

# CSU Extension hosts annual plant sale



**Dave Gibson**  
Gilpin County

Every year at about this time, the CSU Extension and Gilpin County Master Gardeners host their annual plant sale at the Gilpin Community Center Barn, 230 Norton Drive. Gardening in the short growing season of the mountains can be difficult, fraught with unique challenges best left to those willing to overcome them through proper research and devotion. People willing to make

the effort are abundantly rewarded with vivid splashes of color on their property as well as homegrown vegetables and herbs.

It was wise to get there early for the best selection. Table loads of native plants were available that thrive in our high elevation environment. Mountain-hardy perennial wildflowers such as Colorado blue columbine, blanket flower, blue flax, black-eyed Susan, and Rocky Mountain penstemon were good options. I've had some luck with penstemon in the past so



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### Responsible gardening

Above, left; Alex Corren and Megan Shulmister got a jumpstart improving their land. Above, right; Malena Decker holds up catmint.

I purchased three of those along with two lodgepole lupines to occupy a few bare spots in my flower bed. Each customer was allowed to buy five plants or shrubs.

Jessica Kane filled her cardboard box with Rocky Mountain bee plant, blue flax, Indian blanket, and wildflower seed. Susan Sepanik had a taste for chocolate mint plant and the courage to try tomatoes. Alex Corren and Megan

Shulmister recently bought a three-quarter acre parcel of land off of Shoshoni Road and plan on building a home there next year. Even before breaking ground on the project, they will be beautifying the site with greenery from the plant sale. Their purchases included: catmint, lovage, an elderberry bush, grass and wildflower seed, and strawberries that are already bearing fruit.

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## Everybody's Reading It

Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Mahowald reading *The Mountain-Ear* in the jungle of Costa Rica.

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# Coal Creek Canyon Freedom Fest

presented by United Power

**MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022**  
7am - 3pm

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### Schedule of Events

7am - 10am	Pancake Breakfast
9am	Vendor Booths Open
9:30am	Parade Line-up
10am	Parade Begins
11am	Food Truck & Beer Garden open
11:15am	National Anthem/Flag Ceremony
11:30am	Games/Activities/Tournaments
Noon	The Rhythm Underground Band
3pm	Freedom Fest Ends

**"FAMILY, FUN AND THE 4TH"**

[www.coalcreekcanyon.org](http://www.coalcreekcanyon.org)

# Holistic Homestead Farmers Market



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### Next to the Gilpin Rec Center

Above, left; Debbie Smiley on fiddle. Above, right; Julia Ziobro and Felix Sheppard proudly display their homemade jams and jellies. Bottom, right; Aaron Skeen of Skeen Acres has found a good use for empty feed bags.

### Dave Gibson Gilpin County

On Saturday, June 11, the Holistic Homestead Farmers Market was held outdoors next to the Gilpin Rec Center at 250 Norton Drive, at the Gilpin County Fairgrounds. Hailing from a few miles away on Blue Spruce Road, Aaron Skeen was there with recycled reusable shopping bags for sale. Besides the satisfaction he gets from people enjoying his healthy food, Skeen would like nothing better than seeing people fill those bags with his fresh eggs, whole chickens, and doggie treats. To reach Aaron, email him at [info@skeenacres.com](mailto:info@skeenacres.com).

Julia Ziobro and her son Felix of Dory Dozens Delights also had farm fresh eggs for sale. On Ziobro's property in Dory Lakes, she houses 65 hens that produce a steady supply of natural goodness. All of her layers are hybrids which she has learned over the years are best suited for our mountain climate. After all, happy hens are productive hens.

Ziobro offers a wide variety of jellies and jams to spread on your toast alongside your egg breakfast. Some of the more interesting choices include: apricot pineapple sunshine jam, chokecherry jam, twin berry jalepeño jam, cucumber lime marmalade, orange wild blueberry marmalade, brandied

plum preserves, curried pineapple peach chutney, and alfalfa honey. To sample some of the delectable offerings, go to [www.dorydozensdelights.com](http://www.dorydozensdelights.com).

Alina Natynski and her company Frank and Bubby displayed heirloom-quality stuffed animals. Inspired by traditional designs, the reasonably-priced unicorns, bunnies, hippos, pigs, kitty cats, and teddy bears are cuddly works of art. Some of the critters were manufactured by Ukrainians employing a labor-intensive needle felt technique, giving the animals an old-fashioned appearance. Natynski has family in Ukraine and since the start of the war has donated five dollars from each fluffy creation sale to Ukrainian dairy farmers. In a span of three months, \$13,000 has been raised for the cause. To purchase a stuffed toy and make a donation, go to [www.frankandbubby.com](http://www.frankandbubby.com).

Irish shopping music was provided by a four-piece ensemble, The Gael.

*The Holistic Homestead is located at 972 Golden Gate Canyon Road, Black Hawk. You can find out more on their website at <https://theholistichomestead.org/> or their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/theholistichomestead>. Contact them by phone at (303) 582-3001 or email at [connect@theholistichomestead.org](mailto:connect@theholistichomestead.org)*





Parks & Recreation

29th Annual



2022  
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Friday  
Saturday  
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250 Norton Drive Black Hawk | 303.582.1453 | [gilpincounty.org](http://gilpincounty.org)



Roy's Last Shot will now offer a Thursday and Friday all-you-can eat buffet for lunch and dinner. On Saturday and Sunday the all-you-can eat buffet is available for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. All your favorites will be there. We will no longer offer our regular menu. Thanks for understanding!

Join us for food, fun, and entertainment. Halfway between Nederland & Black Hawk on the Scenic Peak to Peak Byway 17268 CO Hwy 119 Black Hawk, Colorado