

Festivals abound across Peak to Peak



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY



PHOTO BY OMayRA ACEVEDO



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Music, music, music

Left: The second annual Jazz & Wine Festival delivered six hours of eclectic bands and a selection of fifteen distinct wineries on Saturday. Center: One of three bands, Seeing Stars, featured during The Great Central City Beer Festival. Right: Bridgette Law of Elephant Revival plays NedFest.

Inside this week



School Zone
see page 12 to 18



Central City Cemetery Crawl
see page 20



Levit Street Market
see page 21

The end of an era: Where's Bredo?



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Christopher Kelley
Nederland

The Mountain-Ear received an email from an anonymous source that the body of Bredo Morstoel was going to be moved on Saturday, August 26, 2023, from the Tuff Shed in Nederland, that was his home for over 30 years, to a brand new Alcor cryogenic facility in Estes Park, presumably built within The Stanley Hotel's old icehouse. An email went out at nearly 7 a.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023, that the body was being moved that morning.

A documentary crew, Nederland Mayor Billy Giblin, and "The Ice Man" Bo Shaffer, who was the first to deliver dry ice to Bredo's Tuff Shed, all arrived at the Big Springs property only to discover that the body was gone.

According to Trygve Bauge, Bredo's grandson, the body was already moved to its new home, and that the official announcement would not be made until the opening of Estes Park's cryogenic museum

And it's done

"The Ice Man" Bo Shaffer and Mayor Billy Giblin meet for the first time after realizing that Grandpa Bredo's body is not in the Tuff Shed, as was expected.

Continued on page 29

Calendars & Events - page 2 to 5, 30, 38
Movie of the Week - page 3
Peak Perspectives - page 4
Puzzles & Letters - page 6, 7, 16
Studio Tour - page 8 to 11
Dog Days of Summer - page 19
Levit Street Market - page 21

NedFest - page 22, 23
Jazz Wine Fest - page 24, 25
Denver Broncos - page 26, 27
Police & Fire - page 28, 36, 37
Government - page 30 to 35
Classifieds - page 34
Central City Beer Fest - page 40

- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent." ~Victor Hugo

NedFest Family Reunion held at Caribou Room



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON



It's a family tradition

Top, left: Polina Savich played guitar and sang. Top, right: Kids always have fun at NedFest. Bottom, right: Proper headwear is important when attending a festival. Bottom, left: Hula hooping. Middle, left: Smokin' guitarist Logan Green of Flash Mountain Flood is a longtime NedFest veteran.

Dave Gibson Nederland

During three days at the end of August from 1999 through 2018 at Jeff Guercio Memorial Ballfield, a music festival attracting up to 2,000 concertgoers was held. It was known as NedFest. Created by promoter "Michigan Mike" Torpie, over the years, it featured big name acts such as Dr. John, Los Lobos, Hot Tuna, Taj Mahal, David Grisman, Ricky Skaggs, and Ralph Stanley. Local bands or members of Leftover Salmon, String Cheese Incident, Yonder Mountain String Band, and The Motet were mainstays. After Torpie's untimely death on November 26, 2011, his friends and family decided to carry on the tradition that he poured his heart and soul into. Lasting a full 20 years, to the dismay of many, it also passed away.

Five years later, Torpie's friend and NedFest event organizer Kristen McFarland thought it would be fun to reunite some of the musicians, volunteers, and past attendees this year for a celebration of the bygone event and the close friendships that formed then. On August 26 and 27 at The Caribou Room, her vision became a reality with the NedFest Family Reunion.

Showcasing the same kind of great acts and tunes that NedFest was known for, the first day began with *The Mountain-Ear's* very own Jamie Lammers on guitar and vocals followed by Flash Mountain Flood's American roots jam band music. Kylie Brock, Smooth Money Gesture, Happy Fuzzy and Analogue, Rocket Parade, and the Blackdog Jazz Trio entertained the afternoon away as kids

Continued on page 23

NedFest Family Reunion held at Caribou Room



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Among friends

Top, left: Silas Herman wows the audience with his virtuoso mandolin playing. Top, right: Once again, proper headwear is important when attending a festival. Middle, left: Blue Garcia-Paine sings beautifully. Middle, right: Jamie Lammers was first to play. Bottom, left: Adam Pause of the No Go Gilbillies.

Continued from page 22

blew giant bubbles and hula hooped on the newly installed lawn of The Caribou Room. As if the previous bands weren't enough, from 8 to 9:30 p.m., a supergroup of notable performers was fronted by 7-time Grammy Award nominee Joan Osborne on vocals. An energized Fruition wrapped up the evening inside.

One of my favorite parts of NedFest was when local kids took the stage to begin the last day of the festival. Improving from year to year, some of them became quite good at their newfound pursuit. This year's crop showed the same potential and talent. As a finale, As a finale, Blue Garcia Paine of Nederland High School sang a beautiful rendition of "Long Long Time."

Sundays always had a more relaxed kind of bluegrass vibe. The habit continued as the No Go Gilbillies strummed and picked their way through a few Bill Monroe tunes and original numbers that banjoist Adam Pause joked someone once asked him if they were "real" songs. Their drummer was missing and rumored to have locked himself in his car. Eric Stone provided a soulful twener.

Dango Rose and Bridgette Law of Elephant Revival, Dave Johnston of Yonder String Band, Taylor Simms, and Silas Herman collaborated to a highly appreciative audience. I swear I saw sparks flying from Herman's mandolin. The Hillbenders brought it on home with more bluegrass.

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