bass, Your Mom's House, 8 pm -2 am

#### Friday, February 25

Greeley Does Drag!, Moxi Theater, 6 pm -11:30 pm

- Indigo Jones with Dzirae Gold + Brooklynn + Janae @ The Black Buzzard, The Black Buzzard, 8 pm -11:30 pm
- Level Up Rap Battle: Freestyle Rap Battle at Stella's, Stella's Pinball Arcade & Lounge, 8 pm -12 am Molly Tuttle & Golden Highway with

Hanna Doreen, Aggie Theatre, 8 pm -11:45 pm

The Songwriter's Living Room: Writers in the Round, Roots Music Project, 8 pm -10:30 pm

Tribute to the Beatles ft. British Beat, Your Mom's House, 8 pm -12 am

#### Saturday, February 26

Comedy Night at Lirano Wine Bar, Lirano Wine Bar, 7 pm -9 pm Evanoff w/ Amorphic, 830 North, 8 pm Game of Love: Valentine's Speed Dating at Stella's, Stella's Pinball Arcade & Lounge, 8 pm -9 pm

Green Fairy Garden Class, The Windsor Gardener, 10:30 am -12 pm High Country Hustle w/ Ghost Town

- Drifters, 100 Nickel, 8 pm Mardi Gras Celebration, The Louisville Underground, 7 pm -11 pm
- Micki Balder at The Gressiwick, The Gressiwick, 7 pm
- Soul Food @ The Black Buzzard, Oskar Blues Grill & Brew, 8 pm -12 am

#### Sunday, February 27

- Asha Blaine Band / Stone Beat Invasion / Mr. Steak Fundraiser, At Cheers, 2 pm -6 pm
- Pen & Ink with Watercolor: Highly sought after class!, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 10 am -1 pm
- Stamped Mandala Coaster & Trivets at Maxline Brewing, Maxline Brewing, 3 pm -5 pm
- Sunday Morning Toast and Jams, Soul Squared Tap house, 11 am -2 pm

#### Monday, February 28

- Pikes Peak Safe at Schools Coalition, Online, 4 pm -5:30 pm
- Recovery Mondays ft. D3XTR + More, Your Mom's House, 8 pm -1 am
- UNC Jazz Funk Lab, Guitar Ensemble & Spectrum Studio Orchestra, University of Northern Colorado, Campus Commons Performance Hall,

### Tuesday, March 1

5 pm

- FEEL THE MAGIC Super Show, Your Mom's House, 8 pm -10 pm Rowland Ricketts artist talk, Colorado State University Alumni Center, 5 pm -6:30 pm
- The Fat Tuesday Funk Jam (Open Jam) 03/01, Your Mom's House, 9 pm -2 am

#### Wednesday, March 2

- An Evening Inside THE ROOM with **Greg Sestero Live Event and** Screening, MetroLux 14 Theatres at Centerra, 7 pm -10:30 pm
- FREE: Workingman's Wednesdays w/ Tumbledown Shack, 830 North, 8 pm
- Fun at The Flipside, The Flipside, 7 pm -9 pm
- Songwriters' Workshop Fort Collins, The Purple Cup Café, 5:45 pm

#### Thursday, March 3

- Diggin Dirt, 830 North, 8 pm Dragondeer with The Runaway Grooms @ Moxi Theater, Moxi Theater, 8 pm -11:30 pm Make a Little Glass Dish: Fused glass fun!, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 2 pm 4 pm
- Melanin MagiQ, Online, 5:30 pm -6:30 pm

### WEEKLY SNEAK PEEK



Forty Feet Tall w/ Boot Gun and Los Toms, March 11, 830 North, 7 pm

- Security of the U.S. Today: Domestic Unrest, Russia & China, Online, 7 pm -8 pm
- The Mystical Hot Chocolate Endeavors, Your Mom's House, 8 pm -2 am

#### Friday, March 4

- A LIFETIME OF BLUES with AI Chesis and David Booker, Roots Music Project, 7:30 pm -10:30 pm
- Humanesque: Movement Stories for Tarnished Times, The Lincoln Center, 12 am -11:59 pm
- Los Lobos, Washington's, 7 pm -9:30 pm Molly Sweeney, Bas Bleu Theatre
- Company, 7:30 pm Paizley Park Live at The Louisville Underground, The Louisville Underground, 8 pm -10 pm
- Stories on Stage presents Wildest Women, Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center, 12 am -11:59
- pm The High Kings, Union Colony Civic
- Center, 7:30 pm The Runaway Grooms w/ Conscious Pilot, 100 Nickel, 8 pm
- **UNC Galleries Women Artists: Opening** Reception , University of Northern Colorado, Campus Commons Gallery, 6 pm -9 pm

#### Saturday, March 5

- An Officer and a Gentleman, Union Colony Civic Center, 7:30 pm Ben Pu & Crew @ Moxi Theater, Moxi
- Theater, 8 pm -11:30 pm Big Brooklyn Live at The Magic Rat,
- Magic Rat Live Music, 8 pm -10 pm Cary Morin & Ghost Dog w/ Tyler T,

#### 830 North , 8 pm

- **Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra** presents Brazil Calling: Featuring the Music of Antônio Carlos Jobim , Arvada Center, 7:30 pm
- Dave Beegle at The Gressiwick, The Gressiwick, 7 pm
- Fort Collins Symphony March 5 Concert: Florence Price & Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, The Lincoln Center, 7:30 pm
- Intuitive Collage: How to make and use your own collage papers, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 10 am -1 pm
- Molly Sweeney, Bas Bleu Theatre Company, 7:30 pm
- Precious Metal Clay: Pendants -- this class is so cool!, Blue Moose Art Gallery, 2 pm -6 pm
- **RMP Rising Music Benefit for Teen** Mental Health, Roots Music Project, 7:30 pm -10 pm
- Stella's Stand Up Underground Comedy Showcase, Stella's Pinball Arcade & Lounge, 9 pm -12 am

#### Sunday, March 6

- Bad Bad Hats w/The Ophelias, 830 North,8pm
- Comedy Brewers Improv, Bas Bleu Theatre, 7 pm DERIS LIVE, Your Mom's House, 8 pm
- -12 am Molly Sweeney, Bas Bleu Theatre Company, 2:30 pm

### **Tuesday, March 8**

Your Mom's Funk Jam (Open Jam), Your Mom's House, 7 pm -2 am

new scene weekly

Calendar.SceneNoco.com

### Wednesday, March 9

- Blast N Bowl Feat. Gone Full Heathen, Violent High, Opposition Agent, and watching people drown, 830 North, 7 pm
- FREE: Workingman's Wednesdays w/ Tumbledown Shack, 2454 West, 8 pm Your Mom's Latin Night, Your Mom's House, 7 pm -12 am

#### Thursday, March 10

- Madeline Hawthorne Band, 830 North , 8 pm
- Museum at Twilight, Greeley History Museum, 4 pm -8 pm
- Protecting Your Creativity, Larimer SBDC, 2 pm -4 pm
- Shwarma with Hash Cabbage + Far Out Underground Rain @ The Black Buzzard, The Black Buzzard, 8 pm -11:30 pm

- Friday, March 11 Bernz (of ¡MAYDAY!), Moxi Theater, 7 pm -10 pm
- Carlos Barata at Lucky Joe's, Lucky Joe's, 9 pm -12 am **DirtySnatcha**, 100 Nickel, 8 pm
- Ellsworth with Sam Paul @ The Black Buzzard, The Black Buzzard, 8 pm -
- 11:30 pm Humbird at The Gressiwick, The
- Gressiwick, 7 pm Scene Queen Night with Shelby: EMO NIGHT at Stella's, Stella's Pinball
- Arcade & Lounge, 9 pm -12 am True to the Sound Takeover, Your
  - Mom's House, 8 pm -2 am

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**CROSSWORD SOLUTION** 

CHECK OUT THE CROSSWORD **PUZZLE ON PAGE 15** 

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SODOKU SOLUTION

CHECK OUT THE PUZZLE ON PAGE 15

## NORTHERN COLORADO

### Statewide **Bennet Encourages** Families to File Taxes to Claim the Expanded Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com 

The American Rescue Plan Expanded the Credit to Help Coloradans Cover the Cost of Child Care, Which Averages \$12,390 for a 4-Year-Old in Colorado

Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet recently encouraged Coloradans to file their taxes to claim their expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) to help cover the cost of childcare. In Colorado, the average childcare cost for a 4-year-old is \$12,390 per vear.

"Families in Colorado and across our nation are facing rising costs, and one of the biggest expenses families have is childcare," said Bennet. "I'm glad we expanded the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit through the American Rescue Plan Act, which will help low- and middle-income families cover the cost of childcare to reduce that financial burden and allow parents to stay at work."

Thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act, the value of the CDCTC is dramatically expanded for this tax year up to \$4,000 per child. It is also now fully refundable, meaning many low-income families can now receive it for the first time, and middle-income families can get a larger refund than ever before. Families can use the CDCTC for out-of-pocket expenses such as center-based care, summer school, or babysitters. Colorado families can claim the expanded CDCTC on their tax returns. More information on the CDCTC is available at irs.gov.

Most Americans can file taxes for free through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Free File Program. Additionally, if a family's income falls below \$58,000, they can receive help filing taxes through the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. Coloradans who qualify for help filing their taxes can visit coloradovita.org for assistance.

The American Rescue Pan Act also expanded the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

More information on eligibility for the CTC and EITC and how to claim the credits is available at childtaxcredit.gov.

Here's My Card...

### Livermore **CSU Students Construct Wildlife-Friendly Crossings on Private Lands**

#### NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

On the road, when a car comes up against wildlife, the car is going to win, and wildlife is going to lose. That's according to Rick Knight, professor in the Human Dimensions of Natural Resources Department in the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University.

"The road density in America is immense; roads go on forever slicing across public and private lands, creating dangers for humans and animals alike," Knight said. "There are many approaches to mitigate this issue, and one is to create wildlife crossings with simple, inexpensive materials."

Over the last year, with funding from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Knight along with his students in an environmental conservation course and students and faculty from Front Range Community College built four wildlife-friendly crossings on two conserved ranches in Livermore, Colorado.

The students took down gates and fences that enclose livestock to install four crossings, two through culverts beneath roads and two along barbed-wire fences.

They utilized one of two innovative crossing designs at the sites. One design included vertical wooden posts 17 inches apart, a width that prevents cattle, horses, and mules from moving through while allowing wildlife like deer and elk to easily pass.

The second model included vertical uprights supporting a log placed horizontally 40 inches above the

. . . . . . . . . . . . . ground that wildlife can easily cross over or under while livestock cannot. The students then installed game cameras to capture wildlife using the new routes.

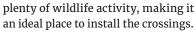
"With these devices, we can have peace on the range," Knight said. "All of a sudden the landscape is permeable, and wildlife has the ability to move freely and safely across it."

The exercise exposed students to hands-on designs for wildlife conservation and gave them valuable on-the-ground experience, said Sam Lewis, a teaching assistant in Knight's NR120 course and a graduate student in the Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology department.

"A lot of these students have been in classrooms most of their lives, and their connection to the natural world has been taught through a screen," Lewis said. "It's a really important aspect that this class gives students hands-on tools for conservation and restoration. It also provides a look at career pathways and creates a connection from themselves to our environment."

The wildlife crossings were installed by Knight and his students on the conserved Roberts Ranch managed by Zach Thode, and on private lands belonging to Knight

and Thode, who happens to be his neighbor. Both Knight and Thode's land support cattle, it is divided by county roads and highways and has



For the past 25 years, Knight has studied private lands conservation in the American West; half of this land is privately owned. Private lands are biologically more productive than public lands, making wildlife more dependent upon them, Knight said.

Because of this dependency, private landowners that practice conservation are up for the challenge. "It's not an oxymoron how you could be a private landowner and a conservationist," Knight said.

Thode had the idea that launched the construction of these wildlife crossings when he noticed a herd of pronghorn on his property whose migration was impeded by his barbed-wire fences. When there are no crossing points, many ungulates, like elk, will go directly through barbed wire fences, harming themselves and damaging fences - a costly concern for landowners, Knight said. Thode began looking for a solution to the issue.

"This project is passive, simple, and not difficult to take on," Thode said. "It just takes landowners saying 'Okay, we're going to do these projects because it makes things better and safer for people and wildlife.""



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## **COVER STORY**

## **Colorado DMV Unveils** New License Design, **Northern Colorado Photographer's Work** Featured

### JONSON KUHN | NorthFortyNews.com

Over 55,000 Coloradans helped design, choose the State's most widespread piece of branding

After almost two years of development, over 55,000 votes, and more than 400 entries by 119 Centennial State artists, the Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) unveiled the state's newest driver license and identification (ID) card. One of the photos is from a Northern Colorado Photographer.

Governor Jared Polis revealed the Iconic Credential and announced the new card is now available on Monday, February 28, during a press conference at the History Colorado in Denver

"For the first time, Coloradans had a voice in the design of our official State credentials and I am proud that the new Colorado driver license better reflects the iconic beauty of our great state," said Governor Polis. "This card continues to build on the convenience of Digital IDs and mobile driver licenses, and like the Rocky Mountains, this card is built to last with the latest security technology. I am excited to renew my own license today and be among the first to get this beautiful new Colorado driver's license."

Mark Ferrandino, executive director of the Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR), which oversees the DMV, agreed and said the Iconic Credential is in his opinion the best-looking credential he has seen.

"The Team did a great job with this credential," Ferrandino said. "It's colorful, sturdy, and secure, and really showcases our great state. I am proud to have helped bring this card to Colorado, but I am even prouder that more than 55,000 Coloradans had a say in how the Iconic Credential looks."

Coloradans who would like to obtain the Iconic Credential can renew (or obtain) their driver's license or ID card online or in-office. Credential renewals, as well as 44 other services including appointments, are available online at myDMV.Colorado.

gov. Coloradans seeking in-office service will need to schedule an appointment and can find scheduling information, including a visual walkthrough, at DMV. Colorado.gov/AppointmentScheduling.

In addition to physical cards, the Iconic Credential will also be available as the Colorado Digital IDTM in the myColorado<sup>™</sup> app, now used by more than 600,000 Coloradans.

Preliminary work on the Iconic Credential began in February 2020, and on Aug. 17, 2020, the Iconic Colorado contest launched, with the goal of transforming Centennial State's driver licenses into the nation's most beautiful and closed with 407 submissions (280 front-side entries, 127 back-side entries) from 119 entrants.

Three finalists were selected by a committee that included motor vehicle administrators, artists, and Gov. Polis with a final, public vote on the top three designs. 55,760 Coloradans voiced their choice for the design of the new credential.

The winners, photographers Matt Nuñez and Gabriel Dupon, were revealed on March 1, 2021, during a press conference. The new designs were slated to debut in fall 2021 but that was pushed to early 2022 to allow further refinement of the card. Colorado last redesigned its credentials in 2015.

Nuñez and Dupon each received a \$500 grant, courtesy of Colorado Creative Industries, a division of Colorado's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), which partnered with the DMV to help promote the contest.

Nuñez placed first with his Mount Sneffels entry, which received 26,520 votes or 47.56% of the total. The secondplace design of the Maroon Bells garnered 21,124 votes or 37.88% of the total. The Black Canyon entry placed third with 8,116 votes for 14.56% of the total votes. Nuñez was the lone finalist selected through two rounds of blind voting that saw his three colorful images vie for the Iconic Colorado crown.

DRIVER LICENSE 12/16/2024 SAMPLE ADULT DRIVER LICENSE 1881 FIERCE ST LAKEWOOD, CO 80214

#### THE ICONIC CREDENTIAL - BACK SIDE DRIVER LICENSE

THE ICONIC CREDENTIAL - FRONT SIDE DRIVER LICENSE



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ORIGNIAL ART



(Sample images courtesy the Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles)

Nuñez is a fifth-generation Coloradan from Colorado Springs, currently living and working in the Denver area. He is proud to come from a long line of family members in military and government service, including his late grandfather, Joe Nuñez, who came to Colorado as a child and served in the State legislature representing Douglas County.

In a tight race for the rear photo, Dupon placed first with his Sprague Lake entry, which received 19,989 votes or 35.85% of the total. The second-place design of the Shrine Ridge Trail by Fred Lord netted 18,694 votes or 33.53% of the total. Jenn Cunningham's painting of the Bison on the Plains placed third with 17,077 votes for 30.63% of the total votes.

Dupon is a Colorado native who loves to be creative and make the unknown extraordinary. One way he does this is by taking pictures that convey the meaningful, timeless and authentic beauty that surrounds him.

"I found out about the contest when I was making an appointment to the DMV back in 2020. I entered my Sprague Lake image and a few months later, Governor Polis hand-selected that image for a public vote," said Dupon.

Currently, Dupon is a portrait and wedding photographer with his own photography business. Other than photography, Dupon values spending time with his family, making films, and enjoys going on adventures such as traveling, alpine skiing, biking, and paddleboarding.

"Northern Colorado is my home as well as I was born and raised here. My family and I still live here. I also run my photography business here, as well, near the Wellington area, Carr to be exact" Dupon said. "The story behind the Sprague Lake photograph started with a hike on a spectacular day in late May 2020 in Rocky Mountain National Park. My intention was to capture it authentically. Capture what we can't see, not just what we can see. I did this by showing the mid-day sky and colors, getting close to the lake's surface to show the movement of the water, and showing a perspective unlike any other. This photo definitely displays iconic Colorado, but ultimately this photo conveys Colorado authentically."

More than 400 entries were submitted by over 100 talented Coloradans, including finalists Matt Nuñez, Fred Lord, Jenn Cunningham, and Gabriel Dupon.

Three finalists were selected by a committee that included motor vehicle administrators, artists, and Gov. Polis. with a final, public vote on the top three designs.

More information can be found at DMV.Colorado.gov/newcard.

### Generation Wild and Children's Hospital Colorado Partner to Bring Back "Say Hi with a Snowman" Initiative

NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

## **USDA Forest Service Announces Hiring Event**

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NORTH FORTY NEWS | NorthFortyNews.com

### .....

Generation Wild, a movement from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), has announced its partnership with Children's Hospital Colorado (Children's Colorado) to bring back the "Say Hi with a Snowman" initiative, a project that pairs patients with volunteers to bring snowman drawings to life.

"Last year proved that the simple act of getting creative in the outdoors can go a long way toward brightening a patient's day and reducing the stress that children in the hospital experience," said GOCO Executive Director Jackie Miller.

"The goal for this year's campaign is to get kids and families outside when it may be challenging to do so and to generate goodwill and positivity within the Generation Wild community.'

The 2022 campaign opens today for

families who want to participate and runs through March, traditionally Colorado's snowiest month. The Children's Colorado team of Child Life Specialists will present kids with the opportunity to draw their "dream snowman" alongside their favorite colors and outdoor snow activities.

Volunteers across the state are then asked to bring these patients' dream snowmen to life.

Families interested in building snowmen can sign up over the course of the six weeks and will be paired with a patient and their snowman. As the snowmen are built, the Children's Colorado team shares pictures and videos received directly with the patients.

Families can also follow the fun through social media, using the hashtag #SayHiWithaSnowman.

The Forest Service is hiring hundreds of foresters and forestry technicians across the nation.

Forester jobs are open from February 25, through March 10.

Forestry technician jobs are open from March 11, through March 21.

Jobs are available in a variety of exciting and rewarding locations across Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, and across the country.

Job listings and a job location map are available.

Applications are only accepted through www.usajobs.gov.

Review the job announcement carefully for deadlines and required information to include in your application.

Employment start dates and duty locations vary.

To learn more about career opportunities, visit the Forest Service Jobs webpage, fs.usda.gov/fsjobs.

You will also find helpful hiring tips and resources and information about benefits.

Make a lasting impact on the world around you and unlock opportunities for professional growth and career advancement. Join the Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and be a part of an organization that is committed to caring for the land and serving people.

Their mission is to protect our natural resources for multiple uses for today and future generations.

Z IS FOR ZELENSKY

AND WE'LL BE RAKING IN THE DOUGH!

## HE BACK PAGE

## THE OSCARS

SEE THE SOLUTION ON PAGE 12

11

10

## This Weeks' Cartoons

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ACROSS

- 1. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard
- 6. Marlboro debris
- 9. \*Academy Award ceremony audience sound 13. Botch
- 14. Sigma fraternity
- 15. Ten million, in India
- 16. Embryo sacs 17. Literary "even"
- 18. Tax evader's fear
- 19. \*Most nominated streamer in this year's Oscars
- 21. \*Most-nominated Black actor in Oscar history 23. Opposite of yang
- 24. Lard cousin 25. \*Milk \_\_\_\_
- \_ movie snack 28. Poetic source of Norse mythology
- 30. 2020 demographic event
- 35. Arrival times, acronym
- 37. Baseball points
- 39. Camelot  $\bar{t}o$  King Arthur

#### DOWN

- 1. J. Edgar Hoover's man
- 2. Ice on a window
- 3. Antonym of "is"
- 4. Enlighten
- 5. Puck stopper
   6. Kilimanjaro top, e.g.
- 7. Pronoun
- 8. Hinduism follower
  9. \*"Parallel Mothers" nominee Penelope
  10. Prospector's mother
  11. Graduate
- 11. Seed coat
- 12. Lassie, e.g.15. Type of horse gait
- 20. Lemur from Madagascar 22. European Economic Community
- 24. Playground attraction 25. \*"Belfast" nominee, "Shakespeare in Love" 25. winner
- 26. First cradles
- 27. Lifeboat support 29. \*Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi nominee

AFTER SNOW ...

JUST LIKE THE WHERE THE CARS ONES RIGHT CAN'T MISS 'EM, AFTER SNOW... SO WE MUST

FIX 'EM ...

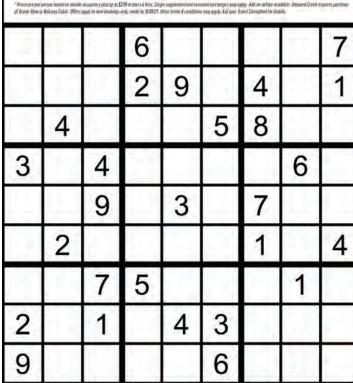


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**GRAND ALASKAN** 



FREE ONBOARD CREDIT



40. Actress Campbell

- 41. \*Where Oscar-winner "Slumdog Millionaire" was set
- 43. Not in favor
- 44. \*What Halle Berry did when she won an Oscar in 2002
- 46. Jet black
- 47. Lively48. Paid killers (2 words)
- 50. Upon
- 52. Rally repeater
- 53. Sweet-talk
- 55. Not outs
- 57. \*Total Oscar nominations for "The Power of the Dog'
- 60. \*One of this year's Oscar hosts
- 64. Exotic juice flavor
- 65. \*Jamie Foxx won an Oscar in 2005 for this flick
- 67. Bizet's "Carmen," e.g.
- 68. Off kilter
- 69. \*1942's "Holiday \_\_\_\_\_," Oscar winner
- 70. Admit (2 words)
- 71. Afterward
- 72. And so on acronym
- 73. Took the Kool-Aid

31. Type of tide 32. Not so crazy 33. Extremist 34. \*"King Richard" nominee, once a fresh prince 36. Give an impression 38. Land of Israel 42. Shenanigan 45. Remove claws 49. Presidential election mo. 51. Waiting on the phone (2 words) 54. Eagle's nest 56. Like the Incredibles 57. Backside 58. Boat track 59. Not odd 60. Update, as in a FitBit 61. Formerly Facebook 62. \*Julia Robert's 2001 Oscar-winning role 63. Colonel or captain 64. Gangster's gun 66. \_ eater or hill

#### C StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



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