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## Carousel of Happiness Summer Circus



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

**Christopher Kelley**  
Nederland

On a sunny Saturday afternoon in Nederland children and children-at-heart, gathered in Chipeta Park where clowns were painting faces, stilt walkers were giving very-high-fives, and fairies were performing magic tricks. A Big Top tent was raised, attracting folks over to the festivities, to the first ever Carousel of Happiness Summer Circus.

From noon to 9 p.m. the circus entertained people of all ages, providing various carnival games, like the classic Ring Toss, in the field around the basketball court, where young challengers can win handfuls of candy. A magician wowed participants with mystifying sleight-of-hand tricks, and a friendly clown offered amazingly intricate and colorful face-painting.

Within the central pavilion volunteers from Sweet Sue's helped run the concession stand, which served classic circus treats like popcorn, hot dogs, beer, and cotton candy. On the main field in Chipeta Park, attendees could purchase colorful streamers and

### Fun at the circus

Performers from the Circus Foundry entertained the crowds in Nederland for the First Annual Summer Circus Fundraiser for the Carousel of Happiness.

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## Party in the Peaks



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

### Celebrating seven years

Part of the team, from left to right; Casey Henrikson, Jaz Mannion, Kate Yzquierdo, and Kipp Nash. See story page 22.

### - QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

*"Circus is what real life should be like. It's sincerity, feeling, emotions. All real. There are no lies in circus. There are artists working together to give a smile. It's a world where people help one another. It's the only show where a family, everyone from children to their grandmothers, can sit together and all be entertained by the same thing." ~Princess Stephanie of Monaco*

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# Party in the Peaks at Farmers Market Festival



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

**Bringing locally grown food**

Top, left; Susan's Samosas served Sudanese delicacies. Top, middle; Chestnut and gold oyster mushrooms from Wonder Mushroom Company in Golden. Top, right; Plant Healing Woman Jay Schwartz (left) and Alex Pfeiffer sold herbal remedies. Bottom, right; Some of the offerings from ColoraDough's bakery stand. Bottom, left; Kathy Wilcox dispensing those offerings.

**Dave Gibson**  
*Nederland*

The Nederland Farmers Market began in July of 2016 when it was held at the Jeff Guercio Memorial Baseball Field. Sounding simple enough but more complicated than it might seem, their goal then as well as today is to bring fresh Colorado grown produce and food to Colorado people. Now occupying its current space on the gravel parking lot between 1st and 2nd Streets in downtown Nederland since 2020, every other Sunday locals converge on the site to stock up on fruits and vegetables.

For last Sunday, July 23, Party in the Peaks, people had lots to celebrate with peaches, apricots, and cherries from the Western Slope. Sourced from Northern Front Range growers, leafy greens, potatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, and beans were for sale. The first field grown tomatoes had arrived and oddly-shaped striped Roman tomatoes added variety from which to choose. Rishona Hatcher's mushrooms were works of art, almost too beautiful to eat. Every week it is something different depending on the season. Sweet corn will be here soon.

Also available were pork and lamb products from Buckner Family Farm in Longmont. Milk, ricotta cheese, and Greek yogurt came from Five Freedoms Dairy, Fort Collins. Natural Poultry out of Haxtun supplied the chicken eggs.

Two food trucks anchored the festival with one of them offering tasty entrees such as Florida coconut shrimp and

gyros. Susan Loriho's samosas were authentic and delicious. I recently discovered Tortilla Esmerelda's chips and green salsa and now make them one of my regular purchases. To satisfy your sweet tooth for dessert, ColoraDough's baked goods were temptingly arrayed and Bee Hugger Farm offered honey and flavored honey. To wash it all down, local producers Very Nice Brewing Company, Busey Brews, Knotted Root Brewing Company, Howlin Wind Brewing & Blending, Augustina's Winery, and Gold Dirt Distillery provided the potent potables.

Certainly unusual, but not out of the realm of possibility in a place like Nederland, a nonchalant yak with a child on its back was led through the crowd. People shopped at one of the many vendors for items such as hand-woven baskets, pottery, jewelry, original paintings, tinctures, elk antlers, and tie dye t-shirts. Banjo and guitar player Adam Pause threw a group together at the last minute comprised of local musicians. Combining the names of the bands that he and the other artists normally play with, they called themselves the Dead Fast Gilbillies. With bluegrass leanings, their music was tight as if they'd played together for years. They ended their first set with the Grateful Dead's "Big River." Next on stage was the Kind Hearted Strangers whose rendition of the Allman Brothers' "Blue Sky" from the album *Eat a Peach* was enthusiastically received.

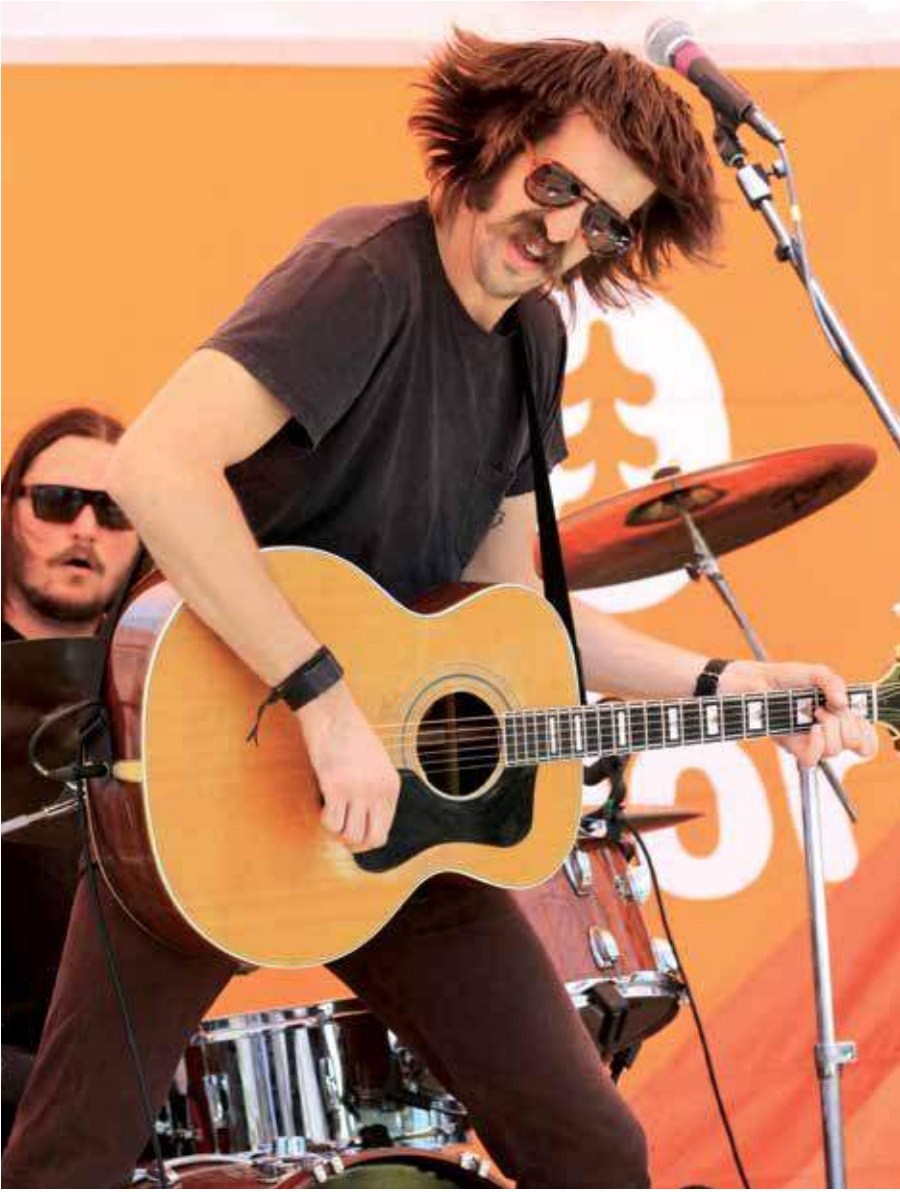
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**SUMMER HOURS:**  
**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 11-6**  
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11-7**  
**SUNDAY 11-4:30**  
**CLOSED TUESDAY**

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# Party in the Peaks at Farmers Market Festival



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

### To Colorado people

Top, left; All of the Kind Hearted Strangers went barefoot. Top, right; Chrissy Quinlan (left) and Carrie Howell promoted spirits made in Rollinsville. Middle, right; Scott Schrobilgen and LJ Werner collect their honey outside Longmont. Bottom, right; Bibamba Artisan Chocolate grows its own cacao in Cameroon for its award-winning chocolate bars made in Colorado. Bottom, middle; Sarah Dembkowski of Purple Turtle Tie Dyes. Bottom, left; Good music played throughout the festival.

### Continued from page 22

There are five more opportunities to attend the Nederland Farmers Market this year on August 6, August 20,

September 3, September 17, and on October 1 for their expanded Harvest Festival.

For more information, go to [www.nederlandfarmersmarket.org](http://www.nederlandfarmersmarket.org).

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