

Mountain Folk Tales: A year in Nederland



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JAKOBSON FAMILY

Exploring the United States through nature

The Jakobson family, left to right; August, Hele, Liisi, Manivald and Erko, love hiking in the mountains. They have explored many of the trails in the area in hiking boots and on cross country skis. This photo was taken on one of their first hikes in the US in September. See story page 10.

Nederland Food Pantry Community Garden



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

A labor of love

Left; Hope Jordan's green thumb and dedication is the driving force behind the garden's success. Above; Red beets and brussels sprouts grow well in the wintertime and are regularly harvested. See story page 17.

Corono Virus News - page 2, 3, 4, 5
 Letters & Movie - page 4, 5, 6
 Discover Colorado - page 7
 Mountain Folk Tales - page 8, 9, 10, 11
 School Zone - page 12, 13
 Fire News - page 14, 15

Where We Were - page 16
 FDGD News - page 18, 19, 28, 32
 Police Reports - page 20 to 26
 Government - page 26, 27, 29
 Music - page 30
 Classifieds - page 31

- Quote of the Week -

"To keep the body in good health is a duty... otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear."

~Buddha

Nederland Food Pantry Community Garden



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Grown and distributed locally

Above, left; Fresh arugula was part of the bounty on a late February morning recently. Above, right; Quackers the duck stands guard twenty-four hours a day keeping pests at bay.

Dave Gibson Nederland

When Hope Jordan drove her Prius through a snowstorm that stretched from Maryland to Nederland three years ago to begin a new chapter in her life, she had no plans of starting a community garden, but having been raised on a farm and participated in the Future Harvest Process Extension Program at the University of Maryland, knew she wanted to grow food. On a serendipitous Sunday two days after her arrival in town, she met Nederland Food Pantry Executive Director Chris Current at St. Rita's Church and they began discussing the need for providing more fresh produce to the five hundred pantry recipients. It was a match made

in heaven so to speak. As any good Catholic knows, St. Rita is the patron saint of impossible cases and suddenly the impossible became possible.

Shortly thereafter, radishes were being cultivated in the Plexyglass-covered breezeway adjacent to the food pantry in the Community Center. With the backing of grants from the Colorado Garden Foundation and Boulder Food Shed as "seed money," Hope continued planting and hauling in organic soil from Magnolia Road. She currently devotes 2 – 3 hours of her expertise and labor every day to the cause and full days during the peak growing season. Raised plant beds now fill the breezeway space and surround the west wing. Solar panels provide heat and snowmelt or rainwater are collected and stored on-site to fulfill watering needs.

Twenty-six plots are also being worked next to Middle Boulder Creek on First Street that are available to volunteers and community members.

The crops are grown year-round and on a Saturday at the end of February recently, Swiss chard, kale, arugula, parsley, and kohlrabi were harvested and walked a few steps to the pantry. During the summer, 100 lbs. of fresh produce is donated each week. Brussels sprouts, heirloom tomatoes, golden beets, spinach, snap peas, green beans, potatoes, carrots, onions, peppers, buttercrunch lettuce, zucchini, parsnips, lemon cucumbers, okra, chives, yellow crookneck squash, and strawberries is a partial list of what is offered at different times of year. There is even talk of canning pickles. Natural fertilizer is incorporated in the growing process and no pesticides or herbicides are used.

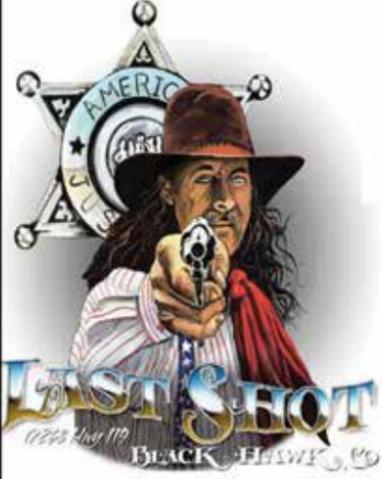
Contingent upon funding, future plans include adding an irrigation system and solar-powered lights. Free seminars are conducted periodically to assist with the many challenges mountain gardeners face and ensure that their efforts are fruitful. High-altitude seeds, plant starts, containers, and soil is supplied to the public at no charge.

The Nederland Food Pantry and Community Garden are dependent on the generosity of Coloradoans. Anyone seeking assistance or wanting to make a donation or volunteer their time is encouraged to visit www.NederlandFoodPantry.org.

Located at the west wing of Nederland Community Center, 106 Hwy. 72, the food pantry and garden is open every Saturday and on the first and last Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

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The Last Shot Family Restaurant and Bar, is now being listed for sale.



The Last Shot sits on four commercial acres, utilizes a commercial well, and has a large walk in freezer. Includes additional one acre residential parcel with brand new living quarters, and potential for further additions and development. The Last Shot, located at 17268 Highway 119, has incredible frontage for highway traffic. A huge level parking lot allows for plenty of parking. The entire property has great potential for multi-use businesses with the right owners.

Contact Bob Chambers at 720-201-3031 or Kama Chambers Jones at 305-960-1769 for further information.

Gilpin County Parks & Recreation

FAMILY FLY FISHING INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

Register Online or at the Community Center!

WHEN: SAT. MARCH 14
 TIME: 9AM-12PM
 WHERE: GYMNASIUM
 WHO: AGES 5+
 FEE: \$10/PERSON



250 Norton Dr. 303-582-1453 www.gilpinrecreation.com