

OURAY COUNTY Plaindealer

SINCE 1877

SPECIAL HISTORY EDITION

HISTORIAN

AN ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

Ouray County Historical Society Pull-out Section

Voyager milkshake contest P2

McCullough MoonWalk P14

50¢

OURAYNEWS.COM YEAR 139 THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF RIDGWAY, OURAY AND OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO NO. 6 JUNE 30 - JULY 6, 2016

INSIDE: Special Pull-Out Section!

4th of July
Celebrating Ouray County's 139th Independence Day
A 2016 Publication of the Ouray County Plaindealer

- Cornering the Market on BBQ
- Complete Schedule of
- Ourayce Breakfast on the 4th
- Fireman's Ball
- Fireworks
- Maps
- Pool Anniversary
- Water Fights
- Flyover
- Sunday in the Park
- Much, Much More!

- ▶ CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- ▶ DUELING BARBECUES
- ▶ HOT SPRINGS FLOAT
- ▶ JET FLYOVER
- ▶ FOURTH OF JULY HISTORY
- ▶ FREE WINDOW FLAG
- ▶ WATER FIGHTS
- ▶ SUNDAY IN THE PARK
- ▶ OURAYCE
- ▶ & MUCH MORE

TOWN OF RIDGWAY

No change for accessory units

BY TORI SHEETS
tori@ouraynews.com

The Ridgway Planning Commission decided to keep the municipal code at the status quo regarding accessory dwelling units during Tuesday's meeting. The code states that any accessory dwelling unit must either be occupied by the owner of the property or the owner must live on the primary unit on the property.

Several citizens turned out both in support of keeping the code the way it is and in support of changing the code to allow owners to live off of the property and rent out either the primary, secondary or both units as long term rentals.

REGULATIONS P16

OURAY COUNTY

"Spoon of Doom" wins river race



Kipori "Baby Wolf" Woods plays guitar with his tongue at RiverFest on June 25. Woods, a blues and funk musician from New Orleans, had the festival crowd up and dancing for the majority of the day.

Plaindealer photo by Dalton Carver

BY DALTON CARVER
dalton@ouraynews.com

Margaritas, music and makeshift water vessels made good memories for attendees of this year's RiverFest event organized by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership at Rollans Park.

The main goal of the ninth annual event celebrating the Uncompahgre River watershed is to inform the public about local water resources and their impact.

Throughout the day, the event was serenaded by Kipori "Baby Wolf" Woods, a blues and funk musician from New Orleans. Displaying energetic, melodic and technical skill, Woods had several of festival-goers up

RIVERFEST P15

WESTERN SLOPE

Severed cables knock out 911 lines

BY DALTON CARVER
dalton@ouraynews.com

CenturyLink connection woes continue to plague not only Ouray County but the majority of the southwestern region as well. However, this week's instances had a larger impact on safety rather than just Internet connections.

Although CenturyLink representative Shelley Silverman wasn't able to say much on the situation, she was able to list the affected areas in the region.

"On June 27, some customers in Ridgway, Gunnison, Telluride, Montrose, Delores, Ignacio, Lake City and Norwood experienced disruptions to their phone and Internet services caused by a fiber cable cut by a third-party contractor," she said in a statement on the same day. "Services were restored as of 6 p.m. on Monday, June 27 MDT. We apologize for any inconvenience this created for our customers." This particular outage began the morning of June 27.

There were also reports of Log Hill Village being down for a significant amount of time June 27. However, CenturyLink did not mention that specific area.

Silverman provided a similar comment on a similar situation that occurred Friday, June 24.

According to Silverman, the majority of services were restored by 6 p.m. on June 24.

As a result of the cable being severed, Ouray County released a notice on June 27 that 911 services were being rerouted to Delta County.

A similar situation occurred last week in Durango, also severing their 911 phone connections - A CenturyLink fiber was accidentally damaged in Cortez on June 17. Due to the damage, not all emergency calls were getting through to Durango or Archuleta County dispatch centers. Durango made the decision to route the emergency calls through Montrose to use their dispatch center.

"We ended up calling in three additional dispatchers because we were experiencing such call volumes," said Katie Yergensen, Montrose County media relations manager, regarding the Cortez cable severance. "Some pretty high stress calls came in they had to deal with."

However, that tactic would not have worked during the June 27 outage, as Montrose's lines were also down. "We experienced an outage (June 27) at the Montrose Regional Dispatch Center," said Yergensen. "I would say (we were down) about a couple hours."

In addition, several locations in Montrose went without Internet and cell phone service.

As Ouray County eventually did, Montrose rerouted their emergency calls through Delta County, which was unaffected by the particular severed fiber somewhere between Grand Junction and Delta.

"This is actually the third fiber that's been cut in the past two weeks that I'm aware of," said Yergensen. "There could be more, but this one is the only one that had directly impacted our (Montrose) services to our 911 lines."

In future situations, Yergensen said, they will follow a similar game plan for rerouting calls. "It's something we're definitely noticing and we've experienced an increase of fiber optic issues over the past few weeks," she said. "When this stuff does happen, we have emergency back-up plans in place and work to provide seamless work operations regardless."

Adding to these more recent CenturyLink operation issues, an aerial wire serving Ouray County was severed June 10. Silverman described the cut as an act of vandalism, although no local law enforcement was aware of the situation.

THE CITIZENS STATE BANK of OURAY
Your Hometown Bank Since 1913
FDIC
www.csouray.com
YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW
Ouray 970-325-4478
Ridgway 970-626-5462

Peggy Lindsey
Broker/Owner
OURAY REAL ESTATE CORPORATION
OurayRealEstateCorp.com
970-325-4663

MOUNTAIN FEVER
Shirts & Gifts
Gifts for Locals, too!
Open Daily
644 MAIN ST., OURAY
(970) 325-4408
MountainFeverShirts.com

RIVERFEST floats on

FROM P1

on their feet and dancing throughout the event. At one point, Woods even played his guitar with his mouth and tongue, inciting cheers from the crowd.

The all-day event featured many other activities, water-based and otherwise. The primary water events included races featuring stand-up paddleboards, inflatable boats, kayaks and hard shell crafts and the unique "Junk of the Unc" race. The latter had participants race down the river in handmade vessels. In addition, RiverFest featured a whitewater rodeo and a river rescue demonstration.

After the day had wrapped up and the festivities were slowing down, Chris Haaland took to the main stage to announce the winners of each event.

Winners received crafted mugs created by Deidra Krois and Kellie Day. Getting right to it, Haaland first announced the results of the stand-up paddle race.

"It seems to be the latest craze," said Haaland, up on the stage. "It looks scary to me, but there's people out there that can stand up all the way to reservoir."

Mo Hanna and Tyler VanArsdell took third and second place, respectively. Haaland's wife, Sara Ballantyne, ended up taking the gold.

"And I won a margarita from (VanArsdell) because I bet him (Ballantyne) was going to beat him," said Haaland. "In the last 10 meters, she won."

The next category announced was

the inflatables kayak contest. "This is the most difficult category of course, because I do it," said Haaland, joking. He and his daughter Emma took first place in the event. Jessica and Patrick Corrigan took second and the family of Dan, Xander, Orion and Sharon Catran took third.

Also in the inflatable family was the inner tube contest. Joe Bunavac took first, with Amanda Bunavac and Sam Jaquette taking second and third, respectively.

Ben and Spirit Lochard took first in the hard shell kayak race and James Patterson took second.

The final contest, "Junk of the Unc," was won by Matt and Jonah Hepp with their creation, "The Spoon of Doom." Willy Krois on the "Baby on Board" came in second and Weston Marlatt and Nick Houston took third on the "Cudatoo."

In addition to winning "Junk of the Unc," Jonah Hepp was designated the "toughest kid in Ridgway" for his exploits in the whitewater rodeo and volunteering for the role of victim in the river rescue demonstration.

"He had his PFD on, he faced downstream and kept his head above water," said Haaland. "We do not raise soft kids here in Ridgway."

Haaland also encouraged RiverFest attendees to start their creative engines now for next year's event.

"We'd love to see more junk boats next year, so put your imagination caps on and come up with more junk boats," he said. "We'll see you next year."



Festival-goers lounge on the banks of the Uncompahgre River.

Plainealer photo by Dalton Carver



Left: The RiverFest crowd takes to the dirt to dance to the blues tunes of Kipori "Baby Wolf" Woods.

Plainealer photo by Dalton Carver

I am ready to List and sell your home, vacant land or commercial property TODAY!

- As a resident of Ouray for 17 years, I have extensive knowledge of Ouray and surrounding areas.
- Proudly servicing the Ouray, Ridgway and Montrose Communities.
- I am a Resort and Second Home Property Specialist



Christine Kersen - Associate Broker, RSPS

Personal, Professional, Property Brokers

(970)318-1389 Cell • christinekersen5@gmail.com



214 WHITE HOUSE VISTA LN.

Beautiful home with mountain views, 5 Bedrooms/ 4.5 baths. 3473 Sq. ft. Built in 2008, 3 Car attached garage, .69 Acre lot w/ irrigation, Open floor plan with floor to ceiling windows.

\$810,000 MLS #721079



54 BLUE TIP DR.

You will love the views!! 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2347 Sq.ft., 2 Car attached garage, .68 Acres w/ irrigation, Large Living room with in your face mountain views.

\$444,555 MLS #715050



TBD CR. 14

Views that makes you feel like you are on top of the world, 10.5 claims that total almost 100 acres. Several possible building sites all with beautiful mountain, valley and water views. The remnants of 2 working mines, Great hunting property or a wonderful place to enjoy the tranquility of nature.

\$300,000 MLS #721145



500 E. Main St.
Montrose, Co 81401
(970)249-SOLD (7653)
www.the-RES.com



CHURCHES



Church of Christ

116 S. Mary & Hwy 62
Ridgway, Colorado
970-626-5526

An undenominational church in the heart of Ridgway.

It is the Word of God that unites us into One Faith. We follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and his holy Apostles. Minister: Larry Heath. Sunday worship 10:00 a.m.

GOLF COURSES



Divide Ranch & Club

151 Divide Ranch Circle
Ridgway, Colorado
970-626-5284 • www.eqresorts.com

Luxurious clubhouse facilities. Amazing menu options offered by The Clubhouse Tavern. The perfect venue for Weddings, Corporate Meetings, Celebrations, and Special Events. Planner on site. Breathtaking views. Daily Twilight Golf Specials \$49 starting at 2pm. Call (970) 626-5284 for event information or to book a tee time.

MUSEUMS



Ouray Alchemist & Pharmacy Museum

533 Main Street • Ouray
(970) 325-4003 or (970) 325-4172

Step back in time with a museum tour! Much of the collection has been acquired over the last 40 years from local sources including the historic mining towns of the San Juan mountains. Owner and collector Curtis Haggar personally brings history to life through fascinating true stories as he conducts the tour. In addition, our large gift store features art, antiques, jewelry, collectibles, cards and over-the-counter drugstore items. Check out all our 5-star reviews on Trip Advisor!

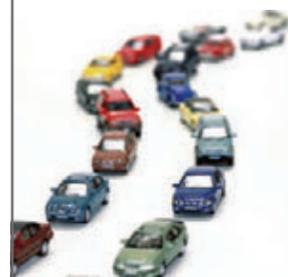
Otto Mears



wrapped his dead fish in the Plainealer... after reading it, of course!!



Sell It Fast!



In the Plainealer Classifieds