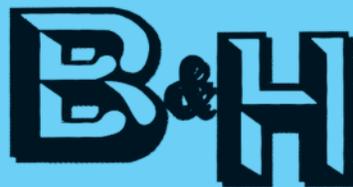




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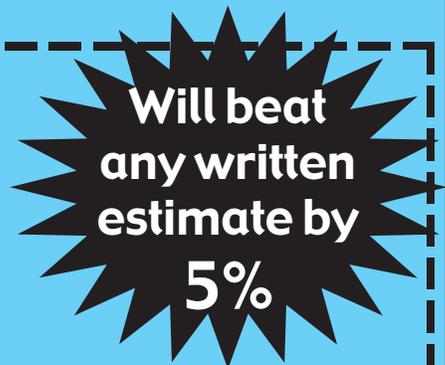
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# Our Garbage In The Wilderness

By Rick Bombaci

When I went to work for the U.S. Forest Service in 2010 as a wilderness ranger, my friends were curious. What did I do in the woods all day, besides weave garlands and write poetry?

In conversations at potlucks, I learned to skip fancy terms like “assessing resource damage.” I was a glorified garbageman, I said. My pickup route? Fire pits big enough to lie down in, full of twisted masses of melted beer cans and polypropylene tarps. Tin cans and oozing batteries stuffed into stream banks, trees garroted with steel baling wire and impaled by 12-inch spikes. Moldy canvas tents, sodden camo jackets, rotten cowboy boots, bent tent poles, broken camp chairs, abandoned sleeping bags, rusted-out sheepherder stoves, miles of baling twine, frying pans, coolers, propane canisters, rebar. Fifty-five-gallon drums.

The really old garbage bothered me less, because I was willing to pardon old-timers’ ignorance. After all, even my nature-lover friends seemed unaware of the Wilderness Act of 1964, which defines wilderness as “an area of undeveloped land ... retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation ... with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.” When it came to the new garbage, however - longer-lasting and more toxic – I’d think: Some people just don’t give a damn. Whatever happened to Lady Bird Johnson and her *Keep America Beautiful* campaign?

Although “burning” aluminum foil remains a universal sin, backpackers generally pick up after themselves. They just reduce vast acreages of

lakeshore to hardpan through their sheer numbers. No, the really big messes are produced by horsepackers and hunters, who have the means to pack in a whole lot of stuff, and tend to frequent the same sites year after year. I started giving the worst camps names: Dirty Little Secret, Camp Catastrophe, Tin Can Massacre, Open Sewer, Highline Orgy, Second Little Pig’s Tinkertoy Village, Camp Desecration, Shit City. Each name well-deserved.

Early July. I hike up into a high and achingly beautiful basin, where I find a camp with a commode. They brought their own toilet seat? What babies. I fill my trash bag, put the bundle on the seat of the commode, and tie it all up with baling twine. How am I going to carry this thing? I set off down the mountainside through false hellebore and delphinium and lupine glowing green and purple in the late afternoon sun, cumulus clouds occasionally throwing me into shadow as I walk toward the trailhead, crowned with a commode.

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## Highlander Wilderness

August. Exhausted after seven hours at the Not OK Corral, cleaning up hundreds of rusted tin cans and whiskey bottles, dismantling two corrals cobbled together from illegally cut trees, I leave at sunset. Perhaps it's a mistake to clean out these fire pits. I can just hear them: "Hey, Bubba, look! I told you glass and aluminum will burn! Nothing but charcoal left in the fire pit!"

Early September, and the mountains are cold. As I clean a site with terribly hacked trees and 250 feet of 3/8-inch steel cable strung as hitching lines, three horsemen come by. I've known the oldest, amicably, for years. No matter: He sees the green uniform, he sees red. He has nothing but contempt for the Forest Service and, therefore, me. Later,

through the small-town grapevine, I learn that he'd taken a bad fall on a washed-out trail. We like our wilderness, but we like it civilized. We want the Forest Service to keep the trails open so we can get to our backcountry campsite and turn it into a Dogpatch.

My last hitch. Dan and I string five pack mules down to the Minam River to pick up garbage I'd cached earlier at The Big Nasty. Someone has added more junk to the pile, knowing we'll pack it out.

I don't know if backcountry travelers are leaving as much trash as they did years ago. After all, the Forest Service keeps cleaning it up, removing the evidence of their misbehavior. But this I do know: 60 mule loads of garbage in one wilderness area is about 59 loads too many. Perhaps it boils down to a simple adult maxim. Clean up after yourself. Soon the Wilderness Act will be 50 years old. It would be nice if the rest of us grew up, too.

We ride the Skyline Trail back to camp under a luminous sunset. The high peaks of the Wallows fade to purple, and distant city lights seem to give birth to the Milky Way. Riding silently in the darkness, just warm enough in fleece and leather gloves, our knees tender, pasturing the horses back at camp, eating in the dark under the stars, lying down to sleep near the dull stomping of hooves, I think: Dogpatch. I haven't used that name for a campsite yet. But I'm sure I'll get my chance.

*Rick Bombaci lives and writes in Wallowa County, Oregon, where he has been picking up after himself since 1980.*

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# Public Hearing~Shooting Range~Rescuing Wildlife

Dear Readers,

Boulder County Public Hearing - On Monday June 16th, the Boulder County Commissioners held a public hearing with the purpose of taking testimony from the community about the impacts of the Moffat Collection System Project, which just released its Final Environmental Impact Statement in April. With only a 45-day (ended June 9th) comment period, and an extension for the comment period denied by the Army Corps of Engineers, Boulder County rushed to get the hearing scheduled but wasn't able to secure the date (with the prerequisite public notice) until after the comment period ended. In response to this time-crunch, the Army Corps notified Boulder County that it would continue to accept "substantive" comment up until a decision is made (perhaps next Spring, the Army Corps has said).

Attendance was high at the public hearing; with the nearly 3-hour meeting holding a full house. Over 100 citizens attended, leaving standing room only in the hallway only. Ten speakers spoke for up to 10-minutes each and another 13 speakers spoke for 3 minutes. The speeches and presentations were extremely well researched and provided numerous compelling arguments in opposition of the project.

Included amongst those speaking were: A professional truck driver; an ex-Denver Water senior project manager; a retired Bureau of Reclamation official, residents from within Denver Water's service area, a representative from the Audubon society, a hydrologist, a wetlands restoration expert, and a lawyer from Longmont who has been

following Denver Water's proposal to expand Gross Reservoir since 2003.

Criticism of the proposed project's Final Environmental Impact Statement was severe, citing dozens of examples of inadequate and incomplete analysis of impacts, despite the overwhelming size of the 11,000-page document. These concerns included: severe depletion of multiple tributaries on the Fraser River, severe traffic and transportation hazards, gross underestimations in the acreage of impacted wetlands, total disregard of climate change impacts, severe, unaccounted for, impacts to wildlife, and faulty or insufficient mitigation suggestions. Concerns were expressed not only over impacts to Boulder County, but also about the severe impacts to West Slope communities. Video recording of the entire public hearing is posted online at Boulder County website and on YouTube at <http://goo.gl/zchr80> Chris Garre - President TEG



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## Highlander Letters

Dear Readers,

RE: Proposed Shooting Range on Emory Road. (Which few people even know about – this is off South Beaver Creek Road near the turn to Pactolus, upper Coal Creek Canyon.) A 2.7 acre area up Emory Road in Lincoln Hills has been selected as a possible location among others for a developed shooting range in Gilpin County. While a decision has not been made on what the actual location will be, a county memorandum dated 5/20/2014 has the site on Emory as #3 on the list based on a scoring system. Many of us who live in Lincoln Hills feel this is a bad choice for this developed shooting range for two main reasons: 1) it will be disruptive to the Lincoln Hills, Pinecliffe, and Wedgwood neighborhoods; 2) it will not serve as a good location for the shooting range itself.

This proposed shooting range is .25 miles from an existing home, less than .25 miles from a building site on another lot (most suitable site), about a half mile from other surrounding homes, and .75 miles from Pinecliffe.

The recently established Baker Draw Designated

Shooting Area on the Pawnee National Grassland has attracted more than 200 shooters on peak days. This shooting area has berms, a parking area, and portable toilets. That amount of traffic and noise would completely change our quality of life in this area. We feel it is likely that there will be an increase in garbage and fire danger, and that our property values would also be affected. There are those of us who work from home offices who will not be able to continue with the noise. Camping and hiking in the National Forest land between Pinecliffe and Lincoln Hills where there are existing trails and campsites would also be affected.

Emory Road is a one lane road that is privately maintained. It is not accessible by 2wd vehicles during the winter and has springs and streams crossing it making travel in the spring hard as well. Every year, people unfamiliar with the road get stuck or wreck their vehicles and need assistance. We do not see where there could be a parking lot or safe backdrop constructed.

Emergency response times are a concern as well. The Sheriff is 9.8 miles out (2960 Dory Hill Rd) with a response time of 18 minutes, the ambulance comes from Timberline station 2 at 5.52 miles away and a 12 minute response time, the fire department at county road 97 and Hwy 72 is only staffed with volunteers so it will take them at least 15 minutes to respond.

Additionally, the feeder lines for United Power are directly above the proposed shooting range and there is a potential tragedy. If someone were to shoot the power lines they could either electrocute someone, or start a forest fire. A full response of engines would take far longer than 15 minutes.

While we feel a designated shooting range is a good idea,

having one up Emory Rd will not work for either the residents or the shooting public. Public input is possible in the form of emailed comments or questions to the Project Coordinator, Garry Sanfacon. He can be emailed at [info@sportshootingpartners.org](mailto:info@sportshootingpartners.org). Also, more complete information is available at: <http://www.sportshootingpartners.org> Or on the Gilpin county website: <http://co.gilpin.co.us/Commissioners/ShootingRange/ShootingRange.html>  
Ryan Castleberry

Dear Readers,

Quick Reminder of Wildlife Rehabilitators/Rescuers - After observing a lone juvenile raccoon for three days, and hearing its distress calls during daylight hours, I



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determined its mother had moved on, abandoning the kit (or cub). Because I have training and experience with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife on safe and gentle trapping and transport methods, I felt competent in helping the kit.

After a patient and slow process, we were on our way to Greenwood Wildlife Center at 5761 Ute Highway in Longmont, 303-823-8455. Unfortunately, we arrived after their intake hours were over; they end at 4:00 pm. An after-hours volunteer offered two drop-off options: Alpenglow Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center at 3640 Walnut Street in Boulder, 303-443-4569; or Aspen Meadow Veterinary Specialists at 104 S. Main Street in Longmont, 303-678-8844. Both are open 24 hours, offer intake for wildlife and then transfer them to Greenwood during business hours.

If you observe injured or orphaned raptors, contact Birds Of Prey at 303-460-0674. If you observe sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, contact the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife at 303-291-7227. They have trained volunteers who will capture and transfer sick, injured or orphaned wildlife. After hours, you can contact the Colorado State Patrol at 303-239-4501 or your local Sheriff's Department.

Diane Bergstrom



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# Buffalo Field Campaign ~ [www.buffalofieldcampaign.org](http://www.buffalofieldcampaign.org)

Reflections from BFC's Co-Founder- *Compassion for animals is intimately connected with goodness of character, and it may be confidently asserted that he who is cruel to animals cannot be a good man.* ~ Arthur Schopenhauer

For years Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) has looked to Native Americans as a major part of the solution to help the buffalo. Believing the tribes would have a positive impact on the way buffalo are managed, we celebrated when the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC), the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT), and the Nez Perce Tribe were brought into the Interagency Bison Management Plan as full voting members.

Our hopes were dashed when they bought into the political notion that the Yellowstone population should be reduced to 3,000 buffalo and that any number over this arbitrary figure are *surplus* buffalo. These tribes and tribal organizations signed slaughter agreements with Yellowstone National Park. ITBC and CSKT took it a step further when they loaded 258 buffalo that had been captured inside Yellowstone and shipped them to slaughterhouses. This tribal participation in and support for the Park Service's large-scale slaughter operations have put a wedge between should-be allies Buffalo Field Campaign and ITBC and CSKT.

Yellowstone's border country carries the smell of rotting buffalo guts because not enough people are willing to fight for the buffalo's freedom to access year-round habitat. Public *unclaimed* land surrounding the park should be available as year round habitat for the buffalo. It is a violation of treaty rights to cut the buffalo off from this habitat where the tribes have hunting rights.

Instead treaty hunters are forced to kill buffalo at a time of year when no one would otherwise hunt because the buffalo are on their last fat reserves and the pregnant moms are less than a month away from giving birth.

Yellowstone National Park is not ideal habitat for buffalo; it's where they hid to avoid extermination. They belong all over the wide plains of this great country. The naive government agencies also believe that cattle guards, a river, and a fence running up the side of a mountain will stop an ancient memory of migration. Once again the buffalo show us our human ignorance as they easily walk up mountains and around the fences.

This year also showed us for the first time in BFC's 17-year history that if we give the buffalo the time they need, they will migrate to their summer habitat in the park on their own without the waste of tax dollars to force them with abusive hazing. In Gardiner, after a court victory, buffalo were allowed to stay in the basin until May 1. Over 800 filled the valley and as the green grasses came back to Yellowstone's Blacktail Plateau, many of the buffalo walked on their own, returning there to have their calves.



In West Yellowstone, where buffalo migrate out of the winter snows to lower elevations to have their calves, agents abuse pregnant moms and newborn calves for months straight, mostly on National Forest land. This abusive ritual has happened to all buffalo that migrate in this direction for the last 14 years. Last month Montana's Governor issued an order making it illegal for the Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL) to enter private property to remove buffalo against the landowners' wishes. In the Horse Butte housing area where most landowners enjoy living with the buffalo and one family bought 800 acres they call a wildlife sanctuary, 61 adults and 21 calves avoided harassment by MDOL. The buffalo nursed, ate grass, and played—like buffalo do. On June 5th while MDOL and park rangers were hazing moms, babies, and juvenile buffalo into the park on the south side of the Madison River, the buffalo on the sanctuary migrated to summer habitat on their own. These buffalo walked at their own pace, swam rivers, and rested when needed as they headed east, to their summer range, inside Yellowstone. It was the first time the buffalo were able to show us what BFC has always predicted, the buffalo can and will do this on their own.

Over the past 17 years more than 5,000 volunteers have joined BFC near Yellowstone to staff our field patrols and make our work possible. Thanks to each and every one of our volunteers for making Buffalo Field Campaign possible. With the Buffalo, Mike Mease

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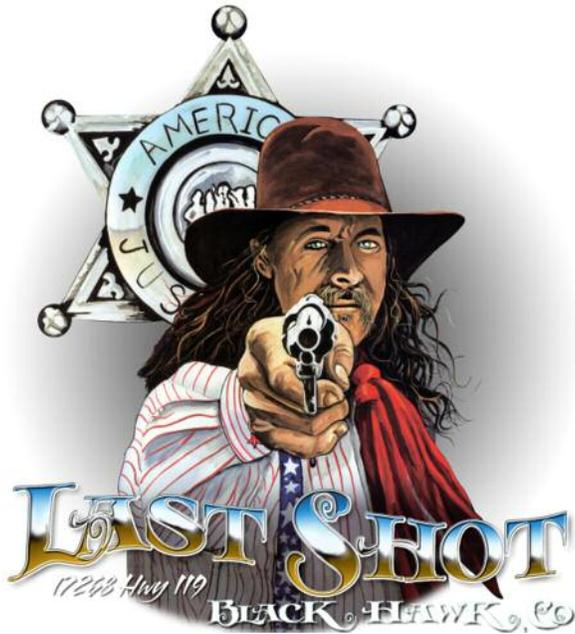
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# Road Repair Warriors & US 36 - Part 2

Article and Photographs by Diane Bergstrom

When KGNU's Jennifer Murnan interviewed me for the Morning Magazine show, she asked me why I write. I am still thinking about an answer. I write to learn, inform, educate, entertain, build empathy, encourage reflection and suggest action. In myself first, then others. Whether it be taking your kids to a national park, or attending a humane horsemanship clinic with Buck Brannaman, or finding a wildlife rehabilitator, or understanding and appreciating the roadwork underway on Highway 36 between Lyons and Estes Park, I always hope something sticks. Again, in myself first, then others. While in a crosswalk recently, I paused for a dump truck, whose driver was slowing down on the incline to honor the yield sign. Without hesitation, I quickly waved him through, thinking of the effort it was taking for him to stop while all I had to do was stand still. BINGO! I got it! Writing about the road construction (*read my first article at HighlanderMO.com, Archives Page, April issue*)



has had an impact on my own awareness of the effort going into our road repairs by the dedicated workers relentlessly on task, and the wide array of equipment being used to get the job done. Not to mention the strain of stopping and starting a 24,000-pound single-axle dump truck on an uphill slope.

During the brief interview, I was able to work in several points from the previous article and subsequent conversations with the workers citing: the unique combination of contractors and sub-contractors working on the first post-flood canyon work slated for completion; the impressive scope of the project to include repairing the river ecosystems as well as the road; and suggesting cyclists stay off this section until the work is done. American Civil Constructors' flagger Marcy Behnke also advised not singularly trusting your GPS, and that often drivers aren't recognizing the red line which indicates road construction. She also expressed concern for the cyclists, as the heavy equipment operators can't see them, the car

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drivers are getting annoyed with them, and she suggested cyclists find an equivalent safer route. The flood project has had an impact on her, as well as many of the workers. She said, "I've never worked in an area where people were consistently thanking us." She was amazed at the compassion of locals who have lost everything, yet still pause on the road to make sure the workers are hydrated on hot days. She told me this has made her change her way of thinking, "I have re-evaluated what things are important in my life. So many Big Elk Meadows people (still without water) are unable to rebuild and have lost property. I'm amazed they handle it the way they do. I couldn't. We've all learned." When she realized they no longer had mail service and had to drive to Lyons to retrieve their mail before 4 pm, Marcy used her connections to help change their pickup point to Pinewood Springs. She reflected, "If we could just take away one of their headaches..." I have heard of many kindnesses between workers and the traveling public—rides given to stranded motorists, assistance in changing tires, inspectors carrying extra gas for those who empty their tanks while waiting. There's a lot of gratitude, coming and going on the road.

"How long is this going to take?" is the question most asked of the flaggers. For perspective, we need to look at how long this is not going to take. This corridor repair work was originally projected to take between two to five years to complete. It is on track to be done by this fall. The repair cost for the original plan was projected at \$50 million dollars and now the cost should come in under \$21 million dollars for work completed in less than 9 months. A huge savings of federal, therefore public, money. While there has been a great deal of pressure from numerous sources for compressed completion, the real credit goes to the unique combination of groups working collectively to get the job done. Colorado Department of Transportation, Central Federal Lands (a division of the Federal Highway Administration), RockSol Inc., URS, and American Civil Constructors are the main agencies spearheading the work. A Stream Team was also established, to assist in tying the road construction to environmental stream restoration. As one worker explained, different approaches, management styles, and quality control measures are being combined to accomplish the same end goal. Usually a project of this magnitude has slower linear progress with expected, and unforeseen, delays. Because all of the necessary decision makers are on site together, project needs are addressed immediately, changes are approved quickly, and operational delays are minimized. In fact, I couldn't find the decision makers in their offices. From the project engineers to the superintendent to the supervisors, they were all out on the road. "The amount of work taken place in the last five months is impressive and unbelievable," said Julian

*(Continued next page.)*

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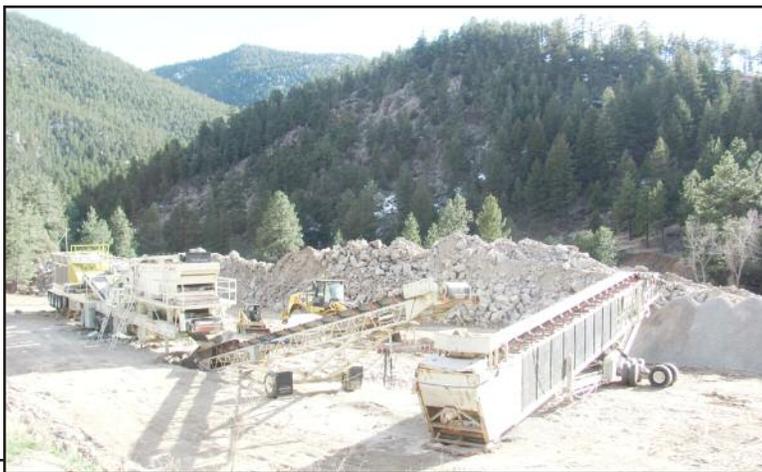
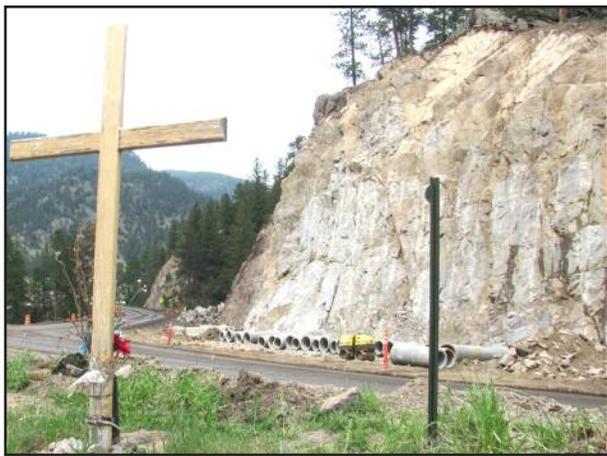
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Maskeroni, project engineer for CFL. He hopes the pilot model used on this project will help streamline subsequent Front Range repair projects. He explained that a lot of design (and redesign) happens during construction, reacting to what they run into, adhering to accelerated schedules, and dealing with technical challenges presented by the roadway geometry (shape and path of the road) and rock excavation. “This is not your typical construction project—it’s a once in a life time of project. This project is a civil engineer’s dream!” he said, “It’s rewarding being able to help all of the people and the community. What you do for a living,



people will use and see every day.”

Abra Geissler, project engineer with CDOT, explained there are ongoing meetings with canyon residents and property owners, giving answers and taking questions. “It definitely changes your perspective on things,” she said, “We did a lot of planning how the reconstruction efforts

looked but we had no idea how well it would work until we actually got out here and started working.” She added, “There’s a lot of people to keep happy. It’s a balance act, between Estes Park, tourists and local traffic.” To aid in that balancing act, laying partial asphalt sections slated for



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Phase 2 were moved up into Phase 1. This created a more efficient road base and a comfortable drive for travelers. All excavating blasts were projected to be done by June 28th. By the end of May, 114 blasts were done, 130,000 cubic yards of rock were given to other projects, over 250,000 cubic yards of rock and dirt



were moved (picture the equivalent of 250,000 dishwashers), and over 42,000 tons of rock was crushed for reuse in the corridor. In order to rebuild the road on to bedrock, sections of mountainsides needed to be removed. The majority of rock was removed from Deadman's Curve, which CDOT identified as being the most dangerous curve for this section according to accident history. The road has been widened, the curve shaved, and safer travel guaranteed. An operator informed me they removed rock 87' high and 65' deep on that curve. The second spot for "most dangerous frequencies" was near Shelley's Cottages and the access turn for County Road 82. After each blast was complete, the rock was hauled to the west pit at the intersection of Larimer County Road 47. Willits Excavating had transported several machines from Cheyenne to reduce large rocks into smaller rocks and gravel. According to Julian, they supplied a Cedar Rapids rock crusher, jaw crusher, screen to sort the material and a stacker belt. After the crushing was complete and the equipment was removed, haulers, track hoes, front-end loaders, and side and belly dump trucks sorted and transferred the rock.

Smaller rock loosened but not dropped by the blasts is excavated by hand by workers in a "man lift," a device with a telescoping arm and a cage attachment. The workers use pick axes and rakes to pull the loose rock from the rock face, referred to as rock scaling. "Anything we can get down now might help prevent an accident later," a worker offered. This pain-staking job is one of the reasons

for worthwhile road delays. Another arm of the balancing act prohibits roadwork on the weekends, requiring longer repair hours on the weekdays. "Weather-permitting" isn't a term used on this project. They have worked through snow, rain, hail, high winds, and record heat. And that was in May. Phase 1 activities continue as the road has been built up as much as 10' in some sections, compromised river banks have been reinforced with (Continued next page.)

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geotextile fabric and riprap (angular rock), rock fall ditches are being dug by excavators along rock walls, reinforced concrete drainage pipes (RCP) and box inlets are being installed, and a bottom layer of asphalt will be applied, which is more involved than I ever realized. A base layer is created using large rock grouted with concrete, damaged asphalt that has been pulverized, and



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subgrade crushed rock. Abra explained most people don't realize the "science of the road." The crushed rock supports the road while offering drainage so that water won't puddle

under the asphalt, which would create pressure from below. A variety of compactors are being used including rollers and padfoot or sheepsfoot. A motor grader, or blade, receives information via GPS signals from a nearby tripod set up alongside the road that transmits exact elevation and location for accurate leveling. Water trucks, in addition to spraying water for dust control, are used to proof roll, or check for soft spots, and ensure the string line grade is consistent. Scrapers are used to dig up soft spots and Troxler gauges, or nuclear density gauges, are used to measure ground density. If every layer and measurement is approved, or "bought off," then the initial asphalt layer must be put down within 48 hours, to avoid any

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road base changes. If it rains, it's a do-over. Phase 2 will include building up the asphalt layers, striping the lanes, putting up signage and permanent guardrails, and reseeded the groundcover. **An eight-day road closure**



will be necessary, from Apple Valley Road to mile-post 18.6, and will happen in July, August or September. CDOT will publicly broadcast the exact start date two weeks prior to closure. Only local traffic will

be allowed through including residents of Apple Valley Road, County Road 80, Pinewood Springs, Big Elk Meadows and event attendees heading to the Colorado Cherry Company or Stone Mountain Lodge. Residents will need to obtain credentials from the Boulder County Sheriff's Department, similar to the procedures that Lyons residents had to do for post-flood town access. All other travelers will want to pay close attention to the information signs throughout Lyons and take Highway 7 through Allenspark to get to Estes Park.

So, be patient. Be informed. Read the road repair signs. Be aware of delays and your trip options. Be kind to those doing the work. Turn off your engine if you are idling more than 10 seconds. Save your gas and lower the greenhouse gasses. Shop at the local businesses affected by the flood and road delays. Get a pie or a shake at the Colorado Cherry Company or smoked salmon at Villa Tatra in Pinewood Springs. Be amazed that this project will be completed close to a year from the date of the record rainfall and failed dams that caused all the damage.

Abra stated, "The most important thing is our state has never gone through a natural disaster like this where multiple canyons and roads were closed. The most impressive part is how everyone has come together to make this a priority and how travelers have been so patient with us and the reconstruction efforts. It's good to see the greater good prevail. It gives us value in our purpose and the long hours."



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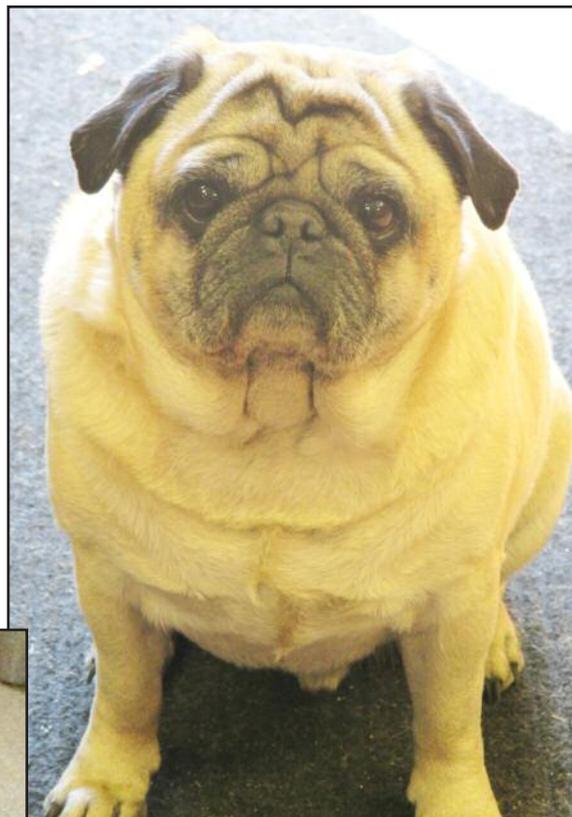
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*Top Left: Wild bunny  
drinks from birdbath!*

*Top Right:  
Pup at 92Fifty Bike Shop.  
Bottom: Bun watches  
over the Roo napping!  
Woodpecker at feeder.*

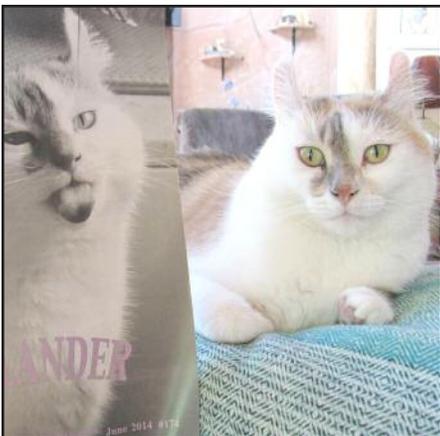
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*Top Left:  
Brindle Greyhound.*

*Top Right:  
Lots 'o little bucks!*

*Bottom:  
Cover Cat admires  
cover!*



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By Diane Bergstrom

*The uniform terracotta color  
of a fresh new pot invites my hand to run  
over the cool, smooth surface,  
even lipped rim.  
Strength and fragility in  
a single form.  
I love the old ones too,  
tinged with  
greens and browns,  
organic designs  
canvassed by Nature.  
Empty pots in the Spring  
are anxious, hopeful vessels  
of opportunity, eager to  
be filled with growth.  
Earth supporting earth.  
What is planted, focused on,  
cared for—expands.  
Microcasms of the  
growing season, of earth, of life.*



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air to permeate soil.  
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they retain precious moisture  
for their inhabitants  
and will not wick it  
from the soil.  
Symbiotic exchange of air,  
earth, and water.  
This evening I sit,  
simply admire  
the vacant vessels.  
This season,  
the empty pots  
will remain empty.  
A testament to the time,  
my time,  
to replant myself somewhere else.*

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Spruce Canyon 5K Start	8:05 am
Booths Open	9:00 am
Parade Line-up	9:30 am
Parade Steps Off	10:00 am
Lunch Begins	11:00 am
National Anthem	11: 15 am
Event Ends & Cleanup Begins	3:00 pm



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# The Mirage Of Enough Water

By Philip Doe – Be The Change

We have asked the Corp of Engineers repeatedly to do a sensitivity analysis of water availability under various climate change scenarios. Oddly, they decline to do so because they claim the future is too dicey to predict, which of course is exactly our point. We made this request for the Chatfield Reservoir Enlargement EIS, which has many of the trappings of the proposed Gross Reservoir Enlargement. The EIS is inadequate on this basis alone, for such an analysis is reasonable and necessary to alternative evaluation.

Moreover, it seems extremely odd that Denver Water would not make this climate information available since to our knowledge they are participating in something called the “Colorado-Joint Front Range Climate Change Vulnerability Study.” We believe this study also involves the Water Research Foundation and several other Front

Range water providers. This publicly funded study should be incorporated.

In addition, the BOR’s 2012 Colorado River study estimated the river’s flows could be reduced by 10 to 30% by 2050. This is an extremely conservative estimate and was made before the latest IPCC estimates on temperature increased from carbon loading to the earth’s atmosphere. But even the Bureau’s study said at 10% reduction in flow the present uses of the river downstream could not be met. So, the major question is, is Denver Water ignoring our water future and wasting scarce taxpayer dollars to do a project based on ancient design that will be undone by climate? Does this not border on what should be a criminal enterprise?

Secondly, the EIS is inadequate because it does not look at the alternative of conservation and best management practices on the infrastructure in place. That is, in Colorado we have in place about 2150 reservoirs. We use about 16

million acre feet of water a year, enough for the annual domestic needs of 160 million people. About 85% of this water is used by agriculture, much of it to raise corn, over 40% of which is converted to ethanol which some scientists say results in zero net energy gain.

Closer to home on the Platte River drainage we have close to 900 reservoirs in place and use about 5 million acre feet annually, most of it for agriculture. It is inconceivable that the little dab of water Denver Water wants to divert and store in Gross Reservoir, a purported firm yield of 18,000 acre feet annually, at a cost of roughly \$400 million, cannot be found by increasing efficiency in these 900 reservoirs, and some forced increased efficiency in on-farm irrigation, of corn

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in particular. The 18,000 af from Gross enlargement represents an insignificant 3 tenths of one percent of the annual use in the basin.

Moreover, this approach is what is being touted in the state water plan as our future, conservation and increased efficiency. What better place to start than right here with Gross Reservoir?

And if that weren't



nothing but excuses by the time it were constructed.

*(Photos here of the June 16th public hearing with the Boulder County Commission, Philip Doe speaking at the podium.)*

*Taken by Dave Schemel:  
daveschemelphoto@q.com*

enough, reservoirs almost always cost at least twice their original estimate. Thus we could be looking at a cost of \$800 million for a reservoir expansion that may yield

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## *Rocky Flats & The Power Of Forgetting*

*By Brian Calvert*

A few weeks ago, I took a drive to check out the Rocky Flats Lounge, a roadhouse between Boulder and Golden, Colorado, that once served as the payroll office for the now-defunct Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant.

Twenty-five years ago this June, agents of the FBI and EPA raided the plant, finding contamination of soils and water and violations of anti-pollution laws. That raid led to the closure and eventual demolishing of the plant. The lounge, however, was left as a final remnant, so I thought it would be interesting to stop by and take a look.

Rocky Flats was once a hub of our nuclear weapons program, producing thermonuclear bomb triggers. It was also the site of two plutonium fires, at least one major toxic waste leak, and numerous protests. It was closed in 1992, designated a Superfund site, and, according to the government, it was then cleaned up. The sprawling 6,500-acre site is now the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge, protected by barbed wire and "No Trespassing" signs.

Arriving too early for a bar visit, I drove instead to the refuge's southern perimeter, where a housing development is being built. I parked and walked along the fence, just as a young woman in a University of Colorado windbreaker

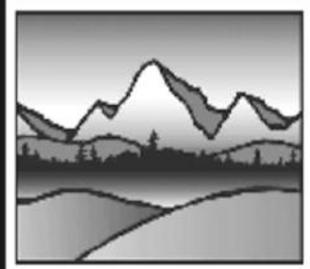
came walking by. Andy was a schoolteacher, and she and her husband had decided to move here because the houses were bigger and cheaper than most houses in other neighborhoods around Denver. She wasn't too worried about nuclear waste, she said, even though a friend had teased that she would have "green-headed babies."

Radon levels in her house were high, she added, but robins were building a nest on her porch, and she and her husband were happy enough - so long as more development didn't ruin the views. "I trust they got it cleaned up," she said.

She moved on while I stopped at a pond where a couple of mallards were paddling. Thinking about what she'd said, I was struck by our easy ability to forget the past and "move on." At the same time, I began wondering about our inability to imagine future disasters.

We've got apocalyptic myths to teach us. The Vikings, for example, had the story of Ragnarok, which begins when a ship made from the fingernails of the dead sets sail from Hell and ends when a giant and his fiery sword engulf the world in flame and a boiling sea. Christians have their own Armageddon of famine, pestilence and earthquakes that are just "the beginning of sorrows." But these are all really

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parables.

It wasn't until the United States dropped a nuclear bomb on Hiroshima that the vision of our own annihilation jumped from fantasy to reality. There it was, the mushroom cloud, 80,000 people gone, survivors poisoned and a city leveled. And if it could happen once, it could happen again, so we built so many bombs that no one would dare use them again. Today, the world's nuclear arsenal equals more than 100,000 Hiroshima bombs. Rocky Flats was once the center of our effort. Now it's a recovering prairie.

But as bad as the nuclear threat was, and is, we face a new one, planetary in scope and so far without metaphors that can help us comprehend it. Global climate change is slow moving, too huge to fully understand or explain, and it produces a new kind of sorrow that we have failed to acknowledge or mobilize against.

Earlier this year, the Science and Security Board of the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists said its Doomsday Clock was set at five minutes to midnight, meaning that humankind had moved even closer to annihilation than it had since the clock began ticking in 1947. The board of scientists said, "The science on climate change is clear, and many people around the world already are suffering from destructive storms, water and food insecurity, and extreme temperatures." In a plea to world leaders, the writers said, "It is no longer possible to prevent all climate change, but you can limit further suffering - if you act now."

Standing there on the edge of the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge, watching a hawk glide on the wind, I thought about doomsday, the ticking clock, about plutonium and

mushroom clouds and toxic soil and teachers. And I thought about how nature adapts no matter what humans do.

By then, the afternoon had gotten late enough that it felt OK to head back to the Rocky Flats Lounge, which looked a little forlorn at dusk. I walked in to hear Johnny Cash on the jukebox, the big man who taught the willow to cry and the clouds to cover up a clear blue sky. Drinking a bitter ale, I heard the hum of Colorado commuters zooming by on the highway outside. I drank. Nature might be able to forget, I thought, but man sometimes needs a little help.

*Brian Calvert is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a syndicated column service of High Country News (hcn.org). He is an associate editor of the magazine in Paonia, Colorado.*

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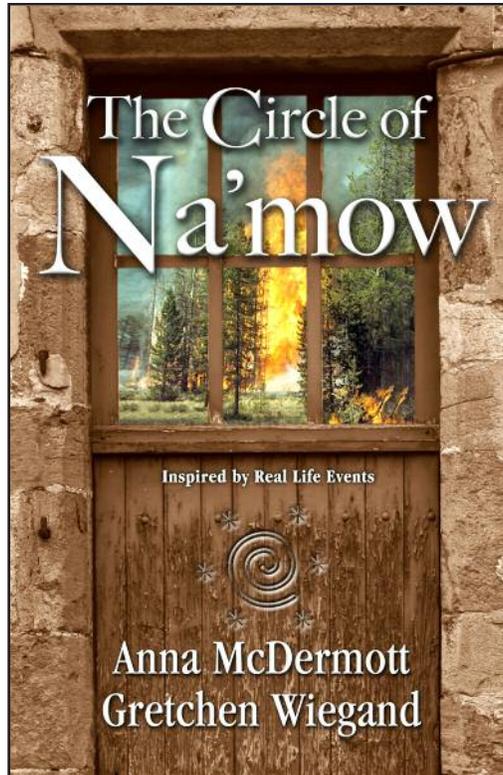
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# Local Authors Inspired By Real Life Events

Inspired by real life events, Na'mow is a story of mountain living at its best and its worst. Women that form a family circle and celebrate each other during a four day forest fire with back stories of times past with each other, significant others, husbands and children make up a tapestry of colorful reading.

The times past were memorable to me especially as I lived through similar mountain experiences around those same times with nature, weather and that special bond only those that choose a high country lifestyle can truly understand. The places and locales will be familiar to other folks who have chosen Boulder County Colorado to call home.

Any reader curious about high mountain forest living will find the hardships, voluntary return to lack of amenities and solitude interesting as well as doubtful in the bountiful returns received from those choices. Most people would never give up running water or toilets just to enjoy wintertime nature at altitude.



It takes a special kind of person to sacrifice running down to the 7-11 whenever you need something for being on top of the world and experiencing elk walking through the front yard on a regular basis.

People that choose their family from friends they meet instead of the ones they were born to have chosen freely and in my opinion more honestly. The characters in Na'mow do this seemingly effortlessly, but find the rewards to be great and long lasting.

The feminine divine is referred to and cherished with ritualistic practice while at least one character finds it all too 'foo foo' and makes fun of her friends' beliefs. This ability to live and let live flows throughout the book and even when things are going all wrong with lives at risk from an

out-of-control forest fire – acceptance and loyalty prevail with little fanfare.

The events and characters will stay with you long after you finish the book because they have special meaning and focus on ideas more important than material possessions. Lessons can be learned by anyone open enough to let these wonderful women, men and community bonds forge a lasting impression with their shared thoughts and experiences.

Anna McDermott and Gretchen Wiegand have done a wonderful job in gathering together such memorable events and how their characters lived, loved and survived all together. It is my hope their effort will be appreciated by many readers for years to come. This is a brand new book and is just now being published and printed, and hopefully available at where you buy your books. *By A.M. Wilks*

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# Senator Nicholson Describes Two Scenic Byways

Recently as I drove on several of the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways, I was reminded of the rich history and natural beauty of Colorado. Being a member of the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission allows me to help preserve the historical, cultural, and environmental sites that are distinctive to our richly varied state; the byways offer a unique perspective on these areas for Coloradans and our visitors.

The Colorado Scenic and Historical Byways celebrated its 25th anniversary this year; it was established before the National Scenic Byways program in 1991. The Colorado Byways include: 25 designated byways, 2,492 roadway miles, 47 counties, 10 U.S. National Forest Byways, and 11 Byways designated by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation as America's Byways. This gives Colorado more national designations than any other state in the country.

The Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Program provides educational, recreational, and economic benefits to all Coloradans. Tourism and outdoor recreation are two key industries in our state, and Colorado's Byways attract many visitors because of the beautiful scenery and outdoor activities they offer. The communities and businesses located along the byways (especially those in rural areas) benefit from the increased visitor traffic, visitor expenditures, and retail sales. These all contribute to the growth and improvement of Colorado's small communities and businesses, as well as to the strength of our economy.

The Peak to Peak Byway is 55 miles long and was established in 1918, making it the oldest byway in Colorado. Visitors can enjoy unique scenery and history along this route that include drives along the Continental Divide, the opulence of Victorian buildings in Central City, the vestiges of abandoned ghost mining towns, and hikes in Rocky Mountain National Park.

The Mount Evans Scenic Byway is designated as the highest paved road in North America. This byway can be accessed from I-70 and Idaho Springs, but also through a new extension from Echo Lake to Bergen Park via Clear Creek County Road 103 and Jefferson Country Road 66. This byway climbs 7,000 feet in just 28 miles and reaches an altitude of 14,130 feet. Once you reach the summit, the

Front Range sprawls at your feet, and you can glimpse rare wildflowers and 1,500 year old bristlecone pine trees that do not exist anywhere else in the world. You can also catch sight of rock-jumping mountain goats or furry mammals like marmots.

The two byways which I describe are only two of the twenty-five byways located throughout Colorado. I have the privilege of traveling the Peak to Peak, Lariat Loop and Mt Evans Scenic Byway on a regular basis because they are part of my senate district. I encourage everyone to go for a drive along one of our byways and take in the sights, sounds and smells of the matchless landscape in which we live. I appreciate all of the ways the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways allow us to explore and appreciate our state; I encourage resident families and visitors to enjoy the majestic byways and the communities along these routes.

I am grateful to all the people throughout Colorado who serve on local byway boards and assure the maintenance of the informative signage and to the CDOT, US Forest Service and BLM staff who maintain the roads. As always, I love hearing from you. Please feel free to follow me on Twitter, like my Facebook page, visit my website. You can also contact me by calling my office at 303-866-4873 or sending an email to [jeanne.nicholson.senate@state.co.us](mailto:jeanne.nicholson.senate@state.co.us). Sincerely yours, Senator Jeanne Nicholson

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# CSU Researcher: West Nile Virus This Summer!

Plentiful spring snow and rain, combined with recent hot temperatures on the Front Range, set the stage for an unusually high number of mosquitoes this summer – and potentially high rates of West Nile virus infection among birds, horses and humans, a Colorado State University expert says. “Chet Moore, who has studied mosquito-borne diseases for more than 50 years, noted that the combination of above-average precipitation and high temperatures is a recipe for a large mosquito population that could quickly transmit West Nile virus far and wide.”

These conditions make prevention important. Key steps include: draining standing water in the yard and garden; wearing long sleeves and pants, especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active; and using insect repellent with DEET. For more tips, visit the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s **Fight the Bite website, [www.fightthebitecolorado.com](http://www.fightthebitecolorado.com)**.

The virus first appeared in the United States in 1999 and soon spread across the country, hitting Colorado hardest in 2003. Birds harbor the virus, and it is commonly spread by mosquitoes that bite infected birds and then seek blood meals from mammals, such as horses and people. Two Culex mosquito species that are prevalent in Colorado have been found to be particularly effective vectors. Most people

infected with West Nile virus do not develop symptoms, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Others have flulike symptoms, including fever, vomiting, headaches and body aches.

In severe cases of infection – typically about 1% of the total reported nationwide – people develop serious neurologic illness, such as encephalitis or meningitis; this illness is sometimes fatal. In 2013, there were 322 reported cases of West Nile virus infection among humans and seven deaths in Colorado; most illness was reported on the northern and central Front Range. Nationwide, there were 2,469 reported cases of illness and 119 deaths, according to the CDC.

There are no vaccines available to prevent West Nile virus infection in people. However, horses can be vaccinated against the disease, and owners are encouraged to vaccinate their animals annually. Moore believes Front Range municipalities that opt for mosquito spraying to prevent the spread of virus should not wait until the first human cases of West Nile virus infection are confirmed. That’s because it might take two weeks for symptoms to appear, plus additional time for test results, he said, and during that time the virus can spread significantly.

Timing of preventative measures to support public health should be based on surveillance of the virus in mosquito populations, he advised. Moore has overseen West Nile mosquito surveillance in northern Colorado for the past five



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years, and has sent weekly reports to health officials with Larimer County, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the CDC. Moore was “hooked on bugs at an early age” thanks to an uncle who was an entomologist, and he soon learned the dangers posed by mosquitoes.

“Mosquito-transmitted diseases are among the biggest problems globally in terms of human disease and mortality,” he said. The buzzing insects transmit a number of viruses that can cause potentially fatal diseases. In addition to West Nile, these include Dengue fever, Rift Valley fever and malaria. “Someone dies from malaria every 30 seconds around the world,” Moore noted. There are a number of weather variables that could influence mosquito populations and the spread of West Nile virus this summer. For instance, flooding could scour some sites of mosquito eggs. If the weather becomes hot and dry, mosquitoes will



have shorter lifespans. If bird species enjoy a baby boom, there would be a higher host population, with the potential for the virus to spread farther and faster.

One thing is clear: West Nile virus is much less prevalent in Colorado’s high country. That’s because the Culex mosquitos that carry the virus stick to lower elevations. “They’re more flatlanders,” he said. To monitor the spread of West Nile virus, Moore and a team of fellow researchers in the CSU Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology test mosquito specimens collected by a contractor. Specimens come from 53 traps that attract mosquitoes using light and dry ice, which mimics human breath by emitting carbon dioxide, or using trays containing fermented hay. “Everybody has their own recipe for the hay infusion,” Moore said. “Some add yeast powder and liver powder. A lot of it is witchcraft.” *(Photo of Chet Moore setting a trap.)*

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# Let Bears Eat Those Messy Moths

By W. S. Robinson

Last year, I wrote a column for the Casper Citizen touting the annual migration of lowly miller moths (the army cutworm, *Euxoa auxiliaris*) through central Wyoming as something to be celebrated. I said it was a lot like other

great migrations made over hundreds of miles by creatures such as African wildebeests or monarch butterflies.

Reaction from most readers ranged from surprise to annoyed acceptance to “what a crackpot idea.” But now the messy little flying nuisances are back, and I want to make the case for millers because it’s such a good case.

What’s happening with millers these days is what’s happening with so many insects in temperate regions - climate change means that our winters are no longer all that cold. In particular, we don’t have the two or three blood-crystallizing events that used to kill off many overwintering insects. It’s generally warmer, too, so insects now successfully complete more generations than they used to.

That brings me to the crux of my miller advocacy. It’s well known that the Rocky Mountains’ high-altitude whitebark pines are being decimated by the onslaught of bark beetles, a pest that is new to them. They were once protected from insect attack by intense winter cold at their preferred elevation, but no longer. That means that whitebark pine nuts are no longer available to provide needed energy for grizzly bears fattening up for their winter sleep. And while native cutthroat trout used to provide good food for bears, the fish face competition from introduced trout species with different spawning habits, like the lake trout in Yellowstone Lake.

For bears, that means there’s less to fatten up on - except for the transient miller moths. Though the moths were born and raised on various grasses mostly on the High Plains east of here, as adults they “get the urge for going” and fly off for a cool summer in the mountains. There they mate,

feed on nectar from wildflowers and shelter in huge numbers among the rocks on talus slopes.

That’s where hungry bears find them and take advantage of their high fat content - up to 70% of their body weight. Just crush one in your fingers and feel the oil. After summering in style in the mountains (yes, it’s the miller high-life), the moths wing back through this area, returning to the plains, where the females lay their eggs in the soil. That migration is much smaller than their June one, partly because of the work of hungry bears.

During their migration, millers are like vampires, fearing daylight. So just before dawn, they stop their flight and find a nice tight cranny for daytime shelter. It might be a spot under bark,

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or maybe under a rock or fallen log. Or they'll creep deep into foliage and enjoy an occasional sip of nectar from a blooming Russian olive or lilac flower.

At our ranch, they seek out every single narrow dark spot on every building. They wedge their way into and through the shingles, the siding, the walls and trim, the edges of screens. They shimmy their way through windows and doorframes. Unfortunately, many of them end up inside the buildings and can't figure out how to get back out.

Come nightfall, all they want is to be on their way. They bounce off the windows and screens. But if you turn on your lights, they'll be drawn to them and be with you all night.

Sure, you could do what the extension guys recommend: You can vacuum them up. Or get out the fly swatter, smack 'em and watch the dust fly. (And boy, will it ever. These moths get their common name "miller" from the abundance and looseness of those floury, dusty scales on their wings.) Or you can set up a bucket of soapy water under a light and watch the madly

circling insects fall into it and drown.

But the compassionate thing, for both the moths and the bears, is to encourage your houseguests to be on their way.

In the evenings at our house, we keep the house lights to a minimum and wait until large numbers of moths are fluttering and beating against the screens. Then we remove the screens and wish them happy trails. Bats, nighthawks and late-flying swallows immediately appear and pluck many of them from the sky. But many more moths make it through the flying gantlet. They're off to high ground where the bears are waiting - and hungry.



*W. S. Robinson is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a syndicated opinion column service of High Country News*

*(hcn.org). He teaches biology at Casper College in Wyoming and also researches the behavior of Asian honeybees and Ecuadoran parasitoid wasps.*

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# Come What May

By Melissa E. Johnson

## Come What May

*Let go of what has happened.*

*Let go of what may come.*

*Let go of what is happening now.*

*Don't try to figure anything out.*

*Don't try to make anything happen.*

*Relax, right now, and rest.*

*~Tilopa*

Perhaps my work as a lawyer informed my instinct towards this particular complex behavior: analyze what's before me, anticipate what might happen next and plan around it; never be caught unawares. Name it. Label it. Define it. As if by doing so I can somehow prevent or create the inevitable. While this may be a real strength for my business clients, or when planning an event, it can wreak havoc in my personal life.

Like when "trying" to have a baby. I monitor my basal body temperature each morning before I get out of bed. Then I pee on a very expensive stick to see if I've ovulated. My husband and I time "the deed" around all of this data, nearly sucking the joy out of sex. I take fistfuls of supplements to decrease uterine hostility and improve egg quality. I haven't had real coffee in over a year, worried about the impact on my body and future baby, which may or may not come. When I do get pregnant again, I'm certain to walk on eggshells for fear of losing the baby to miscarriage like the other two. I spend a lot of energy trying to shape the outcome of something that time has proven I clearly have no control over.

How many times have I tried to make something happen? Waiting; so focused on what happened in the past;



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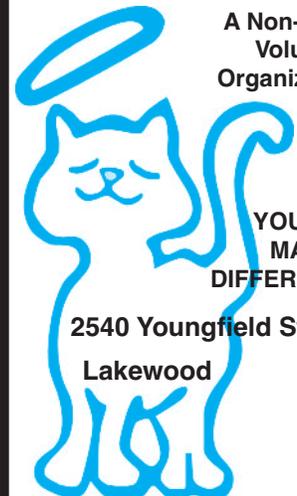


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written a book, started a business, built a house, had a baby, or lived their dreams with any measure of success will tell you that it doesn't just happen by waking up in the morning and wishing it so. It takes action, commitment, planning and patience, while the crop ripens or the idea matures.

In time I've learned that while having a vision is crucial to creating the life that I desire, things go much more smoothly when I let them unfold in their own time, when I give up control and let the how and why reveal itself, which is no easy task. I'm not very good at it.

Still, I try...to let go, to not try, to just be; to relax right now, and rest; come what may.

*Melissa is a writer, photographer, artist and lawyer. Read more on her blog at [www.HeartLaw.blogspot.com](http://www.HeartLaw.blogspot.com).*

striving to make something happen in the future; trying to figure it all out. It's exhausting.

We've all done it to greater or lesser degrees. The offices of psychotherapists are filled with people who can't quit doing it—this inclination to look to the future and dwell on the past; to micromanage the way it will all turn out. It's maddening, and quite possibly our greatest obstacle to finding true happiness and peace of mind. And while counting down the hours, days, weeks and months are human illusions of a quantifiable future, in the final analysis we must ask ourselves: What are we waiting for?

Yet how can we be expected to stay grounded in our experience moment by moment when filled with dreams and desires that require some measure of forward thought, planning, vision, movement, and, yes, waiting, to make them real? Anyone who has pursued higher education,

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KGNU Radio pg 31 303.449.4885

## EXCAVATING

Driveway Doctor pg 3 303.642.0606  
J Squared Custom pg 16 303.642.3582  
Silver Eagle Excavating - pg 28 303.642.7464

## FARRIER

Forbes Farrier Service pg 30 303.725.8471  
Clint Micaletti - Farrier pg 25 303.882.8266

## FIREWOOD & FOREST MANAGEMENT

Lumber Jacks - pg 22 303.642.0953

## GIFTS

The Silver Horse - pg 29 303.279.6313  
The Rustic Moose - pg 29 303.258.3225  
Wondervu Gift Shop pg 20

## GROCERIES

B & F Mountain Market pg 19 303.258.3105  
Golden Farmer's Market pg 31 303.279.3113

## HEATING

HiTech Appliance pg 32 303.665.0951

## HEALTH & FITNESS

Hands, Hoofs & Paws pg 18 303.503.6068  
Massage Envy Spa inside front cov 303.423.3689  
Nederdance pg 5 303.258.9427

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

ACE Indian Peaks Hardware pg 27 303.258.3132  
B & H Asphalt Paving ins cov 800.753.2010  
Canyon Colors-Painting pg 8 303.301.4298  
Caribou Painting pg 33 303.641.7964  
Driveway Doctor pg 3 303.642.0606  
Jesse Booten - pg 5 303.642.3435  
J Squared Custom pg 16 303.642.3582  
Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393  
Redpoint Construction pg 22 303.642.3691  
Summit Up Prop. Maint/Rep. pg 6 303.582.5456

## HORSEBACK RIDING

Sundance Stables pg 9 303.258.1176

## HORSE BOARDING

Rudolph Ranch, Inc. pg 5 303.582.5230

## LIQUOR

Town Center Liquors pg 8 303.940.5735

## PLUMBING

ACME Septic, Inc. pg 23 303.459.1106  
Keating Pipeworks, Inc. pg 6 720.974.0023  
Morgan Rooter Service pg 10 303.642.3166

## PROPANE

Carl's Corner pg 10 303.642.7144

## REAL ESTATE

Byers-Sellers Mtn Properties pg 12 303.642.7951  
Gail Kirby-Keller Williams pg 33 303.475.9370  
House for Lease pg 7 303.990.2496  
Retail/Office Space pg 26 509.627.6529  
Mock Realty-Kathy Keating -Back cov 303.642.1133  
Summit Up Property Mgt. pg 23 303.618.8266

## RENTALS

A to Z Rentals pg 29 303.232.7417

## RESTAURANTS

Charlie's pg 13 303.552.5932  
Last Shot Restaurant pg 11 303.642.7870  
Malones Clubhouse Grill pg 23 303.940.1800  
Ralston Road Cafe pg 28 303.420.6650  
Sundance Cafe pg 9 303.258.0804  
Westfalen Hof - pg 25 303.642.3180  
Wondervu Cafe pg 20 303.642.7197

## RETAIL

ACE Indian Peaks Hardware pg 27 303.258.3132  
Golden Mill pg 14 303.279.1151  
HiTech Appliance pg 32 303.665.0951  
Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393  
Mountain Man Store pg 28 303.258.3295  
The Silver Horse - pg 29 303.279.6313  
The Rustic Moose - pg 29 303.258.3225

## STOVES/SERVICE

HiTech Appliance pg 32 303.665.0951  
Indian Peaks Stove/Chimney pg7 303.258.3474

## TAXES

Michelle Marciniak, CPA pg 6 303.642.7371

## WATER & WELL

Arrow Drilling pg 17 303.421.8766  
Colorado Water Wizard pg 30 303.447.0789  
Doctor Water Well - pg 22 303.438.6669

JULY  
2014

# POWER UPDATE



## Your Small Change Makes a Big Difference

When you round up your monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar, you provide assistance to worthy organizations and needy families in your community.

Sign up today: check the box on your next United Power statement, click on 'your Community' online at [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com), or call a Member Services Representative at 303-637-1300.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Rebates for Energy Stars



To help you make the most of your energy, United Power members can receive rebates on the purchase of NEW Energy Star® qualified appliances. Rebates are available on select refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers and dishwashers. United Power will also provide a recycling credit when you have your old refrigerator or freezer hauled away and recycled. United Power reserves the right to inspect the installation of any rebated appliance. Please review program details very carefully.

Applications must be submitted within 180 days of purchase. Appliance rebates and recycling credits will be issued as a credit on your electric bill. Please allow at least two billing cycles for rebate to appear.

Energy Star Appliance	Rebate
New Energy Star® Refrigerator/Freezer	\$40
Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling	\$75
New Energy Star® Clothes Washer	\$40
New Energy Star® Dishwasher	\$30

**For more information and to download a rebate application, visit 'your Energy Options' at [www.unitedpower.com](http://www.unitedpower.com).**

## Always Call Before You Dig—Dial 811

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job.

Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call – even small projects like planting trees and shrubs.

If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

For more information about the new Call Before You Dig number, visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com).



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

# Saturday July 19th Country 2-Step Community Dance

7-10 PM For more info go to <http://www.coalcreek.com/calendar.html>



**11709 Ridge Road**  
Fabulous Mtn. Retreat  
3 BD/ 2 BA- 1,767 sq. ft. **\$289,000**



**23 Elliot Lane**  
Amazing Remodel  
4 BD/ 3 BA 2,604 sq. ft. **\$398,000**



**10653 Twin Spruce**  
Road improvements complete!  
2 BD/ 3 BA 1,896 sq. ft. **\$245,000**



**11710 Ranch Elsie Road**  
Vintage Property in Rolling Hills  
2 BD/ 1 BA - 1,165 sq.ft. **\$204,000**



**102 Black Bear Trail**  
Privacy in the Pines!  
2 BD/ 1 BA 1.39 Ac. **\$203,000**



**125 Moss Rock Place**  
VIEWS! VIEWS! VIEWS!  
3 BD/ 3 BA 4-Car Garage **\$374,000**



**3072 Coal Creek Canyon**  
Remodeled 'nose to toes'  
3 BD/ 1 BA **\$199,000**



**8550 S. Mariposa**  
Custom Home on 2.89 Ac. Morrison  
3 BD/ 3 BA **\$442,000**



**38 Elliot Lane**  
Level Lot, RV Parking  
3 BD/ 2 BA 6-Car Garage **\$279,000**



**10232 Dowdle**  
Privacy in the Pines  
3 BD/ 4 BA - 4,752 sq.ft. **\$399,000**



**1116 Pandora Ct.**  
Enormous Yard on Corner Lot  
4 BD/ 2 BA- 1,320 sq. ft. **\$255,555**



**1960 Seidler**  
Spacious Home in Erie  
4 BD/ 4 BA **\$307,000**



**7401 Isabell Cr.**  
Ranch Style Patio Home  
3 BD/ 3 BA 3 Car Garage **\$524,500**



**31679 Hilltop Road**  
Perfect Horse Property!  
3 BD/ 2 BA - 1,716 sq.ft. **\$284,900**



**8819 Blue Mountain**  
Sweeping Views of the Valley!  
3 BD/ 4 BA 2-Car 1 Acre **\$549,000**



**6365 Cole Lane**  
Fab Arvada Townhome  
3 BD/ 4 BA 2,200 sq.ft. **\$298,000**



**10495 W. Dakota**  
Great Lakewood Ranch/Updated  
**\$288,000**



**14604 W. 62nd Place**  
Pride of Ownership  
4 BD/ 4 BA- 4,284 sq. ft. **\$469,900**



**11648 Overlook Road**  
Saturated in Attractiveness  
3 BD/ 2 BA 2,104 sq.ft. **\$284,000**

## LAND LISTINGS

- 33966 Nadm 1.08 Ac. \$75K
- 64 Damascus 1.87 Ac. - \$44,900
- 0 Damascus 1.86 Ac. - \$44,900
- 11547 Shimley 1.15 Ac. - \$29K
- 0 Hilltop NEW! 2.8 Ac. - \$84K



**Kathy Keating,**  
CRS, ABR, GRI  
EcoBroker,  
Broker Associate  
303.642.1133

For additional information and photos:  
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