



School superintendent field narrowed to three finalists

By Chad Richardson
Interim editor

Three candidates have been selected as finalists for the Gunnison Watershed School District's next superintendent.

The finalists are Dr. Jessica Kalb of Montrose, Dr. Chad Krug of Lamar and William Summers of Penrose.

Kalb is the executive director of academic services at the Montrose County School District.

Krug is the superintendent at Lamar Public School.

Summers is the principal at Canon City High School.

There will be an opportunity for interested parties to meet the final candidates and submit input to the board about each candidate during one of two meet-and-greets. Those events are planned for Monday, Feb. 9.

School A5



Seventh- and eighth-grade students at Gunnison Middle School read excerpts from Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech during an observance of Monday's holiday in Dr. King's honor. For more, turn to page 4. (Photo by Olivia Wilson)

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Heidi Sherratt passes torch to Lana Athey

Olivia Wilson
Times Staff Writer

After 11 years, Heidi Sherratt is stepping down from the executive director position at Gunnison Tough and passing the torch to Lana Athey. Sherratt has been involved with the organization since its inception two decades ago and has molded it into the community staple that it's become since she was hired as the first director 11 years ago.

"When I was hired, there weren't a lot of programs in place," Sherratt said. "They had been really successful in their fundraising efforts, but then after that there wasn't really anybody creating the programs in the community. There's only so much volunteers have the time or capacity to do. I sort of got handed an empty slate. It was cool to go out in the community and find out what people needed and then build programs based upon those conversations, and that's really how we built the whole organization."

Sherratt's community-oriented approach and direction lead to the creation of programs such as the vehicle rental program. What started as two Gunnison women taking buses and hitchhiking to their Denver and Montrose treatments grew into Sherratt

finding funding to purchase a car for community members to rent out to access their treatments. The program now has a fleet of five cars, four of which were donated.

"It's incredible to see how many people utilize it," she said. "I don't think there's any other program like it in the country."

Sherratt, with the support of the Gunnison Tough board, has also helped purchase over \$2 million worth of radiation equipment, strictly from donations, to help Gunnison Valley Health become one of the best rural hospitals in the country.

"It's been one of the most magical parts of my life for the past 11 years," she said. "I've been so honored to lead the organization to where it is now. It's been fun to build it and grow it and bring more people in. Lana's been a big part of that, working along with me for eight years. She was the first person I hired. That's how I know it's in great hands. She's been a part of building it for all these years. She's one of the most amazing people I know and has a huge heart. I know she'll carry on and make it even better than it is today."

Sherratt has known that Athey, a Gunnison native, was the only person for the job, and after years of convincing, Athey is finally ready to take it on.



Torch A5 Heidi Sherratt and Lana Athey

QUOTE
of the week

“There’s still a lot of work that needs to be done, particularly from your generation. It’s okay to be scared and uncertain. Remember there’s always room for kindness and understanding.”

— Mayor Diego Plata

See story on A4

Sue Noone to retire after 45 years at ABBA Eye Care

Olivia Wilson
Times Staff Writer

After nearly 45 years of devoted service to the Gunnison Valley, Sue Noone is retiring. Noone helped grow ABBA Eye Care into what it is today. After being hired in February 1981, Noone helped care for community members with a gentle reliance that no one is able to forget.

“Every morning when she gets up, it’s game on,” said her husband Steve Mills. Sue and Steve married in October after 26 years together and are beginning their retirement as newlyweds. “We’re on a constant honeymoon. If we’re going to do something, we’re going to do it together,” Mills said with pride.

Noone has served as both optician and manager at ABBA.

“It always amazes me the connection she makes with so many people,” Mills said. “Over the years she’s just made this really unusual bond with people and they look forward to seeing her. When she sits down with people it’s like meeting with an old friend.”

Noone built relationships with community members beyond their eye care, treating every patient like family.

“She was really nervous about retirement,” Mills said.

While she said she will miss her patients and her practice, Noone is looking forward to this next chapter. Retirement means more time with her children and grandchildren who reside in the Denver area, and filling her extra moments with her other passions.

This winter Sue and Steve will be taking their RV to Tucson, Arizona, chasing the sunshine and some well-earned adventure.

“Hopefully there will be somebody that’ll be able to fill her shoes, but it’s gonna be a tough one,” Mills said.

Noone’s last day at ABBA is Jan. 22.



Sue Noone is retiring this week after 45 years at ABBA Eye Care in Gunnison. (Submitted photo)

BRIEFS

CPW announces death of female wolf

CPW was alerted of the mortality of female gray wolf 2504 on Jan. 16. In a press release sent on Jan. 20, the agency confirmed the mortality took place in northwest Colorado

As a federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act, the USFWS is investigating this mortality.

A final determination of the cause of death will not be made until the investigation is completed, including the necropsy, a foundational component of the overall investigation process. 2504 was part of the group of wolves translocated to Colorado from British Columbia in January 2025.

No additional details were available at press time.


CPW to seek input on new firearms safety program

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is beginning statewide public engagement efforts to inform Coloradans about the new Firearms Safety Program required under Senate Bill 25-003 (SB25-003) and to gather public feedback ahead of the law’s implementation on Aug. 1, 2026.


CPW has launched a dedicated webpage outlining legally required program requirements and timelines. As the program is finalized, CPW will host a series of public and stakeholder meetings across the state through May 2026. At these meetings, CPW staff will share information and address questions, and attendees will have the opportunity to provide feedback.

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OBITUARIES

Ray Boomershine

On January 13, 2026, Ray Boomershine passed away at the age of 93. He was born in Sedan, Kansas on April 24, 1932.

He grew up in Buena Vista. He spent the majority of his

life in the Gunnison Valley, self-employed operating Ray's Septic & Excavation Service. He also owned a trailer park by where the City of Gunnison shop is now. He had his pilot's license and owned a small airplane. In his younger days,

he could be found at the local VFW or the old Alamo, as he loved playing pool and was a very avid player.

Per Ray's prior wishes, no funeral service will be held.

Adam Hamilton



Adam Lee Hamilton, age 45, passed away in Crested Butte Sky View on Dec. 16, 2025. A proud native of Oregon, he was born to his mother and father on Sept. 14, 1980.

Adam was a man of many talents and a heart filled with love for learning, expression, music, art and especially the people around him. He was a self-taught musician who played the guitar and piano, a painter of landscapes and night skies and a craftsman who put his heart and soul

into everything he created.

He attended Crested Butte Academy and Gunnison Valley schools, where he nurtured his love for learning as the process of evolution. Adam was a gifted mechanic, a skilled carpenter known for his precision and creativity and a painter of luxury homes. His passion for restoring antique cars and furniture led him to establish his own business, Hamilton Finishes and Restoration. It was never just a job for Adam, but a way to share his love for the arts and craftsmanship with the world.

Adam's generosity knew no bounds. He was always there for a friend in need, offering not just practical help but also a listening ear and a shoulder to cry on. His love for his family was immeasurable. He was a loving father to his 17-year-old son Collin, a protective brother to his sisters and a cherished uncle to his precious nephews. His love for people, in all their unique and diverse forms, was a testament to his generous spirit and warm heart.

Adam is preceded in death by his mother, Rhonda Louise Miller, and his sister, Alexandria Tenille Bannon. He is survived by his son, Collin Hamilton of Massachusetts; his father, Gary (Pops) Hamilton of Michigan; his sisters, Jessica Koppell of Alamosa, Jennifer (Jenny) Bannon of Denver, Tiffany Willaims of Battlefield, Indiana, Dalynn Trujillo of Crested Butte and Jackqualine Creed of Gunnison; and his brother, Christopher McEldowney of Michigan. He is also survived by his beloved pet dog, Calvin.

A celebration of Adam's life will be held at the Crested Butte Arts Center, 603 Elk Ave., on Saturday, Jan. 24, from noon to 3 p.m.

We invite all who knew and loved Adam to join us in celebrating his life and honoring his memory. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His legacy of love, artistry, and generosity will continue to inspire us.

BIRTHS



Zeta Jane Thomas

On Nov. 9, 2025, at 3:31 p.m., Zeta Jane Thomas was born to Katie Thomas and Peter Viets of Gunnison. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 20 inches at birth. Her grandparents are Jim and Jane Thomas of Gunnison and John and Marcia Viets of Golden.

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GEMS FROM THE BIBLE

CHRIST DIED FOR YOU!

And we can see that it was while we were powerless to help ourselves that Christ died for sinful men. In human experience it is a rare thing for one man to give his life for another, even if the latter be a good man, though there have been a few who have had the courage to do it. Yet the proof of God's amazing love is this: that it was while we were sinners that Christ died for us.

Romans 5:6-8 (PHILLIPS)

Selected and provided by Renee Balch & Leta Haverly

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Gunnison Middle School celebrates MLK Day with the community

Olivia Wilson
Times Staff Writer

Monday, Jan. 19, Gunnison Middle School celebrated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by devoting the day to his teachings.

After the first bell, the middle school students settled into the auditorium to hear from presenters ranging from school staff to Mayor Diego Plata and other city officials and even a former student.

Mayor Plata used the presentation as a call to action after an explanation of Dr. King's beliefs and practices.

"There's still a lot of work that needs to be done, particularly from your generation," he said. "It's okay to be scared and uncertain. Remember there's always room for kindness and understanding."

Deputy police chief Frank Rodriguez and city manager Amanda Wilson followed the mayor, cementing his comments. Drew Hanks, a former

student and current special education teacher at GMS, read a poem he had written in high school about his first realizations of the privileges that set him apart from his friends and classmates.

"Each of us has an opportunity to be a giant," said Wilson. "And to stand on the shoulders of giants. Today is just as much about MLK as it is about you."

"The beauty of this country," Rodriguez added, "is that we are all different shapes, sizes and colors. True justice must be colorblind."

The seventh- and eighth-grade drama students gathered on the stage to read MLK's "I Have a Dream Speech," teaching their classmates that just because King believed in non-violence, doesn't mean he practiced inaction.

"We've tried for many years to incorporate parts of MLK's legacy into our day," said school counselor Sara Lamar, who got emotional watching the preteens recite the famous speech. "I think it's an incred-

ible opportunity that we have, to have our kids here, and to have a whole day to focus on this community, and how they can go out and create their own communities and change the world in their own ways."

After the presentation, students cleared out to begin their rotation of activities. A collection of community members gathered in the school to teach the students different aspects of King's teachings and practice kindness and action in different stations throughout the day. Presenters hailed from many different corners of the valley including Gunnison County Juvenile Services, Gunnison Valley Mentors, Western's women's soccer team and Asian Pacific Islanders Club (APIC), the Center for Adult and Family Literacy and many others.

"This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate our community and continue to build our community here," said vice principal Renee Brekke. "We have a diverse population of

students, which is a wonderful thing, and this day helps us celebrate that. The outreach from the community is incredible, to get all of these guests in allows teachers to be students as well and be a part of that community building piece."

"I can't believe we have so many of our community members here presenting," added principal Lance Betts. "We're really trying to get our students to understand that it's okay to disagree, it's okay to present different ideas, but we need to help them understand how to do it." Principle Betts mentioned that there was no shortage in eagerness from volunteers, and they even have people lined up to present at next year's event.

Students made art, built sculptures, helped clean up trash from around campus, practiced yoga and mindfulness and listened to many in-depth presentations including topics like connection, community, resilience, leadership and even food insecurity.

"I was watching them, and you can see how eager they are to do something now. This day, I hope, empowers the kids," Brekke said. "They listen to these messages and then they get to go out and act on it and I think that's really special." Above everything, this was a day about action.

"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor," Mayor Plata told the students.



GMS students pick up trash on campus. (Photo by Olivia Wilson)



POSTER BY @LUKEYSCHROEDER

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Free America Walkout observed in Gunnison



Gunnison community members gathered downtown for the Free America Walkout, a nationwide protest against the Trump administration on Jan. 20. As part of the event here, food donations were collected and donated. (Photo by Olivia Wilson)

School

from A1

The first one will be held at Crested Butte Community School at 818 Red Lady Ave. from 4 to 5:15 p.m.

The second will be held at Gunnison Pathways Center, 600 N. Eighth St., from 6 to 7:15 p.m.

The board intends to make their final selection following the interviews on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The finalists were announced Monday in a press release issued by the search firm the district is using, McPherson & Jacobson, LLC. They reviewed, screened and did background checks on 16 applicants, then presented the applicants to the

school board. From there, the board narrowed the field to three.

After the superintendent has been hired, Dr. Christy Sinner will facilitate a board/superintendent workshop to help establish performance standards for the new superintendent.

Torch

from A1

"I've known Heidi since I was 17 years old, so for the last 20 years," Athey said. "My husband, then boyfriend, was working with her husband when we first met. We have remained in touch and close since then. She's been a great teacher. I've learned so much from her. She's a really loved community member. She pushes to get things done and she has a really huge heart and wants the best for this community and the people in it. I feel like I've really learned a lot from her leadership."

Athey has been volunteering with Gunnison Tough since 2018 while working full time for the Gunnison County's Health Coalition as the early child-

hood services supervisor for Gunnison and Hinsdale counties.

"This is a pretty great, grassroots organization, and we have a really innovative board that I'm excited to work with," she said. "We're building strong community partnerships and thinking of innovative approaches to community issues as far as access to health care and treatment here locally."

As a lifelong local, Athey's number one priority is the people around her, and what she can do to serve them.

"I think one of my main goals is just to listen and learn more from our community, our volunteers and donors, and our clients to see where there might be opportunities for growth into the future," she said. "And then continue to

grow the organization, increasing access to other cancer screenings in the community and community education around prevention efforts."

Sherratt knows that Athey is the right person to help continue her legacy.

"She's a beloved person in our valley. She's a Gunni girl through and through," Sherratt said. "I'm excited to see what she does, I think it's going to be incredible. I just want everyone to support her and embrace her like they did to me, and I know they will."

Sherratt said she will continue to volunteer for Gunnison Tough, and work as hard as ever to make sure it remains successful, while also allowing herself time to focus on her other passions and her family.



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2026 Member

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be 500 words or less. We favor local topics and discourage argumentative letters addressed to particular people. If you reference data, please include sources for fact-checking.

We will not print letters from candidates for public office.

Email letters to editor@gunnisontimes.com or send to 218 N. Wisconsin St., Gunnison, CO 81230. Include your full name, address and a phone number — for our internal use only.

The deadline is Tuesday at 12 p.m. Letters may be edited for grammar, clarity or length.

OPINION

LETTERS

It is 'abusive' that working class bears brunt of rising costs

Editor:

Four weeks ago the Gunnison Times posted the GOP's letter to the editor on bringing to light the fact that Colorado's PUC is appointed by Governor Polis. More importantly, their 100% decarbonization mandate is not accompanied by state funds. Funds to relieve the working class of the higher cost of living in our valley.

Now the Colorado Dept of Public Health and Environment (all appointed,

not elected) is mandating, under Regulation 31, (Adopted Dec. 18, 2025, effective Feb. 14, 2026) mandates that all landfills, by 2029, install a methane gas collection system. Capital cost is estimated at \$1.5 to \$2 million, and \$250,000 annually to operate.

Waste management companies will now pass the costs to all homes, apartment complexes and businesses. Each will see huge monthly rate increases for garbage removal.

This mandate, along with the PUC's edict of zero carbon emissions, places all the costs on the operators, who then pass it on to the consumers.

We find it abusive that the working class bears the brunt of these costs, with no assistance from the state. But the state finds money for transgender surgeries.

Cori Balch
Neil Watko

Expect to see petition on health care reform

Editor:

Federally, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) earmarked \$50 billion for transforming rural health care, and \$1 billion is earmarked for Colorado. However not all is as it seems, as is often the case with the current administra-

tion, as over \$1 trillion was cut from health care, mostly related to Medicaid cuts. What is gained from this award is not close to repairing the damage caused by the OBBBA.

Our representative, Jeff Hurd, voted for extending the health care subsidies; communications from his constituents seem to have gotten through to him. Thank you to all who reached out. However, he has expressly stated he wants to see changes made to the bill in the Senate so it comes back to the House again. Health care access and affordability

continued on A7

GUEST COMMENTARY

County in southeast Utah has a target on its back

By Zak Podmore



In the early 1980s, southeast Utah was targeted as a potential dump site for high-level nuclear waste, the kind that comes from nuclear reactors. The Department of Energy considered storing 8,000 tons of this highly radioactive material near Canyonlands National Park, boosting the idea as spurring "nuclear tourism."

Who wouldn't want to see Delicate Arch in the morning and casks of plutonium in the afternoon?

Like the radioactive waste itself, some bad ideas won't disappear. Southeast Utah is in the crosshairs once again, aided by a \$2 million Biden-era grant given to two pro-nuclear nonprofits based in California, Mothers for Nuclear and Native Nuclear, along with North Carolina State University.

San Juan County, where I live, is Utah's only majority-Indigenous county and the state's poorest. Last year, the county hosted a number of meetings as part of the Energy Department's "consent-based siting consortia," an attempt to get buy-in from residents for accepting radioactive waste. At local meetings, Mothers for Nuclear argued that the nuclear industry is much safer than the public has been told.

It's true that 40 years ago some locals eagerly pushed for a nuclear dump. One pro-repository activist in Moab even called it preferable to national parks, because parks attracted "drugs, homosexuals,

and environmentalists." Utah's governor opposed the dump plan, however, and after it was defeated, the town of Moab worked to create a new identity. Now, the Moab area has become an international tourist destination.

Yet the question of what to do about spent nuclear fuel remains, and the area surrounding Bears Ears National Monument and Canyonlands continues to be targeted as a suitable dumping ground.

Would welcoming radioactive waste lead to an economic revival? Probably not.

Though the Cold War rush for uranium created economic booms for San Juan County and Grand County's town of Moab, prosperity spawned public health crises. Residents of Monticello, San Juan County's seat, and the site of a uranium mill from 1942 to 1960, awoke to a fine yellow dust on windowsills during the mill's heyday. Decades later, rates of lung and stomach cancer in the town were found in one study to be twice the state average.

The Navajo Nation experienced widespread uranium mining in the 20th century, followed by one of the highest

incidences of uranium-linked health issues in the United States. In 1979, Tribal land was also the site of the second-largest accidental release of radioactive material in history, after a wastewater pond burst near Church Rock, New Mexico. Only the Chernobyl meltdown seven years later surpassed that disaster.

Mills for processing uranium are also harmful. After a mill site in Halchita, Utah, was capped in the early 1990s, workers who cleaned it up fell victim to some of the same diseases as uranium miners of the previous generation. Still contaminating air, livestock and humans are more than 500 unreclaimed uranium mines on Navajo land.

The Navajo Nation banned uranium mining in 2005 and uranium transport in 2012. But Energy Fuels, the company that operates the White Mesa uranium mill just outside San Juan County, secured an exemption from the transport ban in early 2025. The mill has been accepting radioactive waste for years, including waste from Japan and Estonia. Recently, it began processing ore from a mine the company owns just outside Grand Canyon National Park.

Around 10 trucks leave the Arizona mine each day, crossing unceded Havasupai and Hopi lands, the Navajo Nation, and the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation before reaching the mill—all over the objections of Tribal leaders and members of the tribes along the route.

But that waste and ore is far less radioactive than the spent nuclear fuel that Mothers for Nuclear promotes at San Juan County meetings. There, the group stays away from discussing cancer rates or birth defects, instead showing slides of pregnant, smiling women sitting next to containers of nuclear waste.

It is going to take time and vigilance, but once again my fellow residents of San Juan County intend to fend off the Department of Energy, which has adopted even more pro-nuclear policies under President Trump.

Zak Podmore is a contributor to Writers on the Range, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring conversation about the West. He is the author of Life After Deadpool and lives in Utah.



An Energy Fuels truck carries uranium ore from a mine near the Grand Canyon through Bears Ears National Monument to a mill in San Juan County, Utah. Photo by Zac Podmore

LETTERS

continued from A6

for Coloradans should not be delayed by tossing a hot potato around the table by those in Congress who have health care security. We need to hold his feet to the fire. This we learned when he promised to support US healthcare, but then voted for the cuts in the OBBBA.

The Colorado School of Public Health (CSPH) is studying whether Colorado can provide truly comprehensive, universal health care (medical, dental, vision, hearing, mental health and long-term care support services) to Coloradans as mandated by SB25-045 Healthcare Payment Study Analysis. The state's budget was in the tank last year, so the CSPH has been fundraising for the mandated research. Only \$30,000 more is needed to fully fund the study with \$720,000 already raised. It will provide us with real answers to the health care conundrum in Colorado by the end of this year. Tax deductible donations or gifts can be made here: giving.cu.edu/HSMP. Thank you to all who have donated time, talent and treasure.

And we have more free health care movies coming up in February. Here's more information on the movies:

- Sick Around the World - Two showings with TR Reid, an American reporter, documentary film correspondent, and author that document his firsthand experiences with other healthcare systems. First at the Gunnison Library on Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m. and then at the CB Majestic on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. If your organization / leadership / group would like one-on-one time to talk with him and are unable to attend the film, please reach out to me to arrange a separate discussion with him.

- Power to Heal - A powerful movie that tackles hard truths about racism in U.S. healthcare. It covers the cru-

cial importance of the passage of Medicare in the 1960s. We will show it at the Gunnison Library on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. One of the producers will be in virtual attendance for questions and answers after the one-hour film. If virtual viewing is easier for you, contact me and I'll send the link once it is available.

We will be circulating a petition for health care reform. To learn more, get involved, sign the petition, be part of the Colorado health care revolution go to: www.couniversal-health.org or email marsha.thorson@gmail.com.

Gunnison County Health Care Activists
Marsha Thorson, MSPH
Grace Fienberg, MPH
Laird Cagan, MD
Crested Butte

Jan. 6 was an 'attempt to steal a fairly won election'

Editor:

I feel compelled to respond to John Matuszczak's letter in last week's paper. In my opinion, what seems to be an effort on his part to justify the outrageous assault on our Constitution by the current Administration, he makes a number of fantastical claims.

For example, in one case he compares what is going on today to the "Disinformation Governance Board" led by Nina Jankowicz during the Biden Administration. The DGB was an effort to counter some of the outrageous disinformation coming out of entities such as QAnon. It lasted for one month before it was paused and had its charter canceled 3 months later. Hardly the left wing conspiracy to censor free speech that Mr. Matuszczak makes it out to be. His reference to "shenanigans, abnormalities and outrageous fraud" in the previous Administration perplexes me. Perhaps he could have been more specific. I have no idea what he is referring to.

In another example he points to the demonstration in Seattle in the 2000 Summer of Love Demonstration against police brutality. In no way would I consider justifying the actions of some of the demonstrators, however not only is using ancient history in an attempt at justifying what is going on today, but his claim that 900 police officers were injured is outrageous. From what I can gather, the number is between 50 and 59 officers injured. Which is 59 too many but certainly not 900.

Finally, he again attempts to justify the Jan. 6 Capital riot as nothing more serious than a peaceful demonstration against election fraud. What he fails to point out is that in the intervening five years, in spite of numerous efforts, there has not been one shred of evidence of election fraud. He seems to have forgotten that five people died and \$2.7 million of damage was done to the Capital. He further forgets to point out that 174 police officers were injured and that the mob had the stated intention of killing the Speaker of The House and came within feet of the vice president whom they also said they intended to murder. This was by no means a peaceful demonstration but an attempt (for the first time in our history) to steal a fairly won election.

In this case, the facts just don't support the position.

Charles Welch
Gunnison

What will an 'immoral ruler with dementia do?'

Editor:

History shows us that an evil ruler will burn down his country to rule the ashes. What will an immoral ruler with dementia do? God help us.

John Williams
Gunnison

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GunnisonCO.gov/PRMasterPlan

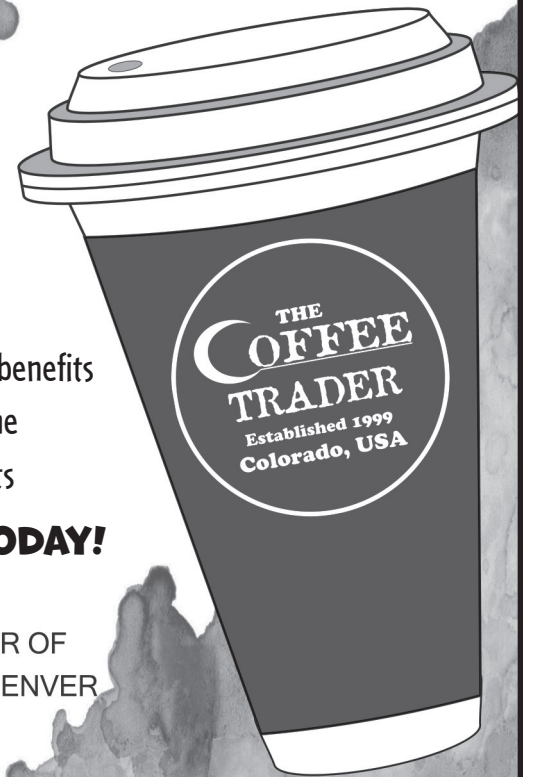
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GunnisonCountyLibraries.org

Clellan provides update on wolves at CPW Commission meeting

Meryl Phair
Staff Writer

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will fully comply with a request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to provide further information about the state's voter-approved gray wolf reintroduction program, in response to threats of a federal takeover of the three-year project to establish a resident wolf population in the Rocky Mountain state.

CPW Acting Director Lauren Clellan confirmed the move during the agency's January 2026 Commission Meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 14, providing updates on recent developments that have complicated an already tense third round of gray wolf releases.

Clellan referred to a letter dated Dec. 18, addressed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Director Brian Nesvik to CPW, requesting the state submit a complete report of all gray wolf conser-

vation and management activities from Dec. 12, 2023, when the first wave of wolves was released in the Rocky Mountains, to the present. The letter outlined two specific compliance inconsistencies in the agreement between the two agencies, specifically relating to the sourcing of wolves and the relocation of one wolf connected to a livestock kill.

If the report is not received by the 30-day deadline, USFWS stated that they will pursue legal alternatives, including a management takeover of all wolves in Colorado. This could include terminating the special permit, allowing the state to lead the reintroduction, a move that would allow the federal government to pursue relocation and lethal removal of wolves "as determined necessary," the letter stated.

"The letter is not intended to make a final determination on any future program outcomes, but rather to document the management actions taken from December 12, 2023, to the pres-

ent," Clellan said during the commission meeting. "The letter notes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may take further action based on information provided later this month, but no immediate changes are identified."

Clellan further clarified that CPW is currently working on providing the requested information by the Jan. 18 deadline, with the intention of avoiding the removal of the state's authority to head the ongoing reintroduction effort.

"I want to reiterate that CPW has coordinated with US Fish and Wildlife throughout the gray wolf reintroduction effort and complied with all applicable federal and state laws, as well as international treaties," Clellan said. "This includes translocations in January of 2025, which were planned and performed in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

The acting director also addressed the third wave of gray wolf releases scheduled for this winter in the southwest corner of

the state, stating that "CPW continues to evaluate all options."

The impending release has faced delays as recently updated federal guidelines state that wolves could only be sourced from Northern Rockies states where they are not listed as endangered, complicating a prior agreement to source the candidts from British Columbia, which has since fallen through. The state has since been unable to secure a source population from other states or tribal nations.

"If we do not release wolves this season, the impact on restoration success from a biological perspective is dependent on several factors, including wolf survival and reproduction," Clellan said, adding that the program has seen 10 mortalities out of the reintroduced 25 animals. "This is not far off from what is expected among wolves that do not live in a pack."

Despite the fatalities, CPW has seen the establishment of several packs along with pups born this

summer. While these are encouraging markers of success for reintroduction efforts, Clellan noted, "When populations are small, each individual becomes increasingly important."

"Not knowing the mortality rate over the next year, it's going to be difficult to predict with certainty the overall impact of not completing a third year of translocations," Clellan said. "If we have a high level of mortality, as we observed in 2025, we run a higher risk of not meeting the goal of establishing a self-sustaining population of wolves in Colorado, and having to spend more resources to do so."

The state's Colorado Wolf Management Plan recommends the state wildlife agency release 30 to 50 wolves over the course of three to five years. As of early 2026, the reintroduced wolf population is estimated to be just around 30 wolves.

Meryl Phair can be reached at mphair@orourkemediagroup.com.



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Cribbage club creates new space for community members to come together



The Peg Bondis compete at the first Cribbage Club meeting at Crested Bucha in Gunnison. (Submitted photo)

Olivia Wilson
Times Staff Writer

Looking for a new hobby in 2026? Katie Lewinger and her mother, Liz, have you covered. Cribbage club will be meeting the last Sundays of January and February from 2 to 4 at the Gunnison library.

The group is interested in having more meeting dates, as well.

“We’ll have an opportunity where people can come and learn,” said Katie Lew.

Lewinger put out a post on Facebook at the end of last year gauging interest and was bombarded with over 40 responses from cribbage pros to complete beginners. The club is open to anyone at any skill level.

Lewinger is working with Megan Lucas at the library to secure a spot for her new endeavor, and even mentioned the possibility of refreshments.

“Maybe it could even turn into a cribbage potluck,” she said. “In our town in general, we just need more things that are creating solidarity.”

Lewinger mentioned the potential of using the club

as a fundraiser for the food pantry or things like it. During the long winters here in the Gunnison Valley, regardless of how much snow there is, or isn’t, community members need spaces to come together.

The club hosted a trial run at Crested Bucha Thursday at 3 p.m. Six people competed for some pretty crazy bragging rights. The group is calling themselves the “Peg Bondis.”

“It’s going to be big,” Lewinger said.

For a quick refresher on the rules, cribbage is a two to four person game played with a 52 card deck. Each player gets dealt six cards, and discards two to the “crib” that one player will get to utilize after scoring their hand of four. Players can get points when “pegging” for adding cards to 15, 31, a pair, or a run, and then add up points based on their four original cards and the starter card that is flipped from the deck at the beginning of the hand. The first played to 121 points wins.

Reach out to Katie Lewinger at cooltempco@gmail.com if you’re interested in participating.

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PEOPLE & HAPPENINGS

Healing arts fair is Jan. 30-31

Join the first Lights in the Valley: A Healing Arts Fair from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Jan. 30 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Fred Field Center in Gunnison.

Meet local practitioners and experience a wide range of healing modalities through mini-sessions and group offerings. The fair is free and open to the public, with free experiences, ticketed workshops and a Friday night headliner featuring psychic medium Willow Bradner; details, the Healing Arts Directory, and tickets are available at thelightsinthevalley.com.

To submit an item for People & Happenings, send it to news@gunnisontimes.com.

GUNNISON ARTS CENTER BRIEFS

Winter Harmony Snowfall Curated Open Mic

Join us Jan. 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. for a cozy evening of live music with seven local singer-songwriters hosted by Julian Young. \$5 contribution at the door.

Watercolor Still Life

Join us for three Wednesday watercolor sessions, Jan. 28 to Feb. 11 where we explore the beauty in everyday objects, compositions, light and color while learning foundational watercolor techniques. \$140

Palentine's Day Art Workshop

This workshop celebrates friendship and creativity instructed by three talented local artists. Craft Valentines Day themed art using resin, felting, and hand-carved and printed Valentines cards. Feb. 7 from 4 to 7 p.m. Prices vary. Includes two drink tickets.

Try the Wheel: Date Night

Join instructor Lauren Roullier for a fun and relaxed evening with your friends or partner. Beginner friendly and no experience needed. Every first Friday of the month except March. Next class is on Feb. 6 at 5:30 p.m. \$50

Butterfly in a Blizzard Film Screening

Join us Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. for this special screening that offers an intimate portrait of professional snowboarder Kimmy Fasani as she navigates motherhood, identity and resilience through health scares while continuing to pursue the sport she loves. Sponsored in part by It Takes a Village Podcast, and featuring a special podcast viewing before the event. \$10

CB CENTER FOR THE ARTS BRIEFS

Alpenphunk: Soulive | Jan. 30 | 8:30 p.m. | \$60 - \$100

Soulive is all about danceable, organ-driven instrumental groove-jazz. Their success is a result of fusing the soul-jazz of the past with a modern hip-hop feel. Krasno's spidery yet very direct guitar lines recall Grant Green. The rhythmic concepts employed date back to those learned from artists such as James Brown, Stevie Wonder, and Sly Stone.

Alpenphunk: Celebration of Jerry Garcia Band & The Grateful Dead | Jan. 31 | 8 p.m.

Experience a soul-stirring celebration of the Jerry Garcia Band catalog featuring an all-star lineup including Eric Krasno, Stanton Moore, Jennifer Hartswick, Grahame Lesh, Nikki Bluhm, and more. This one-night-only tribute brings together some of

the finest voices and players in the jam, soul, and roots scenes to honor Jerry's timeless music with groove, heart, and fire.

Opera Colorado: The Pirates of Penzance | Feb. 4 | 7 p.m.

Opera Colorado brings the magic of opera to Crested Butte with a stunning performance showcasing powerful voices, timeless stories, and unforgettable music. Full of sentimental pirates, blundering policemen, absurd adventures, and improbable paradoxes, experience Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious farce!

Send It: a ROMP x Center Ski Art Exhibition | Feb. 6 | Matchstick Productions Retrospective at 6 to 7 p.m., Gallery Reception 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. | Free

Send It brings together local artists and master ski builders for a limited-edition series of custom skis that celebrate Crested Butte's creative spirit. Each artist-designed pair will be unveiled at the gallery opening, featuring a live DJ, one-of-a-kind pop-up flash tattoos by Alex Stevenson, and a showing of epic old-school ski films to follow. Proceeds from each pair of skis support both the participating artists and vital local nonprofits working across the valley. This collaboration highlights the intersection of art, community, and the mountain culture that defines Crested Butte.

The full schedule can be found on our website crestedbuttearts.org.



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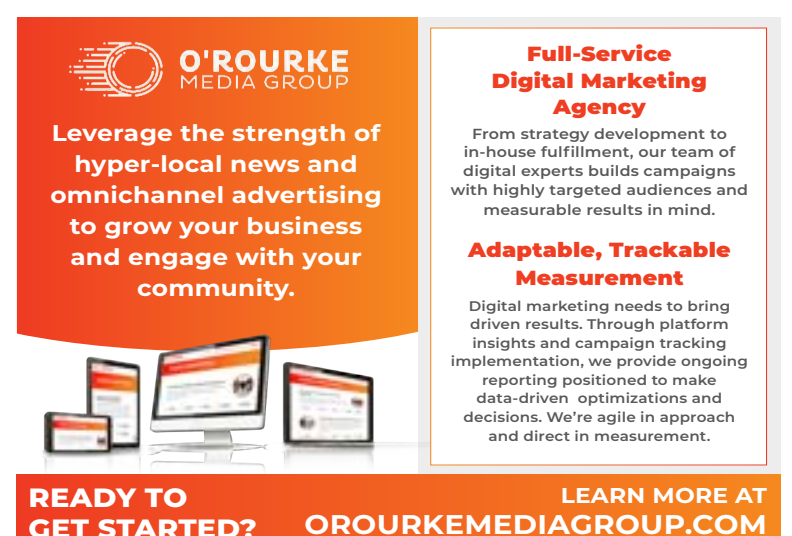
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Applications are open for representation on the **Gunnison Basin Roundtable**. Be a voice for developing long-term, locally driven solutions to conserve, protect, and defend the basin's water resources. The Gunnison County municipalities will collaborate to choose a single representative.

Applications due for first round of review by Thursday, February 12th, 2026.

GunnisonCO.gov/AppBasinRoundtable

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City Market to support Western's Mountaineer Marketplace



Mountaineer Marketplace and City Market have teamed up through the Fight Hunger reusable bag program. (Submitted photo)

Mountaineer Marketplace is teaming up with City Market this winter to take on food insecurity through the Fight Hunger reusable bag program.

Throughout February and March, the Gunnison City Market will donate \$1 to Western's Mountaineer Marketplace for every \$2.50 Fight Hunger reusable bag sold. The program is part of City Market's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste initiative, which aims to provide access to nutritious food while promoting sustainability.

Funds raised through the Fight Hunger bag program will go directly to support Mountaineer Marketplace, which is Western's on-campus food pantry and works closely

with community partners to serve students, faculty, and staff.

"We're incredibly grateful to be selected for this program. It's so special living in a community that recognizes the need to support college students' food security," Western's Director of Community Wellness McKenzie Mathewson said. "The funds raised through the Fight Hunger bags program will help us keep nutritional food available for students and help them succeed."

For more information about the Fight Hunger reusable bag program, stop by Mountaineer Marketplace or visit Western.edu.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Family-run electrical company sparks new chapter in Gunnison

By Allison Brown

JD Electrical Services is bringing a familiar name to Gunnison's electrical market as owner Jesse Duft steps out on his own after more than a decade working alongside his father, Tom Duft.

Jesse opened the business in April 2025 and said the company aims to be a friendly, dependable resource for neighbors and businesses in the Valley. Its slogan speaks to that small-town feel: "Your Hometown Electricians. Locally Trained. Locally Trusted."

Although JD Electrical Services is new, Jesse is far from new to the trade. He has spent nearly 15 years working as an electrician for his father, who has operated an electrical business in Gunnison for more than 20 years after serving 10 years as the county electrical inspector.

"All of my training has come from him — a well known, professionally respected electrician in the Valley," Jesse said.

That family foundation shapes how the company serves customers. Jesse described JD Electrical



JD Electrical Services owners Bobbie and Jesse Duft with their daughter Peyton Duft, their apprentice. (Submitted photo)

Services as family owned and operated, offering residential and commercial work, new builds and service calls for anyone needing small or large electrical help.

Jesse said one of the advantages the business brings is the relationships he has built with contractors and inspectors on the Western Slope, as well as a strong understanding of electrical codes and permitting processes. He said those connections help projects move more smoothly and give customers confidence that

work is done correctly.

"Electrical work demands proper training and experience," he said. "Don't risk DIY electrical fixes. Trust a trained electrician to protect your home and family."

Based in Gunnison, JD Electrical Services welcomes calls from residents and business owners seeking help with electrical projects. Those interested can reach Jesse directly at 970-596-8101.

JD Electrical Services is part of the Gunnison Country Times sponsored content program called Spotlight.



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Après Ski: History of Crested Butte Ski Area with Andy Eflin

Tuesday, February 3rd-4pm

at the Elevation Hotel

Explore the rich family history of Crested Butte Mountain Resort through archival images and stories with the son of CMBRs founder. Hosted by the Crested Butte Museum.

\$10 member tickets | \$15 non member
includes light snacks, n/a beverages and cash bar



Purchase Tickets



Colorado River experts say some management options don't go far enough to address scarcity, climate change

Feds release draft report on how to share shrinking river

By Heather Sackett
Aspen Journalism

Federal officials have released detailed options for how the Colorado River could be managed in the future, pushing forward the planning process in the absence of a seven-state deal. But some Colorado River experts and water managers say cuts don't go deep enough under some scenarios and flow estimates don't accommodate future water scarcity driven by climate change.

On Jan. 9, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation released a draft of its environmental impact statement, a document required by the National Environmental Policy Act, which lays out five alternatives for how to manage the river after the current guidelines expire at the end of the year. This move by the feds pushes the process forward even as the seven states that share the river continue negotiating how cuts would be shared and reservoirs operated in the future. If the states do make a deal, it would become the "preferred alternative" and plugged into the NEPA process.

"Given the importance of a consensus-based approach to operations for the stability of the system, Reclamation has not yet identified a preferred alternative," Scott Cameron, the acting Reclamation commissioner, said in a press release.

"However, Reclamation anticipates that when an agreement is reached, it will incorporate elements or variations of these five alternatives and will be fully analyzed in the final EIS, enabling the sustainable and effective management of the Colorado River."

For more than two years, the Upper Basin (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming) and the Lower Basin (California, Arizona and Nevada) have been negotiating, with little progress, how to manage a dwindling resource in the face of an increasingly dry future. The 2007 guidelines that set annual Lake Powell and Lake Mead releases based on reservoir levels do not go far enough to prevent them from being drawn down during consecutive dry years, putting the water supply for 40 million people in the Southwest at risk.

The crisis has deepened in recent years, and in 2022, Lake Powell flirted with falling below a critical elevation to make hydropower. Recent projections from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation show that it could be headed there again this year and in 2027.

John Berggren, regional policy manager with Western Resource Advocates, helped craft elements of one of the alternatives, Maximum Operational Flexibility, formerly called Cooperative Conservation.

"My initial takeaway is there's a lot of good stuff in there," Berggren said of the 1,600-page document, which includes 33 supporting and technical appendices. "Their goal was to have a wide range of alternatives to make sure they had EIS coverage for whatever decision they ended up with, and I think


that there are a lot of innovative tools and policies and programs in some of them."

Alternatives
The first alternative is "no action," meaning river operations would revert to pre-2007 guidance; officials have said this option must be included as a requirement of NEPA, but doesn't meet the current needs.

The second alternative, Basic Coordination, can be implemented without an agreement from the states and represents what the feds can do under their existing authority. It would include Lower Basin cuts of up to 1.48 million acre-feet based on Lake Mead elevations; Lake Powell releases would be primarily 8.23 million acre-feet and could go as low as 7 million acre-feet. It would also include releases from upstream reser-


continued on A13

SOLD



614 N. Pine St., MLS# 827792 • \$505,000


Charming old home of Gunnison in great central location in town. 3 bedroom/2 bath home with hardwood floors, woodstove, large kitchen with built in grill and sunroom off of dining area. Home has been a rental for many years but has had some updated and improvements such as new flooring, new 3/4 bath 2 years ago, high efficiency boiler installed 10 years ago. This property does have much room for improvements and is being sold "as is".



457 Ute Dr. (Arrowhead), MLS# 820145 • \$40,000

Beautiful, secluded 1 acre lot located on the north edge of the Arrowhead subdivision off of the main road. Bring your RV or plan to build your private mountain retreat on this sloped, nicely treed lot with plenty of wildflowers and wildlife to be seen. This subdivision is quaint community located on the Alpine Plateau Road and has quick access to the Arrowhead Lodge where you can enjoy food and drink on their outdoor patio along with occasional live music. Come discover what living in the Rockies is all about!


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Discover the perfect blend of privacy and convenience with this 1.58-acre parcel just north of Gunnison. This beautiful piece of level land offers a serene setting surrounded by mature trees, providing shade, beauty, and a true mountain feel. Enjoy easy access to the nearby river for fishing, kayaking, or relaxing by the water. Commuting and recreation are a breeze with a free bus stop conveniently located nearby—perfect for easy trips into Gunnison or Crested Butte. Whether you're looking to build your dream home, a cozy cabin, or invest in a piece of Colorado's mountain paradise, this property offers exceptional potential in a peaceful, natural environment. With its proximity to town amenities, outdoor adventures, and scenic surroundings, this is a rare opportunity to own a beautiful slice of the Gunnison Valley.

PRICE ADJUSTMENT




TBD W Denver Ave., MLS# 816647 • \$574,000


Spectacular 2.5 acre level lot located in Gunnison's new subdivision Elk Ranch. This parcel is located just outside city limits on the west side of town and seller has it set up to be built on immediately. Lot has a well permit already in place along with the required approval for well from the Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy district which can be transferred at closing. Buyer of lot may also pay for tap fees to hook into the city water and sewer main that has already been extended north by the City. There is a shared road/driveway into the subdivision and it will be completed by this fall. Lot has been surveyed and a building envelope has been established for a single family residence but other dwellings such as barns/sheds etc. will be allowed. Come enjoy some country living with incredible views of mountains up Ohio Valley and the Palisades while being so close to town.




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SERVING CRESTED BUTTE,
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continued from A12

voirs Flaming Gorge, Blue Mesa and Navajo to feed Powell. But experts say this alternative does not go far enough to keep the system from crashing.

“It was pretty well known that the existing authorities that Reclamation has are probably not enough to protect the system,” Berggren said. “Especially given some of the hydrologies we expect to see, the Basic Coordination does not go far enough.”

The Enhanced Coordination Alternative would impose Lower Basin cuts of between 1.3 million and 3 million acre-feet that would be distributed pro-rata, based on each state’s existing water allocation. It would also include an Upper Basin conservation pool in Lake Powell that starts at up to 200,000 acre-feet a year and could increase up to 350,000 acre-feet after the first decade.

Under the Maximum Operational Flexibility Alternative, Lake Powell releases range from 5 million acre-feet to 11 million acre-feet, based on total system storage and recent hydrology, with Lower Basin cuts of up to 4 million acre-feet. It would also include an Upper Basin conservation pool of an average of 200,000 acre-feet a year.

These two alternatives perform the best at keeping Lake Powell above critical elevations

in dry years, according to an analysis contained in the draft EIS.

“There are really only two of these scenarios that I think meet the definition of dealing with a very dry future: Enhanced Coordination and the Max Flexibility,” said Brad Udall, a senior water and climate research scientist at Colorado State University. “Those two kind of jump out at me as being different than the other ones in that they actually seem to have the least harmful outcomes, but the price for that are these really big shortages.”

The final scenario is the Supply Driven Alternative, which calls for maximum shortages of 2.1 million acre-feet and Lake Powell releases based on 65% of three-year natural flows at Lees Ferry. It also includes an Upper Basin conservation pool of up to 200,000 acre-feet a year. This option offers two different approaches to Lower Basin cuts: one based on priority where the oldest water rights get first use of the river, putting Arizona’s junior users on the chopping block, and one where cuts are distributed proportionally according to existing water allocations, meaning California could take the biggest hit.

This alternative is based on proposals submitted by each basin and discussions among the states and federal officials last spring. Udall said the cuts are not deep enough in this option.

“You can take the supply-driven one and change the max shortages from 2.1 million acre-feet up to 3 or 4 and it’s going to perform a lot like those other two,” he said. “I think what hinders it is just the fact that the shortages are not big enough to keep the basin in balance when push comes to shove.”

Pivotal moment

In a prepared statement, Glenwood Springs-based Colorado River Water Conservation District officials expressed concern that the projected future river flows are too optimistic.

“We are concerned that the proposed alternatives do not accommodate the probable hydrological future identified by reliable climate science, which anticipates a river flowing at an average of 9-10 [million acre feet] a year,” the statement reads. “The Colorado River Basin has a history of ignoring likely hydrology, our policymakers should not carry this mistake forward in the next set of guidelines.”

The River District was also skeptical of the Upper Basin conservation pool in Lake Powell, which is included in three of the alternatives. Despite dabbling in experimental programs that pay farmers and ranchers to voluntarily cut back on their water use in recent years, conservation remains a contentious issue in the Upper Basin. Upper Basin water managers have said their

states can’t conserve large volumes of water and that any program must be voluntary.

Over the course of 2023 and 2024, the System Conservation Pilot Program, which paid water users in the Upper Basin to cut back, saved about 101,000 acre-feet at a cost of \$45 million.

The likeliest place to find water savings in Colorado is the 15-county Western Slope area represented by the River District. But if conservation programs are focused solely on this region, they could have negative impacts on rural agricultural communities, River District officials have said.

“Additionally, several alternatives include annual conservation contributions from the Upper Basin between [200,000 acre-feet] and [350,000 acre feet],” the River District’s statement reads. “We do not see how that is a realistic alternative given the natural availability of water in the Upper Basin, especially in dry years.”

In a prepared statement, Colorado officials said they were looking forward to reviewing the draft EIS.

“Colorado is committed to protecting our state’s significant rights and interests in the Colorado River and continues to work towards a consensus-based, supply-driven solution for the post-2026 operations of Lake Powell and Mead,” Colorado’s commissioner, Becky Mitchell, said in the statement.

The release of the draft EIS comes at a pivotal moment for the Colorado River Basin. The seven state representatives are under the gun to come up with a deal and have less than a month to present details of a plan by the feds’ Feb. 14 deadline. Federal officials have said they need a new plan in place by Oct. 1, the start of the next water year. This winter’s dismal snowpack and dire projections about spring runoff underscore the urgency for the states to come up with an agreement for a new management paradigm.

Over a string of recent dry years, periodic wet winters in 2019 and 2023 have bailed out the basin and offered a last-minute reprieve from the worst consequences of drought and climate change. But this year is different, Udall said.

“We’re now at the point where we’ve removed basically all resiliency from the system,” he said. “Between the EIS and this awful winter, some really tough decisions are going to be made. ... Once we finally get to a consensus agreement, the river is going to look very, very different than it ever has.”

The draft EIS will be published in the Federal Register on Jan.16, initiating a 45-day comment period that will end March 2.

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DANNY LEFEBVRE OF MARIOS + THE DIVE | 5:30 - 7:30 PM

KIDS SATURDAY CLAY DAY | VALENTINES DAY 1/24
AGES 6+ | 12:00 - 2:30 PM

GUT-LOVING SLEEPYTIME TREATS FOR KIDS 1/24
2 SATURDAYS | 1:30 - 3:30 PM

APRES CLAY | AGES 15+ 1/24
VALENTINES DAY PROJECT | 4:30 - 6:30 PM

LEGO LAND IN CLAY | AGES 7+ 1/26
3 MONDAYS | 4:00 - 6:00 PM

DRAWING A STILL LIFE 1/28
4 SEPARATE SESSIONS ON WED. 1:00 - 2:00 PM

WATERCOLOR: STILL LIFE 1/28
3 WEDNESDAYS | 5:30 - 7:30 PM | INSTRUCTOR: KAREN HILL

WINTER HARMONY: SNOWFALL SESSIONS CONCERT 1/31
DOORS 6:30, CONCERT 7 PM

THE CLAY LAB: KIDS WHEEL WORK | AGES 8+ 2/5
6 THURSDAYS | 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Winter Harmony

Snowfall Sessions Concert

Saturday, January 31st 7 PM

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CHASE MASON,
SIERRA JOY FOREMAN AND
GRACE EISENBART &
DAKOTA BENNETT AS A DUO




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Isham, Sponable to dedicate their year of service to the memory of Brett Redden

The tradition of western heritage and community pride continued in Gunnison as the Cattlemen's Days Royalty was officially crowned September 2025, in time for the 126th year of Cattlemen's Days, one of the community's most cherished annual celebrations.

"Their 'reign' [typically] starts in August and goes to the following August. But this year we're kind of changing it up so that hopefully it will be like a mentorship program for the girls so that way it will turn into more interest," said Sara Dobie, Cattlemen's Days royalty coordinator. "The idea is hopefully in the next five years it's this huge mentorship program for young ladies in the valley."

This year's royalty includes Queen Abigail Isham, who is also the 4-H state treasurer, and Junior Miss Dixie Sponable, who were selected for their poise, leadership, knowledge of rodeo and dedication to representing the values of Cattlemen's Days. Throughout their reign, the royalty will serve as ambas-

sadors for the event and the Gunnison-area ranching and agricultural community.

In addition to their ambassador roles, the 2026 Cattlemen's Days Royalty has chosen to dedicate their year of service in memory of Brett Redden. Redden was known for teaching many youth throughout the valley how to ride horses, including Isham, and for generously sharing his passion for horsemanship with the next generation. One of Isham's favorite memories of Redden was seeing him arrive at Monday night rides wearing his signature Hawaiian shirt, a reflection of his personality and the welcoming spirit he brought to every lesson.

Sponable also shared her appreciation for Redden's lasting impact, stating, "Brett always helped me with my horsemanship and gave me guidance."

Sponable said she especially enjoys participating in the poker ride held in his honor, a meaningful event that aims to celebrate Redden's legacy and love for the riding and ranch-

ing community. Sponable is a multi-generational Gunnison girl and competes in barrel racing during the summer.

In honor of Redden, the royalty plans to donate the funds they raise during their reign to the 4-H horse project in his name, ensuring his legacy of mentorship, generosity and dedication to youth in agriculture continues.

"My hope is that in future years, there'll be 10 or 15 girls that want to try out every single year, and it's a place for girls to grow emotionally, spiritually and pursue their passions," said Dobie. "It's a good stepping stone to learn how to publicly speak and do interviews."

Now in its 126th year, Cattlemen's Days continues to celebrate the history, traditions and future of ranching and agriculture in Gunnison and the surrounding areas. The royalty program aims to highlight the importance of youth involvement, responsibility and respect for western traditions through interviews, horsemanship, public speaking and community service.

The young royals are also involved in fundraising for the Golden Circle of Champions. Typically within this program one local child with pediatric cancer is selected for sponsorship, but this year the Royals were lucky enough to have to "borrow" a child from another state to sponsor.

"These young individuals represent the future of our community and the traditions we value within the western heritage," said Dobie. "Their decision to honor Brett Redden through service and giving speaks volumes about their character and the spirit of Cattlemen's Days. This is a true inaugural year, filled with so many unique building blocks for the future."

The Cattlemen's Days royalty will make appearances at community events, parades and regional celebrations throughout the year, promoting the history and spirit of Cattlemen's Days while honoring a legacy that continues to inspire.

For more information about Cattlemen's Days and upcoming events, visit

Cattlemensdays.com and follow along their journey via Facebook and Instagram.



Cattlemen's Days Queen Abigail Isham, left, and Junior Miss Dixie Sponable pose for a photo. They were crowned in September. (Submitted photo)

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Chair of Western's music department elected to Colorado Brass board of directors



Dr. Ben Justis was recently elected to the Colorado Brass board of directors. (Submitted photo)

The Chair of Western Colorado University's Music Department, Dr. Ben Justis, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of Colorado Brass, the state's premier British-style brass band composed of players from across the state dedicated to performance and education.

Dr. Justis will serve on the organization's education committee, where he will help guide outreach and educational programming for students, educators, and emerging musicians across Colorado.

His election comes after years of participation with Colorado Brass, which Dr. Justis

began performing with in 2022, regularly commuting from Gunnison to Denver for rehearsals. That same year, he helped the group take second place at the North American Brass Band Association Championships in Huntsville, Alabama.

Dr. Justis also traveled with the ensemble to the US Masters Brass Band Championship in Kansas City, Missouri. There, he won awards for Outstanding Soloist and Outstanding New Work, honoring both his per-

formance and an original composition.

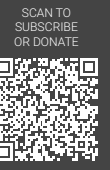
"Since I began playing with Colorado Brass, it's been clear that the ensemble deeply values both artistic excellence and education, which aligns closely with my work at Western," Dr. Justis said. "I'm excited to support its educational mission and help expand opportunities for students and young musicians. It's also a great opportunity for me to do music recruiting on the Front Range when I work with young percussionists participating in their youth band programs."

According to the group's website, the band performs an annual subscription concert series in addition to national competitions and festivals, including the Rocky Mountain Brassworks Festival, the U.S. Masters Brass Band Championships, and the North American Brass Band Association Championships. As a board member, Dr. Justis will help shape programming that connects professional musicians with students and educators.

To learn more about Dr. Justis or studying Music at Western, visit western.edu.



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Gunnison County is currently accepting Letters of Interest for the Vacancies listed below.

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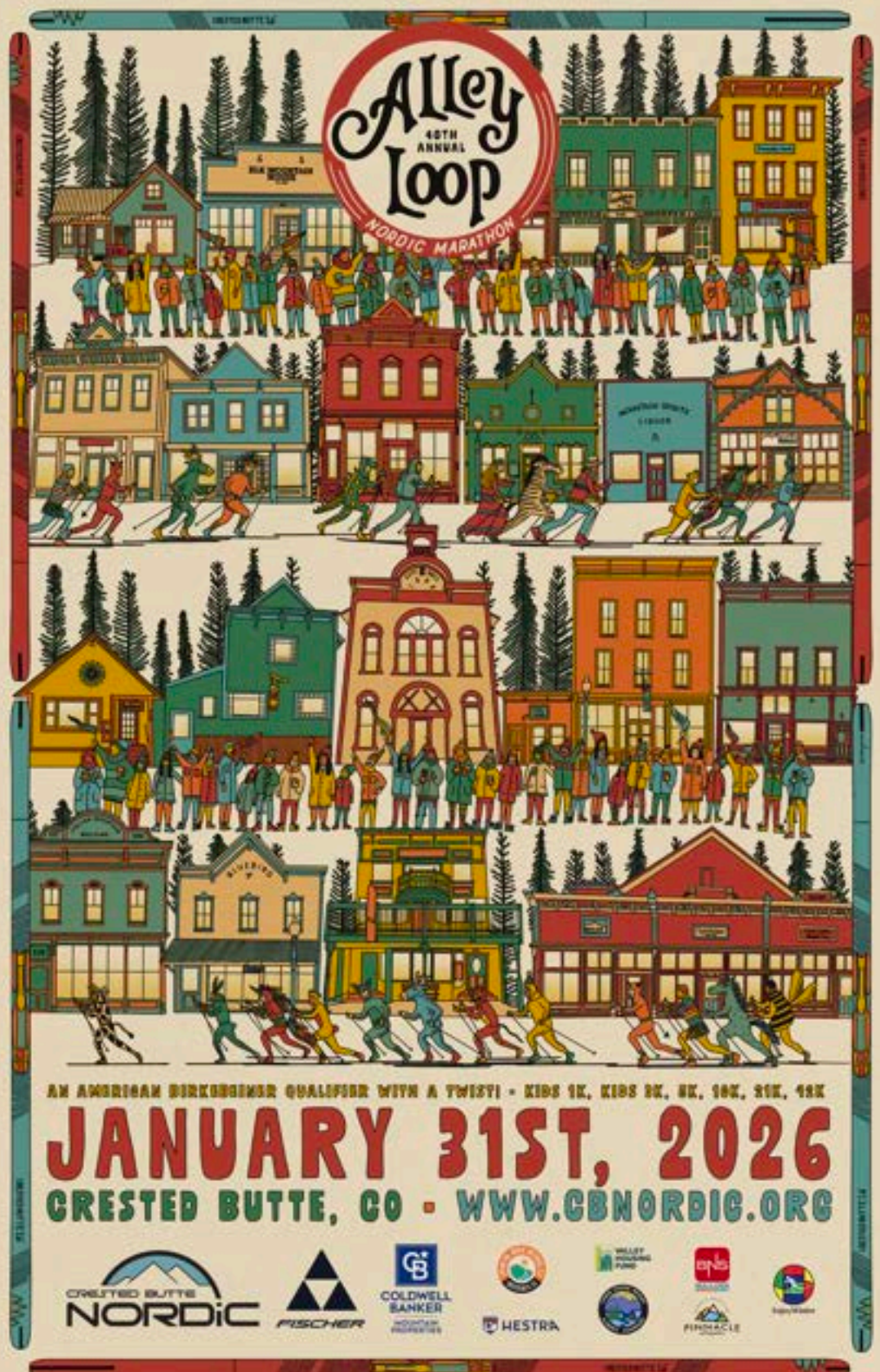
Board/Commission	Vacancies
Board of Adjustment (Alternate)	1
Gunnison Basin Sage-grouse Strategic Committee:	
• Public At-Large (Alternate)	1
• Development At-Large (Regular & Alternate)	2
• Recreation At-Large (Alternate)	1
Region 10	
• Private Representative	2
Planning Commission (Alternate)	2

Letters of interest will be accepted until **Tuesday, February 3, 2026** via:

Gunnison County Administration Office
Mail: 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison CO 81230
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org
Online: <https://gunnisoncounty.org/boardapp>

Interviews will take place on **Tuesday, February 10, 2026.**

Please provide all contact information with your letter, including an email address. You may request more information by calling (970) 641-7600.





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Employment

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MetRec is seeking a motivated, detail-oriented **Administrative Coordinator** to support district operations, finance, grants administration, and board activities. This position serves as the district's primary administrative and operational coordinator and offers an opportunity for growth into broader operations and programs roles over time.

Responsibilities include:

Administrative and board support, financial tracking and reporting, recreation grant program administration, audit assistance, agency reporting, and internal coordination.

Qualifications:

3+ years of administrative or executive support experience required. Strong organizational, communication, and computer skills. Ability to work independently and exercise sound judgment.

Schedule & Location:

Flexible, full-time, Monday-Friday. Primarily office-based in Gunnison County, with limited remote work available.

Compensation & Benefits:

Salary \$60,000-\$70,000 DOE, paid time off, health insurance, and up to 5% retirement match.

Apply:

Submit resume and cover letter via <https://gcmctrec.com/jobs>

AFTER SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS:

THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Department is seeking Recreation Instructors for after school sports including Indoor Climbing, Lacrosse, Soccer and Volleyball. Pay range of \$19-24/hour dependent on program role. Come help provide valuable programming to your community by being a facilitator for one of our many programs! Please submit your resume and application via email to jobs@crestedbutte-co.gov. More information can be found on the Town's jobs page. Town of Crested Butte is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Responsibilities include but are not limited to demonstrating a sound understanding of building construction methods and materials. The ability to develop and maintain satisfactory working relationships with contractors, property owners and Pitkin Mayor/Board of Trustees while exercising firmness and diplomacy in enforcing codes and ordinances in a customer-friendly environment is essential. Compensation is commensurate with experience.

Submit resume and cover letter to The Town of Pitkin Town Clerk, PO Box 9, Pitkin, CO 81241.

Applications are accepted until filled.

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CITY OF GUNNISON EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Operations and Technical Manager

Full-Time, \$84,100-\$98,800/yr
\$40.43-\$47.50/hr

Performs managerial, technical, and administrative duties related to overseeing daily operations and public safety technology at the Gunnison Regional 911 Communications Center. Responsibilities include supervising communications staff, supporting emergency dispatch operations, and administering mission-critical systems such as computer-aided dispatch, Next Generation 911, and radio communications. Ensures reliable, secure, and effective emergency communications services for Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties. This is a newly created leadership position.

Police Officer

Full-Time, \$76,300-\$116,933/yr
\$36.68-\$56.22/hr

Performs technical, professional, and administrative duties related to maintaining the security of the City, protecting constitutional guarantees of all persons, protecting life and property, preserving public peace and order, preventing, solving and detecting crimes, facilitating the safe movement of people and vehicles, and other emergency services as needed. POST Certification not required. The City will pay for the Police Academy if needed and pay a cadet wage while attending the Academy. Includes a \$15,000 hiring bonus.

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See GWSD website for details gunnisonschools.net

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kfuller@gunnisonschools.net



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FAST CASE MANAGER

Juvenile Services: Part-Time, 20 hours/week, hourly range is from \$30.25 to \$34.43, plus partial benefits.

GUNNISON-CRESTED BUTTE REGIONAL AIRPORT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Airport: Part-Time, 16 to 30 hours/week, hourly is \$21.73, plus partial benefits.

BILINGUAL JUVENILE CASE MANAGER/TRUANCY SUPPORT

Juvenile Services: Full-time, 40 hours/week, hourly range is from \$30.25 to \$34.43, plus full benefits.

DETENTION DEPUTY

Sheriff: Full-Time, 40 hours/week, the annual salary range is from \$66,682.96 to \$75,920.30, plus full benefits.

JAIL HEALTH SERVICES NURSE PRACTITIONER

Health and Human Services: Part-Time, 10 hours/week, hourly range is from \$45.04 to \$51.28, plus partial benefits.

ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER FOR COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

County Manager: Full-Time, 40 hours/week, the annual salary range is from \$139,940.32 to \$197,945.40, plus full benefits.

FAMILY PLANNING NURSE PRACTITIONER/ PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Health and Human Services: Part-Time, 10 hours/week, the hourly range is from \$45.04 to \$51.28, plus partial benefits.

For more information, including complete job descriptions, required qualifications and application instructions, please visit www.GunnisonCounty.org/jobs.

GUNNISON COUNTY AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER (EOE)



INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR Location: Crested Butte, CO Mechanical & trouble shooting skills; Handle and work safely around Chemicals; Record keeping and communications for regulatory agencies; Water sampling, Laborer; C level IWW license required once qualified; Self-motivated, organized & efficient; Driver's license, transportation. \$28/hr. to start, PTO, Sick and Holiday pay; \$1450/month Housing Stipend; Health ins. after probation period. Simple IRA and match after one year. Criminal BRC, Drug and Alcohol testing conducted. Email Resume to: Tmarshal@fmi.com or mail to: Frank Environmental Services, PO Box 629, Gunnison, CO 81230.

PR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT IS LOOKING for a Full Time, Year-Round, Maintenance Person. Insurance Reimbursement, Retirement, Ski Pass, PTO. Wage \$26+ DOE. prpropertyoffice@gmail.com/970-349-6281

RELIABLE, HARD WORKING, HONEST TIRE TECHNICIAN needed full time M-F 9am - 6pm. Year round steady work. Willing to train. Pay depending on experience. Call 970-641-4060. Or stop by Kreugers Tires. Serious inquiries only!

THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE is hiring a Planner I or II to join the Community Development Department. This full-time, year-round position offers a competitive salary (\$61,004 – \$80,526 DOQ for Planner I; \$67,105 – \$80,526 DOQ for Planner II) and a generous benefits package, including 100% employer-paid health coverage. Join a dynamic team and help shape the future of Crested Butte! The Planner I/II primarily supports current planning and development review, including BOZAR support through administration of the zoning code and Design Standards and Guidelines. Additional responsibilities include supporting long-range planning initiatives and community engagement. This is an exciting time for the role as the Town updates its zoning code and design standards to reflect community values and goals—you can help guide and implement these changes. **Planner I:** Entry-level, ideal for candidates with foundational planning knowledge. **Planner II:** Requires at least 2 years of planning experience, with greater independence in reviewing development applications and leading small-scale planning or policy projects. The Town of Crested Butte is an equal employment opportunity employer. Submit your resume, cover letter, and application to jobs@crestedbutte-co.gov.

THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE is looking for a Deputy Marshal. The Deputy Marshal performs a full range of law enforcement duties necessary to ensure public safety, protect life and property, and enforce laws and ordinances. Compensation: No POST \$33.49 - \$39.40 per hour (\$69,659 - \$81,952 per year) \ POST laterals negotiable. Requirements: high school diploma or equivalent, Colorado Driver's License or obtain one within 30 days of employment, possess a valid Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certification or obtain one within 1 year from date of employment, must be 21 at time of POST certification. Full job description is available on the Town's website at www.townofcrestedbutte.com. Please submit your application, cover letter, and resume to jobs@crestedbutte-co.gov. Position is open until filled. The Town of Crested Butte is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE is seeking an experienced Housing Specialist to join the Community Development department. This full-time, year-round role offers a competitive salary (\$61,004 - \$80,526 DOQ) and a generous benefits package, including 100% employer-paid health coverage. The Housing Specialist supports and advances the community's workforce and affordable housing programs through administrative, technical, analytical, and professional work. If you have a strong understanding in housing programs and a passion for serving your community, apply today! At least 2 years of experience in housing programs, real estate, program or project management, and affordable housing programs preferred. The Town of Crested Butte is an equal employment opportunity employer. Please send your resume, cover letter, and application to jobs@crestedbutte-co.gov.

TOWN OF CB FINANCE/ADMIN DIRECTOR:

The Town of Crested Butte is seeking a Senior Accountant to join the Finance & Administrative Services team. The Senior Accountant is responsible for the daily operations of maintaining and balancing accounts by verifying, allocating, posting, and reconciling transactions and resolving discrepancies. This includes, but is not limited to, payroll processing, budgeting, grant management, bank reconciliations, compliance reporting, and data analytics. It is imperative the Senior Accountant maintains the smooth operation of the Finance and Administrative Services Department in compliance with all company policies and federal, state, and local legislation. This year-round position includes an excellent benefits package with 100% employer paid health, dental, vision, life insurance, and matched contribution to retirement plan. Starting salary is \$73,815 - \$88,578 DOQ. Full job description is available on the Town's website at www.townofcrestedbutte.com. Please submit application, cover letter, and resume via email tojobs@crestedbutte-co.gov. Position is open until filled. The Town of Crested Butte is an Equal Opportunity Employer. A

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY FOREMAN: The Mt. Crested Butte Water and Sanitation District is accepting applications for a full-time Wastewater Treatment Facility Foreman to join a team environment focused on operating the wastewater treatment facility and collection system for Mt. Crested Butte. Key qualifications include experience in treatment and collection system operations and maintenance, employee supervision, construction, and electrical/mechanical repair and maintenance. A State of Colorado Class B Wastewater Treatment and Class 3 Collection System certification is required. The ability to obtain Class A Wastewater Treatment and Class 4 Collection System certification within one year is mandatory (training for certifications provided). Operators are required to take on-call responsibility, including select weekends and holidays. A valid Colorado driver's license is also required. The position offers a competitive hourly rate of \$36.74 to \$45.06, DOE, along with an excellent benefits package. Benefits include 100% employer-paid family health, dental, vision, and life insurance premiums, 12 paid holidays, two weeks of paid vacation, a retirement plan with a 5% employer match and up to an additional 3% optional match, employer-provided uniforms, and a seasonal wellness benefit. The full job description is available at www.mcbwsd.com. Please submit a cover letter and resume to Mt. Crested Butte Water and Sanitation District, PO Box 5740, Mt. Crested Butte, CO 81225, or email info@mcbwsd.com. Position will remain open until it is filled. MCBWSD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WORK 32 HOURS & GET PAID FOR 40! CB South Metro District is now accepting applications for a Road Manager & Heavy Equipment Operator. This position requires experience operating a motor grader and other heavy equipment; training is available for the right applicant. The role is responsible for overseeing all road-related activities and supervising staff to ensure the District's roads are safely maintained for employees and the public. Heavy equipment operation includes, but is not limited to, motor grader, loader, backhoe, snowplows, gravel truck, and other assigned equipment or vehicles. This is a skilled position involving road maintenance, snow removal, equipment operation, manual labor, and the maintenance and repair of light and heavy motorized equipment. Routine operation and maintenance of water and wastewater systems is also required, including occasional repairs to related facilities and infrastructure. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a valid Colorado Driver's License. The successful applicant is eligible for an elite, full benefits package. Full job description, requirements, pay ranges, and benefits are available on the District's website at <https://www.cbsouthmetro.net>. Email resume to info@cbsouthmetro.net or drop off at **280 Cement Creek Road.**

Garage Sales

MOVING SALE! 38161 US HWY. 50. About 2 miles west of Gunnison. TURN RIGHT by the Twin Bridges and watch for the signs & balloons! **SATURDAY ONLY, JANUARY 24TH, 8AM TO 4PM. EVERYTHING MUST GO...YOU NAME THE PRICE** (except a few items marked with minimum sale price). CASH & CARRY.

Wide variety of items...Various shop tools, circular saw, drills, router, Wagner Spray Painter, 6-person tent with Add-A-Room (like new), camping equipment, gardening/yard-tools and pots. Resin chairs, resin tables, E-Bike, 8' ladder & extension ladder, wheelbarrow, lawnmower, yard items, Hearthstone wood-stove, desk, bookshelf & cabinets, sofa, recliners, full and queen size beds, end-tables, lamps, 2-kitchen table sets and much more! All in very, very good condition. Stay Warm—Everything is inside shop.

Real Estate

RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE NEXT TO CITY MARKET in Gunnison. 1,500 sqft of prime ground floor retail space available in the Meadows Mall next to City Market. Huge parking lot, tons of foot traffic, excellent 135 highway visibility, tenant improvement allowance available. For more information visit GunnisonMeadows.com or email jordan@ddequity.com

ROOM for RENT TAYLOR CANYON: 4bed/3bath house. Professional/Student, Respectful, Mature desired. Dogs. February 1st. \$1,100, all included. Text info: 802-595-9576

ROOM TO RENT IN SPACIOUS HOUSE, nice neighborhood, 2 miles south of Gunnison. Private bedroom and bath. Shared kitchen, living room and laundry. Good cell service. \$900/monthly plus security deposit. Call 970-209-8752.

Bookkeeping

True North Bookkeeping. Complete bookkeeping services. Scott LeFevre. 970*901*6648. slefevre@myctll.net

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE DIVISION 5 WATER COURT- DECEMBER 2025 RESUME

(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the Colorado State Judicial website at: www.coloradojudicial.gov.)

2. PURSUANT TO C.R.S., §37-92-302, AS AMENDED, YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT THE FOLLOWING PAGES COMPRISE A RESUME OF THE APPLICATIONS AND AMENDED APPLICATIONS FILED WITH THE WATER CLERK FOR WATER DIVISION 5 DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2025. The water right claimed by this application may affect in priority any water right claimed or heretofore adjudicated within this division and owners of affected rights must appear to object and protest within the time provided by statute or be forever barred.

25CW3191 GARFIELD, GUNNISON AND PITKIN COUNTIES, CRYSTAL RIVER TRIBUTARY TO THE ROARING FORK RIVER, TRIBUTARY TO THE COLORADO RIVER. Application For Approval of Plan for Augmentation Including Water Exchange Project, Storage Rights, Surface Rights, and Appropriate Right of Exchange. West Divide Water Conservancy District ("West Divide" or "the District"), c/o Edward B. Olszewski, Esq. Olszewski & Massih, P.C., P.O. Box 916, 1204 Grand Avenue, Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601, (970) 928-9100; ed@ommpc.com. West Divide operates various existing "umbrella" augmentation plans under which it replaces out-of-priority depletions resulting from the operation of certain structures within specified geographical areas. This Application seeks to establish an umbrella augmentation plan for the "Crystal River Service Area" which can generally be described as an area along the mainstem of the Crystal River from Carbondale to Crystal, Colorado. By Intergovernmental Agreements with the Colorado River Water Conservation District (the "Colorado River District") and the Basalt Water Conservancy District (the "Basalt District"), West Divide has obtained the authority to provide water service within the Crystal River Service Area. Applicant seeks approval of a plan for augmentation to augment depletions from various wells and surface diversions primarily for rural domestic uses and for municipal uses within the Town of Marble, Colorado. Augmentation water will be provided directly and by exchange to augment structures within the Crystal River Service Area via releases from Beaver Lake, Rapid Creek Pond (yet to be constructed), Treasure Mountain Pond (yet to be constructed) and Ruedi Reservoir. Strict accounting and reporting requirements will be implemented to ensure proper administration by the State and Division Engineers. Notice of individual structures to be augmented shall be provided at least annually to the Division Engineer's Office for Water Division No. 5. Further notice of the structures covered by Applicant's umbrella augmentation plan shall be made in subsequent diligence cases related to Applicant's conditional appropriate rights of exchange claimed below. This Application includes a conditional Water Exchange Project and an appropriate right of exchange within Applicant's Crystal River Service Area between the Roaring Fork River and the outer boundary of the Service Area and includes specific points of diversion for wells and surface water rights to be covered by Applicant's plan for augmentation. Structures to be augmented: Existing and future wells and surface water rights with points of depletion located in Applicant's Crystal River Service Area. The initial 17 structures covered by this plan for augmentation are as follows and listed by WVID, Name, UTMx, UTM y, Permit No., & Rate (cfs): 1) 3806357, PINES SPRINGER, 310193, 4361978, 34713-F, 0.03; 2) 3808531, CRANDALL/NIESLANIK WELL,

310870, 4361190, 62189-F, 0.05; 3) 3805237, STRATTON WELL, 307009, 4347043, 41692-F, 0.03; 4) 3808042, JARRETT WELL #1, 306903, 4346686, 43952-F, 0.03; 5) 3801141, JOHNSON DITCH, 380818, 4350534, 3.30; 6) 3805215, BREWER WELL NO 1, 309089, 4352667, 81830-F, 0.22; 7) 3806027, SEVEN OAKS COMMONIONS W 2, 309729, 4355010, 27009-F, 0.07; 8) 3815094, MOUNTAIN MEADOWS WELL NO 1, 310894, 4359710, 46989-F, 0.02; 9) 3805947, ALTERNATE WELL NO 1, 304030, 4331726, 81173-F, 0.10; 10) 3805141, SOMERS CLUSTER SPGS NO 5, 304071, 4332104, 0.20; 11) 3808038, SAHULA WELL #2, 307488, 4342257, 61605-F, 0.03; 12) 3805546, LYON WELL NO 1, 303781, 4331668, 36108-F, 0.10; 13) 3806345, LYON WELL NO 2, 303785, 4331704, 36107-F, 0.10; 14) 3806680, MARBLE WATER COMPANY WELL NO 2, 310697, 4326839, 49103-F, 0.10; 15) 3801173, MARBLE PL AND WTR SYS, 310748, 4327407, 3.16; 16) 3806141, REED WELL, 307489, 4342573, 30309-F, 0.06; 17) 3801261, CRYSTAL SPRINGS D AND PL, 318604, 4325241, 0.80. **Water rights to be used for augmentation:** Ruedi Reservoir, Beaver Lake, Rapid Creek Pond and Treasure Mountain Pond under the water rights described below. In some cases, the water released from these structures will be exchanged to the point of depletion; in some cases, water released will be delivered directly to calling structures. Ruedi Reservoir. Source: Fryng Pan River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Legal Description: On-channel reservoir located in Sections 7, 8, 9, 11, and 14 through 18, Township 8 South, Range 84 West, 6th P.M. Adjudication date: July 20, 1958. Appropriation date: July 29, 1957. Case No.: C.A. 4613. Court: Garfield County District Court. Decreed Amount: 102,369 acre-feet. Uses: Generation of electric energy, domestic, municipal, piscatorial, industrial, irrigation and stock watering. Remarks: Applicant, West Divide, has an interest in 800 acre-feet of water from Ruedi Reservoir pursuant to Contracts between West Divide and the Bureau of Reclamation, and West Divide and the Colorado River Water Conservation District. West Divide has an option to increase the amount of Ruedi Reservoir water under contract with the Colorado River District and may add additional Ruedi water to this augmentation plan. Beaver Lake-2nd Enlargement. Source: Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Legal Description: As originally decreed in CA5884, the initial point of survey of the highwater line of the dike is located at a point whence the Northwest corner of Section 25, Township 11 South, Range 88 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, and bears North 6° 19' West, a distance of 1753.22 feet. Adjudication date: July 25, 2025. Appropriation date: December 29, 2023. Case No. 23CW3222 Court: District Court, Water Division 5, Colorado. Decreed Amount: 101.23 acre-feet Uses: Augmentation and replacement by direct use and by substitution and exchange. Remarks: Applicant, West Divide, has an interest in 28.73 acre-feet of water from Beaver Lake, which may be increased, pursuant to an Agreement with Colorado Parks and Wildlife dated October 1, 2024. In exchange for this use, West Divide will provide mainstem Colorado River augmentation for Beaver Lake during an irrigation season call originating near Palisade, CO, which water rights are collectively referred to as the "Cameo Call". The Cameo Call is senior to the Beaver Lake water rights. The Cameo Call currently occurs more frequently than Crystal River administrative calls which will keep Beaver Lake full for recreational opportunities in years where there is no administrative call within the Crystal River Service Area. The total gross evaporation of 3 feet, based upon NOAA TR-33: Evaporation Atlas for the Conterminous U.S., and total surface area of 27.22 acres results in a total evaporative depletion to be augmented from April through November by exchange is 72.27 acre-feet. The total plan capacity is initially limited to 22 acre-feet of augmented depletions, which considers the potential call periods, until additional supplies are developed. Rapid Creek Pond. Source: Rapid Creek, tributary to the Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River including springs, snowmelt and surface flows that naturally drain into the pond. Rapid Creek Pond will be a lined, off-channel structure filled via either Rapid Creek via the Prospect Ditch or the Crystal River via a pump and pipeline. Filling structures are detailed below. Prospect Ditch Legal Description: NW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 20, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 305870, Northing: 4328370. Rapid Creek Pond Crystal River Pump and Pipeline Legal Description: NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 306769, Northing: 4328222. Adjudication date: to be determined. Appropriation date: April 29, 2022. Case No.: the within case Court: District Court, Water Division 5, Colorado. Amount: 20 acre-feet, conditional, including the right to fill and refill when in priority. Uses: augmentation, exchange, substitution, piscatorial, wildlife, aesthetics, and fire protection. Remarks: Applicant is currently in negotiations with Larry Darien, the owner of the property on which the Rapid Creek Pond will be located, for the construction and use of the Rapid Creek Pond. Use of the Rapid Creek Pond will be conditioned upon an agreement between the Applicant and Mr. Darien. If no such agreement is reached, this structure will be removed from the within Application. Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1. Source: Springs, seeps, and other surface flows tributary to the South Fork of the Crystal River, tributary to the Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River Legal Description: SW1/4 of Section 27 and NW1/4 of Section 34, Township 11 South, Range 87 West, of the 6th P.M. Adjudication date: Pending Appropriation date: July 29, 2025 Case No. 25CW3112 Court: District Court, Water Division 5, Colorado. Amount: 4.0 acre-feet, conditional Uses: Recreation, piscatorial, fire protection, and augmentation Remarks: Applicant is currently in negotiations with Treasure Mountain Ranch, LLC, the owner of the property on which the Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1 will be located, for the construction and use of the Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1. Use of the Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1 will be conditioned upon an agreement between the Applicant and Treasure Mountain Ranch. Ability to Include Additional Sources West Divide is actively pursuing additional

augmentation supplies to supplement the water available to the plan for augmentation. In addition to the sources listed above, WD-WCD may seek and contract for additional local water supplies to be used as replacement sources for this plan for augmentation. If additional or alternative augmentation sources are secured, those sources of replacement water may be administratively approved after the entry of the decree herein, in accordance with C.R.S. § 37-92-305(8)(c) and subject to additional terms included in the proposed ruling. None of these sources will be reservoirs on-channel to the Crystal River. Statement of Plan for Augmentation including Water Exchange Project. This umbrella plan for augmentation, including exchange, augments the out-of-priority depletions associated with various structures located in the Crystal River Service Area. The Crystal River Service Area is generally described as including the Town of Crystal on the South Fork of the Crystal River to its confluence with the Roaring Fork River and excluding the following tributary areas: Avalanche Creek, Carbonate Creek above the Marble Pipeline and Water System, Coal Creek above the Beaman Ditch, East Creek above the Redstone Inn East Creek Alternate Point, Hawk Creek above the Addie Pump and Pipeline, Lost Trail Creek, Nettle Creek above the Cloud Ditch, North Fork of the Crystal River, Prince Creek above the Pings No. 1 Ditch, Rapid Creek above the Prospect Ditch, Edgerton Creek above the Wilson Ditch Nos. 1 and 2, Thomas Creek above the Thomas No. 2 Ditch, Thompson Creek, and Yule Creek. The excluded tributary areas were found to have controlling surface water rights and/or ISF reaches that prevent augmentation by exchange under certain stream conditions. While some of these tributaries have not historically been administered, the presence of these water rights with no local augmentation supplies prevents issuance of augmentation contracts and, as such, these areas have not been included in this proposed plan for augmentation. Augmentation water for calling structures within the Crystal River Basin will be provided via both direct releases and a Water Exchange Project. Once structures are enrolled in the augmentation program, they will be classified as: (i) senior to the in-stream flow, or (ii) junior to the in-stream flow and categorized by the in-stream flow ("ISF") reach the structure falls within. The classification of location and seniority will dictate how the plan operates to prevent injury to the various controlling water rights in the Crystal River Service Area. No augmentation contracts will be issued to structures junior to the ISF above Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1, which allows for augmentation of other portions of the Town of Crystal. Mainstem Colorado River call. During times when there is no call on the Crystal River, but one is active on the mainstem Colorado River below the confluence with the Roaring Fork River, Crystal River contractees will be augmented by exchange using the Crystal River Service Area Exchange Rights as set forth in the Claims for Conditional Water Exchange Project below, by delivering Ruedi Reservoir water to the confluence of the Crystal River and Roaring Fork Rivers. The water will then be exchanged to the various structures included in the plan for augmentation. Evaporative depletions caused by Beaver Lake will also be augmented by exchange using the appropriate right of exchange. Structures confirmed to benefit from the Green Mountain Reservoir Historic Users Pool will not be augmented with the Water Exchange Project during a mainstem Colorado River call as those depletions are replaced from Green Mountain Reservoir pursuant to Senate Document 80 and the 1984 Green Mountain Reservoir Operating Policy. Crystal River Calls. All Crystal River structures enrolled in the plan for augmentation will be augmented during a senior irrigation call on the Crystal River with direct releases from Beaver Lake, Rapid Creek Pond, or Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1 which are capable of providing replacements above all senior irrigation calling water rights. If both a Cameo call and local senior Crystal River irrigation call are active simultaneously, no mainstem augmentation will be required as replacements will be made to the Crystal River above the local, calling water right. Structures that are senior to the in-stream flow and located below all potential irrigation calling water rights will be augmented using the Ruedi conditional exchange project right described below. ISF Calls Replacements for structures junior to the ISF call will be made by direct release above the point of depletion from Beaver Lake, Rapid Creek Pond, or Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1, within each ISF reach, during times of valid call from ISF water rights. Based upon existing uses, all structures junior to the ISF can be augmented with direct releases from storage. Future depletions at Treasure Mountain Ranch that will be junior to the ISF will also be augmented with direct releases once Treasure Mountain Ranch Pond No. 1 is constructed. C.R.S. 37-92-102(3)B and Historic User Pool Protections. Many of the initial augmented structures in the Crystal River Service Area benefit from both Historic User Pool ("HUP") protections as well as being senior to the in-stream flow. A subset of the initial structures to be augmented have been reviewed for verification of these benefits by identifying water court or well permitting documentation regarding the dates water was applied to beneficial use. While HUP protections are limited to domestic, municipal, and irrigation uses, that is not the case for seniority relative to the CWCB ISF water rights. CRS §37-92-102(3)B includes considerations for uses, decreed or undecreed, that were in use at that time the ISF water rights were appropriated. The dates associated with these protections are October 15, 1977 for HUP, May 1, 1975 for the ISF reaches spanning from the confluence with the Roaring Fork River up to the confluence with Carbonate Creek, and March 17, 1980 for the ISF reaches above the confluence with Carbonate Creek. The table below includes the structures and amounts that are requested for confirmation of both HUP and 37-92-102(3)B protection. Only domestic, municipal, and irrigation uses are included. These structures will only be augmented during a Crystal River senior irrigation call as they benefit from Green Mountain Reservoir releases during a Cameo call and do not require augmentation for ISF calls.

Appro Date/Adj Date	WVIDs	Name	Permit No.	Decreed Rate (cfs)	ISF/HUP Protected Rate
6/12/1910	10/24/1952	3801141	J O H N - SON DITCH	3.30	3.30
7/10/1971	12/31/1971	3805215	B R E W - ER WELL NO 1	81830-F	0.22

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<p>JACUZZI BATH REMODEL</p> <p>Inogen</p> <p>Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer.) Offer ends 12/27/26 Call: 1-888-763-4659</p>	<p>Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free Information Kit! Call 844-823-0293</p>
<p>DISH Satellite</p> <p>Get DISH Satellite TV + In ternet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade. 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up to \$600 In Gift Cards Call Today! 1-855-720-8701</p>	<p>COLORADO PRESS ASSOCIATION NETWORK</p> <p>To Place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for only \$300 Contact your Local Newspaper or email: rtoledo@colopress.net</p>

0.22	12/31/1973	3806027	SEVEN
0.30	12/31/1973	3806680	MARBLE
0.07	12/31/1973	3801173	M A R -
0.07	12/31/1973	3801173	BLE PL AND WTR SYS
0.30	12/31/1973	3806141	R E E D
0.50	12/31/1973	3801261	C R Y S -
0.80	12/31/1973	3801261	TAL SPRINGS D AND PL

All future contracts will be reviewed to determine if their water right to be augmented is senior or junior to the ISF and/or HUP protected. If replacement supplies cannot be provided above the point of depletion for uses junior to the ISF, the water right will not be augmented under this plan for augmentation. Structures with Additional Considerations. In August 2004, the Area A boundary for WDWCD was modified by the Division Engineer. When this alteration occurred, several structures which had previously been granted augmentation contracts were no longer within Area A, which is defined as locations where replacements can be made to the Roaring Fork River or mainstem Colorado River with no impact from tributary calls. Four of these contracts (Beulah Wilson Wells A-C and Kennedy Well) have had their water rights decreed as Alternate Points of Diversion ("APOD") to the District's Avalanche Canal and Siphon water right (Case Nos. CA4613, 93CW0192, 03CW0041, 11CW0093, and 20CW3056) which provides an appropriation date of April 22, 1957 and is senior to the instream flow water rights. Additionally, these structures are located below all senior irrigation rights on the Crystal River. Therefore, these structures will only require augmentation for a Cameo Call using the Ruedi Reservoir Exchange Project Right by virtue of their location and seniority. The depletions associated with the diversions at the alternate points of diversion within the Crystal River Service Area will be based upon the following assumptions: Irrigation: Elevation 6,000' - 6,999' 7,000' - 7,499' >8,000'

April	0.11	0.03	0.00
May	0.41	0.30	0.09
June	0.52	0.51	0.42
July	0.44	0.38	0.36
August	0.32	0.33	0.22
September	0.16	0.17	0.15
October	0.03	0.01	0.00
Annual	1.99	1.73	1.24

Domestic In-house Use. In-house diversions for single and multi-family residences will be 350 gallons per day per residence. Consumptive water use will be 10% for non-evaporative ISDS systems and 5% for central wastewater treatment systems. Livestock. Consumptive use for horses, cows and other types of livestock will be 11 gallons per day per animal and considered to be 100% consumptive. This equates to a total net depletion of 0.0123 acre-feet per head per year. Office Buildings. Water use for office buildings will be based on 20 gallons per capita per day. Consumptive water use will be 10% for non-evaporative ISDS systems and 5% for central wastewater treatment systems. Motel/Hotel Lodging. Water diversions associated with motel/hotel lodging will be based on 50 gallons per day per person. The associated depletion will be assumed to be 10% for non-evaporative individual sewage disposal systems and 5% for central wastewater treatment systems. Water Hauling. All water hauled for commercial and industrial purposes is assumed to be 100% consumptive. Other Uses Including Uses Within the Town of Marble, Colorado. Water uses not included as presumptive values shall be quantified by a water resources professional and reviewed by the Division Engineer for verification to the quantity and timing of depletions. Town of Marble: The water demands for the Town of Marble have been independently quantified according to the Marble Water Company Rules and recognizing the seasonal use of many residences within the Town. Marble Water Company Rules allow 1,000 sq ft of irrigation per tap as well as an allowable use of 8,000 gallons per month per tap. The water demands are conservatively estimated based upon 10,000 gallons per month per tap, which is inclusive of irrigation uses. The Town of Marble Water Demands and Depletions are included in Exhibit C to the application. Delayed Depletions from Ground Water Diversions. The amount of stream depletion will be calculated using delayed depletion factors and delayed return flow factors based on a Glover analysis of well diversions. Wells are grouped in six separate categories based on location and aquifer characteristics as follows: A1) Alluvial wells less than 1000 ft. from stream, T = 20,000 GPD/FT, S = 0.15; A2) Alluvial wells between 1000-2000 ft. from stream, T = 20,000 GPD/FT, S = 0.15; A3) Alluvial wells greater than 2000 ft from stream, T=20,000, GPD/FT, S = 0.15; B1) Bedrock wells less than 1000 ft. from stream, T = 500 GPD/FT, S = 0.05; B2) Bedrock wells between 1000-2000 ft. from stream, T = 500 GPD/FT, S = 0.05; B3) Bedrock wells greater than 2000 ft. from stream, T = 500 GPD/FT, S = 0.05. The delayed depletion factors will be applied for each category. Transit Losses. Transit losses will be assessed on deliveries of replacement/substitute supplies from their point of introduction to the point of depletion associated with the augmented structures. Transit losses will be assessed by the Division Engineer per C.R.S. § 37-80-102(7) and 37-83-104. Schedules of depletions and replacements are included with the Application. Applicant will provide detailed accounting of diversions and depletions to the State and Division Engineers as required by the State and Division Engineers to administer the within augmentation plan. Measuring devices will be required for all surface and groundwater diversions. Names and addresses of owners or reputed owners of land upon which augmentation structures are located: Ruedi Reservoir and: United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Eastern Colorado Area Office, 11056 West County Road 18E, Loveland, CO 80537-9711; Beaver Lake, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216; Rapid Creek Pond, Larry Darien, 2880 County Road 3 Marble CO 81623; Treasure Mountain Pond, Treasure Mountain Ranch, LLC, c/o Stuart Gillespie, 1203 Colorado Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601. Claim For Water Storage Right, Rapid Creek Pond. Location of Structure: SW ¼ SW ¼ and SE ¼ SW ¼ Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., Gunnison County, Colorado the centroid of which is expected to be at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting:

306734, Northing: 4328041 Sources: Rapid Creek, tributary to the Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Snowmelt, surface water, and springs which naturally drain into the pond. Filling structures: Prospect Ditch NPD (WDID 3801777) NW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 20, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 305870, Northing: 4328370. Rapid Creek Pond Crystal River Pump and Pipeline with an intake located in the NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 306769, Northing: 4328222. Rate of fill: 2 cfs, combined between both filling structures. Appropriation: Appropriation date: April 29, 2022; How appropriation initiated: By meeting with landowner, touring property, and conducting preliminary studies for constructing a reservoir. Amount: 20 acre-feet, conditional, including the right to fill and refill when in priority. Uses: augmentation, exchange, substitution, piscatorial, wildlife, aesthetics, and fire protection. Description of Structure: Surface Area at the High-Water Line: 3.5 acres. Height of Dam: less than 10 feet in height and non-jurisdictional. Length of Dam 1,000 feet long and less than 10 feet in height and non-jurisdictional. Total Capacity: 20 acre-feet; Dead Storage: 5 acre-feet. Remarks: Rapid Creek Pond is an off-channel structure. West Divide is in discussions with owner of the property on which this reservoir is situated and will enter into a long-term lease agreement with the property owner prior to constructing the reservoir or using water therefrom in its plan for augmentation. If no such agreement is reached, this structure will be removed from the within Application. Claim For Conditional Surface Water Rights. Prospect Ditch - Rapid Creek Pond Enlargement: Location: NW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 20, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 305870, Northing: 4328370. Source: Rapid Creek, tributary to the Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Date of appropriation: April 29, 2022, on which date a meeting was held with the landowner, touring property, and conducting preliminary studies for constructing a reservoir. Amount: 2 cfs, conditional. Uses: To fill and refill Rapid Creek Pond for augmentation purposes, in priority. Remarks: Applicant is currently in negotiations with Larry Darien, the owner of the property on which the Prospect Ditch - Rapid Creek Pond Enlargement will be located, for the construction and use of the water right. Use of the Prospect Ditch - Rapid Creek Pond Enlargement will be conditioned upon an agreement between the Applicant and Mr. Darien. If no such agreement is reached, this structure will be removed from the within Application. Rapid Creek Pond Crystal River Pump and Pipeline: Location: with an intake located in the NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 306769, Northing: 4328222. Source: Crystal River, tributary to the Roaring Fork River, tributary to the Colorado River. Date of appropriation: April 29, 2022, on which date a meeting was held with the landowner, touring property, and conducting preliminary studies for constructing a reservoir. Amount: 2 cfs, conditional. Uses: To fill and refill Rapid Creek Pond for augmentation purposes, in priority. Applicant is currently in negotiations with Larry Darien, the owner of the property on which the Rapid Creek Pond Crystal River Pump and Pipeline will be located, for the construction and use of the water right. Use of the Rapid Creek Pond Crystal River Pump and Pipeline will be conditioned upon an agreement between the Applicant and Mr. Darien. If no such agreement is reached, this structure will be removed from the within Application. Claim for Conditional Appropriative Rights of Exchange and Water Exchange Project Applicant claims the following conditional appropriative rights of exchange within its Crystal River Service Area: Beaver Lake Appropriative Right of Exchange. An appropriative right of exchange is being sought to exchange Ruedi Reservoir supplies from the confluence of the Crystal and Roaring Fork Rivers during a Colorado River mainstem call. The exchange will allow refill of Beaver Lake for evaporative losses or augmentation releases when there is no call within the Crystal River Service Area, but there is an active call on the mainstem Colorado River. Additionally, this exchange can replace evaporative losses (not augmentation releases) when there is an instream flow call on the Crystal, but not a senior irrigation call, as the evaporative losses and refill are pre-existing uses to the ISF pursuant to CRS 37-92-102(3)(b). The refill of augmentation releases would require no call on the Crystal River. The exchange rate is based upon the ability to refill Beaver Lake within approximately 5 days. The exchange volume requested is the amount needed to refill Beaver Lake. The exchange reach and monthly evaporative depletions are included with the Application. The specifics of this exchange are as follows: Downstream Terminus: Confluence of the Crystal River and the Roaring Fork River in the SW ¼ NW ¼ Section 28, Township 7S, Range 88W of the 6th P.M. Upstream Terminus: Beaver Lake (WDID 3804000) point of diversion on the Crystal River in the NW ¼ SW ¼ Section 25, Township 11S, Range 88W of the 6th P.M. described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 311592, Northing: 4326627. Rate: 10 cfs Volume: 101.23 acre-feet Appropriation Date: October 1, 2024 through agreement with CPW which includes the intent to augment Beaver Lake via exchange. Ruedi Reservoir Exchange Project Right with No Local Call. An Exchange Project Right is being requested to augment the structures enrolled in the Crystal River augmentation plan during times where there is no call on the Crystal River, but there is an active call on the mainstem Colorado River to preserve local Crystal River augmentation supplies. The exchange rate and volume exclude the depletions associated with HUP protected structures and doubles the rate and volume of non-HUP protected depletions to allow for plan expansion. An exchange matrix is provided with the Application. The specifics of this exchange are as follows: Downstream Terminus: Confluence of the Crystal River and the Roaring Fork River in the SW ¼ NW ¼ Section 28, Township 7S, Range 88W of the 6th P.M. Upstream Termini: locations of various augmented structures within the Crystal River basin but generally defined as the upstream extent of the defined service area. Rate: 0.02 cfs Volume: 7.5 acre-feet Appropriation Date: October 1, 2024 through

agreement with CPW which includes the intent to augment structures enrolled in an augmentation plan via exchange. Beaver Lake and Rapid Creek Pond Exchange Project Right with Local Call An Exchange Project Right is being requested to augment structures that are senior to the ISF water rights during an irrigation call with downstream supplies. In this instance, a release would be made for structures upstream of the Rapid Creek Pond or Beaver Lake with downstream replacements. Currently, there is only one structure located above Beaver Lake, Crystal Springs Ditch and Pipeline, which will be augmented via exchange for uses senior to the ISF at a rate up to 0.01 cfs. The Beaver Lake EPR exchange rate is based upon two times the quantified depletion rate and volume associated with the Crystal Spring Ditch and Pipeline depletions which allows for future plan expansion. There are 3 structures upstream of Rapid Creek Pond which are senior to the ISF and include the Town of Marble and Crystal Springs Ditch and Pipeline. The Rapid Creek Pond exchange rate and volume adds the Town of Marble depletions to the Beaver Lake EPR, assuming the Town demands represent full buildout. The specifics of these exchanges are as follows: Beaver Lake. Downstream Termini: Beaver Lake Outlet at a point in the SW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 25, Township 11S, Range 88W of the 6th P.M. described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 311300, Northing: 4326820. Upstream Termini: locations of various augmented structures within the Crystal River basin but generally described as the upstream extent of the defined service area. Rate: 0.01 cfs Volume: 2.3 acre-feet Appropriation Date: October 1, 2024 through agreement with CPW which includes the intent to augment structures enrolled in an augmentation plan via exchange. Rapid Creek Pond Downstream Termini: Rapid Creek Pond point of delivery to the Crystal River in the SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 21, Township 11 South, Range 88 West, of the 6th P.M. at a point described as Zone 13, NAD83, Easting: 306769, Northing: 4328222. Upstream Termini: locations of various augmented structures within the Crystal River basin but generally described as the upstream extent of the defined service area. Rate: 0.03 cfs Volume: 12.6 acre-feet Appropriation Date: October 1, 2024 through agreement with CPW which includes the intent to augment structures enrolled in an augmentation plan via exchange. Approval of the subject Application will not result in injury to any vested or decreed conditional water rights. Applicant requests the Court approve its Application for Plan for Augmentation, Storage Water Rights, Surface Water Rights, and Claims for Exchange upon such terms and conditions as are just and proper. (17 pages, 12 exhibits)

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE until the last day of FEBRUARY 2026 to file with the Water Clerk a verified Statement of Opposition setting forth facts as to why this application should not be granted or why it should be granted in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such statement of opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing Fee: \$192.00) KATHY POWERS, Water Clerk, Water Division 5, 109 8th Street, Suite 104 Glenwood Springs, CO 81601.
Published in The Gunnison Country Times January 22, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE GUNNISON WATERSHED SCHOOL DISTRICT Driven to Be the Difference Regular Meeting/Amended Budget January 26, 2026 5:30pm Gunnison

This meeting will be conducted in person and by distance using the video conferencing platform ZOOM Webinar. Please check the GWSD website for further instructions.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of agenda (ACTION, All)
5. Commendations and celebrations (Information, Successful Students, Strong Employees)
 - a. Presented at the January 12, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
 6. Public comment (Information, Engaged Community)
 - Please use the public participation form, or use the Q&A feature in Zoom, and indicate your name, address, and topic for comment.
 7. Consent agenda (ACTION, All)
 - Items in the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted under one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items prior to the time the board votes unless a Board Member requests an item be removed from the grouping for separate consideration.
 - a. Board of Education Minutes
 - January 12, 2026 Regular meeting
 - b. Finance: Warrants were approved at the January 12, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
 - c. Personnel
 - Bridgett McDermott - Significant Needs EA, GHS
 - Rebecca Dwigings - K-2 EA, MCS
 - Rain Bodine - Retirement - Media Specialist, GCS (end of 2025-2026 school year)
 - Beth Goldstone - One year LOA request - School Psychologist, GWSD (2026-2027 school year)
 - Caitlyn Cox - One year LOA request - 6th grade English, GMS (2026-2027 school year)
 8. Items for information, discussion, and action
 - a. Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Team Presentation (Information, All)
 - Erin Harrington, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Educational Specialist
 - b. FY25-26 Amended Budget Presentation (ACTION, Healthy Finances)
 - Tia Mills, Director of Finance
 - 1. Consider approval of Adoption FY25-26 Amended Budget
 - 2. Consider approval of 2025-26 Appropriation Resolution
 - 3. Consider approval of Use of Beginning Fund Balance Resolution
 - c. Consider Approval of 2026-2027 School Calendar (ACTION, All)
 - Dr. Leslie Nichols, Superintendent
 - d. Policy Updates Second Reading (ACTION, All)

- JLDCDC - Medically Necessary Treatment in School Setting
 - JKD/JKE - Suspension/Expulsion of Students
 - JKD/JKE-R - Suspension/Expulsion of Students
 - JKD/JKE-2 - Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities
 - e. Policy Updates First Reading (Discussion, All)
 - KLG - Relations with Law Enforcement and State Agencies
 - KLG-R - Relations with Law Enforcement and State Agencies
 - f. Other Administrative Report Items (Information, All)
 - Dr. Leslie Nichols, Superintendent
 - 9. Items introduced by Board Members (Discussion, All)
 - 10. Board committee reports (Information, All)
 - a. School Board Policy - Mrs. Brookhart and Dr. Coleman
 - b. Executive Committee for Bond Project - Dr. Reithel
 - c. Superintendent Evaluation - Dr. Coleman and Dr. Reithel
 - d. District Accountability Committee (DAC) - Mrs. Schloesser
 - e. School Accountability Committees (SAC)
 - GHS - Dr. Coleman
 - GCS - Mrs. Brookhart
 - CBCS - Dr. Reithel
 - f. Gunnison County Education Association Negotiations - Mr. VanderVeer
 - g. Gunnison County Education Association 3x3 - Mrs. Schloesser
 - h. Fund 26 - Dr. Coleman
 - i. Gunnison Memorial Scholarship - Mrs. Brookhart
 - j. Health Insurance Committee - Mr. VanderVeer
 - k. Housing Advisory Committee - Mr. VanderVeer
 - l. Gunnison Valley Education Foundation - Dr. Coleman
 - m. CASB Delegate - Mrs. Schloesser and Dr. Coleman
 - 11. Upcoming agenda items and meeting schedule (Information, Engaged Community)
 - a. February 9, 2026 Superintendent Search: Community Meet & Greet
 - b. February 10, 2026 Superintendent Search: Interviews
 - c. February 10 & 11, 2026 Special Meeting with Executive Session, TBD
 - d. February 23, 2026 Regular Meeting, 5:30pm, GUN
 - e. March 9, 2026 Regular Meeting, 5:30pm, CB
 - f. March 23, 2026 Work Session, 5:30pm, GUN
 - 12. Adjournment
- Published in The Gunnison Country Times January 22, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISPOSE
:To the following parties that have their personal property stored at Plotts Mini Storage, LLC, 312 W. Hwy 50, Gunnison, CO, 81230:
All property will be sold or disposed of, unless claimed and/or all rent and fees paid prior to January 31, 2026.
Unit A12 - Tanner Powell
Gunnison Country Times
Gunnison, CO
Publication dates of January 22 and 29, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE Saguache County Board of Commissioners Seeks Saguache County Planning Commission Members
Saguache County Board of Commissioners are seeking members and alternates from: La Garita/Center area - member and alternate
Town of Center and surrounding area - member and alternate
Moffat and surrounding area - member and alternate
Hooper and surrounding area - alternate
At Large for All of Saguache County - alternate
Crestone and surrounding area - member and alternate
Villa Grove and surrounding area - member and alternate
Cochetopa/Sargents and surrounding area - alternate
Saguache and surrounding area - alternate
The representative must be a property owner or property manager and reside in the area they are interested in representing. Regular member terms are for three years, and the alternate terms are for one year.
Saguache County Planning Commission meets on the last Thursday of each month in the Road and Bridge meeting room. The Planning Commission may also have work sessions throughout each month to work on the Saguache County Master Plan and different items.
Saguache County Planning Commission members and alternates are paid \$100 for every regular meeting they attend, plus mileage reimbursement.
If you are interested, please send a brief letter of interest stating qualifications and interest to: Saguache County Land Use, Attn: Amber Wilson, PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 prior to Thursday, January 22, 2026. All applicants will be interviewed by the Board of County Commissioners. Should you have any questions please call Amber Wilson at 719-655-2321.
Published in The Gunnison Country Times January 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2026.

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SPORTS

Gunnison basketball boys fall to Salida, Meeker



Bing O'Rourke drives past a Meeker defender during last week's game. O'Rourke is a junior. (Photo by Evan Bjornstad)

By Jack Sellner
Sports Desk

The Gunnison High School boys basketball team had another tough week, going 0-2 and falling to 1-10 on the season.

"We've gone toe-to-toe against some of the best teams in the state of Colorado in the 3A classification," wrote head coach Christian Aguilar in an email to the Times. "We're capable of playing great basketball, and we just have to polish

up our late game execution."

The Cowboys fell to the Salida Spartans at home on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 58-49 to start the week. The Cowboys started off strong, but in the second half the shots stopped falling and the boys started to turn the ball over, which led to the Spartans pulling away.

Landon Miller led the Cowboys in scoring against Salida with 14 points. Asher Woytek had 10 points, Jorge Perez and Max Peluso each had seven points, Jake Ebbott had six, Bing O'Rourke and Jack Stone each had two and Ryder

Vincent had one to round out the scoring for the Cowboys.

"We played fast, under control and were able to score before defense was even set," wrote Aguilar. "[But] we started racking up turnovers and it's incredibly difficult to win a basketball game when we don't value possession."

The Cowboys then hosted the Meeker Cowboys on Saturday, Jan. 17, losing 55-43. The Cowboys once again started strong, finishing the first half only down three points, but they were outscored 30-21 in the second half which

proved to be the difference.

The Cowboys were led by Miller once again as he finished with 14 points for the second game in a row. Perez finished with nine, Ebbott with eight, Peluso with six and Woytek, Vincent and Stone each had two to round out the scoring for the Cowboys.

"This game had the feel of the Salida game, where the first half and second half were two completely different stories," wrote Aguilar. "Again, the talent and capability is there, we just need to do it for all four quarters."

The Cowboys have a match-up at North Fork (8-2), a team they've already seen this year, on Saturday, Jan. 24. The Miners defeated the Cowboys 48-38 earlier in the year on Gunnison's home court.

"They have great guards," wrote Aguilar "We have to make it difficult for them. They like to penetrate and we have to be able to make them uncomfortable."

Jack Sellner can be reached at jsellner@orourkemediagroup.com.

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Tuesday, January 27

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5:30 V G • 7:00 V B

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Cowboys place third at Alameda invitational, three champions crowned

By Jack Sellner
Sports Desk

The Gunnison High School boys wrestling team had a strong showing at the 50th Annual Alameda International Invitational over the weekend, finishing third overall with three individual champions.

"Overall it was good," said head coach Michael Seijo after the tournament. "We finished third as a team, we had five guys in the finals, three champs and it was good. It's just a different experience for them."

Out of the 10 wrestlers that Seijo brought to the tournament, nine placed.

The first of the champs was Zayne Benson wrestling at 106 pounds. Zayne pinned his first opponent after 37 seconds, pinned his second opponent after 1:17, pinned his third opponent after 31 seconds to reach the finals and pinned his final opponent after 3:44 to take first place. His 4-0 weekend moved him to 27-2 overall on the season and he scored 30 points for the Cowboys with his first place finish.

Wrestling at 138 pounds, Julian Patrick also took first place for the Cowboys. Julian, like Zayne, pinned all four of his opponents on the way to his undefeated weekend. He pinned his first opponent after 3:26, his second after 42 seconds, his third after 3:00 and his fourth after 1:56 in the finals. Julian scored 30 points for the Cowboys with his first place finish and now sits at 20-5 overall on the season.

The third and final champion was Zach Benson at 144 pounds. Zach pinned all four of his opponents as well, finishing the tournament 4-0 and moving his overall record to 30-0. Zach pinned his first opponent after 39 seconds, his second after 1:09, his third after 1:29 and his fourth after 38 seconds in the championship match. Zach scored 30 points for the Cowboys.

At 120 pounds, Noah Witzel placed second for the Cowboys. Witzel pinned his first two opponents, the first after 1:06 and the second after 2:36, to reach the semifinals. He won via a 9-3 decision in the semifinals to reach the first place match, but was pinned after 4:40 and took second. Witzel improved to 16-7 on the season with a 3-1 record and scored 22 points for the Cowboys.

Cody Casebolt also placed second for the Cowboys, scoring 24 points while wrestling at 132 pounds. Casebolt pinned his first three opponents, the first after 3:28, the second after 1:06 and the third after 3:05, to reach the first place match. He lost via a 7-1 decision in the first place match, but his 3-1 tournament improved his sea-



Cody Casebolt placed second over the weekend in Alameda. He has a season record of 21-5. (Photo by Evan Bjornstad)

son record to 21-5.

Braedyn Anderson placed fourth for the Cowboys while wrestling at 113 pounds. Anderson received a bye in the first round and then lost to his first opponent after being pinned in 1:57. He bounced back, winning his next three matches. He pinned his second opponent after 24 seconds, he won via 12-5 decision in his next match and he pinned his fourth opponent in the consolation semifinals after 3:39 to make the third place match. Anderson lost via a 17-12 decision to take fourth place, scoring 14 points for the Cowboys in the process.

"Braedyn Anderson had a really good match," said Seijo about Anderson's consolation semifinal match. "It was one of those where he was down a lot, but he kept his composure, stayed in the moment and

crawled his way back to a really dramatic finish at the end, getting a pin."

Wrestling at 126 pounds, Bentley Patrick took fourth place and scored 18 points for the Cowboys at the tournament. Bentley received a bye, then won his first match by pinning his opponent after 2:26. He then fell in the semifinals via a 23-4 technical fall. Bentley won his first match in the consolation bracket by pinning his opponent after 4:58, but lost in his final match after being pinned in 55 seconds. Bentley's 2-2 record moved his season record to 18-12 on the season.

Owen Smejkal wrestled at 190 pounds and placed sixth, scoring nine points for the Cowboys. After receiving a first-round bye, Smejkal lost his first match after being pinned in 39 seconds. He

received another bye and then pinned his second opponent in his next match after 27 seconds. He then lost his next two matches, the first after being pinned in 53 seconds and the second after being pinned in 2:36.

Wrestling 285 pounds, Freddie Bernabe placed sixth and scored four points for the Cowboys. Bernabe lost his first match, getting pinned after 46 seconds, but came back and won his next match via a 5-2 decision. He then lost his next two matches, the first by fall after 2:29 and the second by fall after 24 seconds, to take sixth place.

Gavin Smejkal wrestled at 215 pounds and did not place, scoring 2.5 points for the Cowboys. Smejkal lost his first match, getting pinned after 3:28, but came back and won via a technical fall score of 19-0

in his next match. Smejkal's tournament ended after losing his next match by fall after 2:38.

The boys will wrestle in Montrose this weekend in a tri-dual against Montrose and Durango, taking the weekend off from a larger tournament. Seijo will also take some boys that wouldn't get as many matches in the tri-dual to a tournament in Grand Junction.

"I know Montrose and Durango, they're good teams," said Seijo. "We've wrestled a few Durango kids when we were in Bayfield, so we get to see a few of those kids again. And, I think with the kids that we're taking, we're going to do just fine."

Jack Sellner can be reached at jsellner@ourkemediagroup.com.

Cowboy girls send three to finals at Skyview invite

By Jack Sellner
Sports Desk

The Gunnison High School girls wrestling team competed in the 2026 Girls Skyview Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 17, placing eighth overall and sending three girls to the finals.

"This was a tougher tournament," said head coach Mike Dawson. "The freshmen showed through and placed again. Romie (Uhrig) had a tougher finals match, which she ended up losing, but it was still a good day and good competition."

Wrestling at 145 pounds, Roxie Uhrig placed first and scored 26 points for the Cowboys. Roxie received a bye in the first round, then proceeded to pin all three of her opponents. She pinned her first opponent after 2:19 in the quarterfinal, her second opponent after 1:32 in the semifinal and her third opponent after 2:45 in the first place match. After going 3-0 at the tournament, Roxie's season record improved to 23-2.

Roxie's win in the finals was her 100th win as a high school wrestler. Roxie is now the second Gunnison Cowboy to reach 100 wins this season.

Romie Uhrig wrestled at 155 pounds and placed second, scoring 20 points for the Cowboys. Like her sister, Romie received a bye in the first round. She then proceeded to pin her first two opponents, the first



Gunnison High School junior Roxie Uhrig competes for the Cowboys last week. She has a 23-2 record on the season. (Photo by Evan Bjornstad)

after 28 seconds and the second after 1:27. In the finals she ran into an undefeated wrestler from Brighton that pinned her after 1:17 seconds. Romie moved to 23-4 on the season with the 2-1 weekend.

McKayla Singer placed second while wrestling at 135 pounds, scoring 18 points for the Cowboys. Singer received a first-round bye, then won her first match via a 10-4 decision to reach the semifinals. She pinned her opponent in the semifinals

after 53 seconds to reach the first place match, but lost after being pinned in 1:41 and took second place. Singer is 7-3 on the season now and has finished no worse than second in her first three high school tournaments.

"She's wrestling tough, she has a great attitude, and, you know, she learns every match," said Dawson about Singer's start to the season. "She had a good tournament run this week, last weekend, and we'll just continue to build until we get to region-

als."

Wrestling at 130 pounds, Tea Waggoner placed third and scored 19 points for the Cowboys. Waggoner, the only Gunnison wrestler to not receive a bye in the first round, won her first match by pinning her opponent after 2:28. She then pinned her second opponent after 4:30, but lost in the semifinals. Waggoner bounced back, winning her next two matches, the first after a 46-second fall and the second after a 13-4 major

decision, to take third place. Waggoner improved her record to 22-5 for the season.

The girls will travel to Durango for a duel this Saturday, Jan. 24. Each girl will get one match as they look to recuperate before the final push towards regionals and state.

Jack Sellner can be reached at jsellner@ourorkemediagroup.com.

Gunnison swim team's 2026 off to busy start

By Jack Sellner
Sports Desk

The Gunnison High School swim team has competed in two meets since the start of the new year.

They started off 2026 at the 39th Annual Girls Hornet Invitational in Pueblo on Saturday, Jan. 10. Head coach Tami Maciejko brought four swimmers to the meet to compete.

"[The] Pueblo Invite was attended by powerhouse schools like Cheyenne Mountain and Liberty High," wrote Maciejko in an email to the Times. "Gunnison definitely put [on] a good showing even with a small team."

Gracen Corey had a strong

showing for the Cowboys, placing fifth overall out of 117 swimmers in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 26.37. She also placed seventh in the 100-yard freestyle, swimming a 59.45.

Kelsy Chodorowski placed 13th in both events that she swam. She swam a 2:14.17 in the 200-yard freestyle and a 1:14.63 in the 100-yard butterfly.

Elora Jones placed 14th in the 500-yard freestyle after swimming a 6:14.18. She also placed 16th in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:22.46.

In her first meet, Dziekan Kinsley swam both the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard breaststroke. Kinsley swam a 44.06 in the 50-yard freestyle. Maciejko emphasized that

Kinsley is improving with each swim.

The Cowboys traveled to Montrose on Friday, Jan. 16, to compete in the 2026 MHS Girls January Invite. Maciejko brought eight swimmers and had seven individual top five finishes.

Chodorowski placed second in the 500-yard freestyle with a personal best time of 6:06.19, dropping 6.36. She also placed fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke, swimming a personal best 1:22.17.

Corey finished first in the 200-yard individual medley with a personal best time of 2:25.13, dropping 2.26. She placed second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:10.36.

Jones placed third in the 200-yard freestyle with a personal best time of 2:19.21,

dropping 3.78 seconds. She also placed fifth in the 100-yard backstroke, swimming a 1:12.56.

Audrey Meeuwsen placed fifth in the 50-yard freestyle with a personal best time of 28.04, dropping 0.30 seconds. She also swam a personal best time of 6:00.68 in the 500-yard freestyle.

Caris Stoerkel swam personal best times in both of her events. In the 50-yard freestyle she dropped 2.30 and swam a 41.00. In the 100-yard backstroke she dropped 3>40 and swam a 1:41.75.

Kinsley dropped over two seconds off her 50-yard freestyle, swimming a 41.00. She also swam a 1:50.00 in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Jade Hannah swam two events as well. She swam a

1:01.02 in the 50-yard freestyle and a 2:30.17 in the 100-yard backstroke.

"The best part of the meet was watching the Jones, Meeuwsen, Corey and Chodorowski [relay] win the 400 free relay by more than five seconds," wrote Maciejko.

The girls swam a 4:07.93 to take home first place in the last event of the meet.

The girls will be back in the pool this weekend with a meet in Gunnison on Friday, Jan. 23, and a meet in Frisco at Summit high school on Saturday, Jan. 24.

Jack Sellner can be reached at jsellner@ourorkemediagroup.com.

DON'T MISS THIS WEEK'S HOME EVENTS AT WESTERN COLORADO!

THU., JAN. 22

W-BASKETBALL vs.
South Dakota Mines
@ 5:30 PM • Paul Wright Gym

M-BASKETBALL vs.
South Dakota Mines
@ 7:30 PM • Paul Wright Gym

SAT., JAN. 24

SWIM & DIVE (Senior Meet)
vs. Adams State
@ 9 AM • Natatorium

TRACK & FIELD hosts
Big Red Machine Open
@ 10 AM • Field House

SAT., JAN. 24

W-BASKETBALL vs.
Black Hills State
@ 1 PM • Paul Wright Gym

M-BASKETBALL vs.
Black Hills State
@ 3 PM • Paul Wright Gym

Cowboys beat Aspen, 55-21



Gunnison High School senior Kaylee Vincent brings the ball up the court during last week's game against Aspen. (Photo by Evan Bjornstad)

By Jack Sellner
Sports Desk

The Gunnison High School girls basketball team finished last week 1-2, moving their overall record to 4-8 on the season.

The girls started the week off with a home game against the Salida Spartans on Tuesday, Jan. 13. The Cowboys lost 65-32, suffering their worst defeat of the season at the hands of the Spartans.

"We got blasted," said head coach Chad Terry after the game. "Salida is a really, really good basketball team, but that's arguably the worst we've played this year."

The Cowboys were already down 35-12 heading into the locker room for halftime, and by the time the fourth quarter started the girls were down by 36 after being outscored 23-10 in the third quarter.

Ashlyn Cowan led the Cowboys with 14 points in the match. Brooke Terry added five, Autumn Terry had four, Reese Japuntich had three and Kat Rodriguez, Althea Stansberry and Caroline Sudderth each added two to round out the scoring for the Cowboys.

Terry emphasized that even though Salida is a great team, he felt that the Cowboys didn't come out on fire or play very hard.

The Cowboys were able to reset though, beating Aspen

55-21 at home on Friday, Jan. 16.

"Aspen is kind of struggling this year," said Terry. "So it was nice to go and get a game where we can kind of be a little bit dominant."

Despite winning by 34 points, Terry still felt like the girls came out a little flat in the first half of the game. He credited Autumn Terry and Merci Williams for turning the tide for the Cowboys in the third quarter with their ball pressure and overall defense. The Cowboys outscored the Skiers 29-7 in the second half to almost triple their first half lead.

The Cowboys had three players finish in double-figures. Brook Terry led the team with 19 points, Autumn Terry added 13 points and Ashlyn Cowan finished with 11. Kaylee Vincent had six points, Stansberry and Delaney Diamond each had two and Williams and Rodriguez each had one to round out the scoring in the game.

The Cowboys finished out the week with a home matchup against undefeated Meeker on Saturday, Jan. 17. The girls lost 44-34, but Terry thought the girls played really well and certainly gave themselves a chance to win.

Terry said that the girls missed some easy layups down the stretch that proved costly. He was very encouraged with how the girls handled Meeker's pressure, but too many times they would break Meeker's

press and miss a wide open shot that would lead to Meeker scoring on the other end.

Brooke Terry and Ashlyn Cowan each scored nine to lead the Cowboys. Vincent had five, Rodriguez had four, Stansberry had three, Diamond had two and Sudderth and Autumn Terry each had one point to round out the scoring for the Cowboys in Saturday's game.

"So I would hope [for] two things," said Terry about his team after Saturday's result. "One, they feel a little bit encouraged by us being able to play with a really good team and stick it out, and the other part, to have a little motivation, like we've gotta score when we have wide open opportunities."

After the busy week, the Cowboys have a much lighter week ahead of them with only one game coming on Saturday, Jan. 24, when they travel to Hotchkiss to play North Fork. The Miners are 8-2 on the season and have already beat the Cowboys once this season, but Terry thinks the girls will match up better this time around.

"I think we're playing a lot better defense now than we were four or five weeks ago when we played them," said Terry "So I'm excited about that."

Jack Sellner can be reached at jsellner@ourkemediagroup.com.

We invite you to celebrate decades of service to our community by

CATHIE PAGANO

DROP BY TO SAY THANK YOU AND WISH HER WELL ON HER NEXT CHAPTER!

Monday, Feb. 2, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
County Courthouse
200 E. Virginia Ave.
*Open to the Public.
Light refreshments will be served.*



MEET GINA LAMBERT

Trauma Nurse Coordinator

Here for you when you need it most, our Level IV trauma center with expanded scope designation provides expert care 24/7, 365. ER located at the hospital, off Denver & Iowa Streets in Gunnison.

What drew you to this work in trauma care, at Gunnison Valley Health?

This role became the dream job I didn't know I was looking for. As Trauma Nurse Coordinator, I've grown as a rural Emergency Department (ED) nurse, built strong connections with trauma providers across the state and helped improve processes that ensure high-quality care when the unexpected happens. I began working in healthcare at 16 in cardiology. I then started my nursing career at Denver Health's surgical/trauma unit, caring for complex trauma patients for nearly six years. After a brief return to cardiology, I realized trauma was where I belonged. My love for Gunnison brought me to GVH, where my trauma and coordinator experience led to this role. It's been the perfect fit and I'm grateful every day to serve this community.

How does GVH's trauma program & the expertise of its clinical teams ensure rapid, high-quality care when emergencies happen?

GVH is a Level IV Trauma Center with an expanded scope of care related to our strong surgical and orthopedic capabilities. Our ED is staffed 24/7 by board certified emergency medicine providers, which elevates care throughout the hospital. We also maintain constant surgical and orthopedic coverage, allowing us to treat many patients locally and quickly transfer those who need a higher level of care when necessary. With Gunnison Valley Health Paramedics and partial ownership of Care Flight, we ensure fast coordination for critical care and more affordable transport when emergencies happen.

Why is a coordinated trauma team so important in a rural mountain community like ours?

In a rural setting where resources are limited and higher-level care can be hours away, readiness is critical. Ongoing training, drills and case reviews ensure every team member knows their role, can act quickly and effectively when seconds matter. A coordinated trauma team allows us to stabilize patients, make timely decisions and provide the best possible care. Whether that means treating locally or expediting transfer. This coordination turns a small rural hospital into a reliable lifeline for our community and visitors.



GUNNISON VALLEY HEALTH

gunnisonvalleyhealth.org/trauma