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Music in the Mountains gears up for season 1B

DURANGO BITES
Tour takes foodies to town's hidden gems 1D

Weekend Edition THE Durango HERALD

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72nd annual Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show opens today



Cindy Pugsley, Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club president, polishes rhodonite that was collected from a mine near Silverton of which she will make a pendant. Several club members will be vendors at the 72nd annual Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show at the La Plata County Fairgrounds, which runs through Sunday.

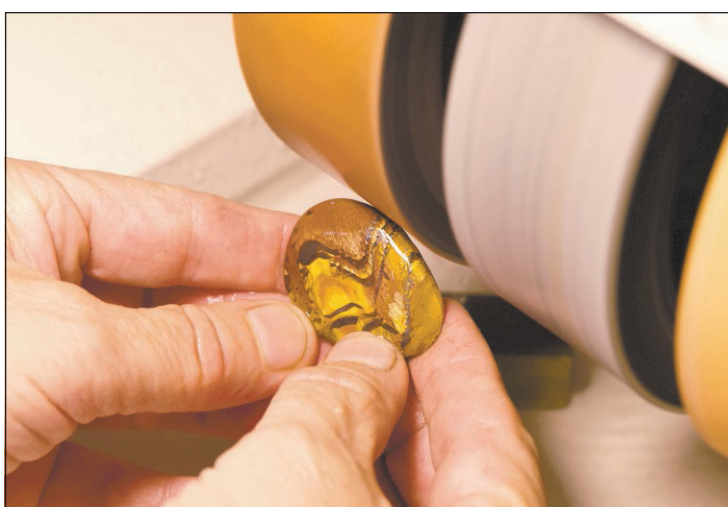
JERRY MCBRIDE/Durango Herald photos

ROCK SHOW

BY CHRISTIAN BURNEY
HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show returns to La Plata County Fairgrounds today for its 72nd weekend gathering, featuring vendors

and artists who share a love for things of the earth. The show, hosted by the Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club, will feature 65 local and international vendors showcasing jewelry, fossils, crystals, geodes and minerals,



Pugsley works on a specimen of tiger iron at the clubhouse in Durango on June 25 ahead of the Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show.

in addition to food trucks and a silent auction throughout the weekend. Four Corners Gem & Min-

eral Club President Cindy Pugsley said 15 vendors and

See **SHOW, 8A**

Gov. Polis pressed about gas spill

Western Colorado counties push for public response

BY JESSIE BOWMAN
HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Western District of Colorado Counties Inc. sent a letter to Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment on June 24 expressing concern about the 2024 Enterprise pipeline spill within the Southern Ute Indian Tribe reservation.

"We believe there is a need for improved communication and information sharing between state agencies, local governments, Tribal governments and the public," the letter said. It was cosigned by representatives from 16 Western Slope counties, including the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners.

Some have referred to the spill as the largest in Colorado history and one of the largest in the nation. Disagreement remains about the total volume released. Enterprise Products continues to estimate the spill at about 94,000 gallons, while third-party experts hired by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe place the figure closer to 200,000 gallons.

The letter says the magnitude of the spill has raised significant concerns among multiple agency, economic and resident stakeholders throughout Southwest Colorado, not just within La

See **SPILL, 8A**

In Durango, Flock-assisted arrests cost average of \$1,619

\$153,000 cost of program divided by 95 people apprehended since 2025

BY JESSIE BOWMAN
HERALD STAFF WRITER

The Durango Police Department spent an average of about \$1,619 per arrest made using the city's Flock Safety automated license plate reader system since 2025, according to the department's latest figures. The cost was calculated by dividing \$153,000, the amount the

city has invested in the ALPR program since it was launched in April 2024 – by 95, the total number of arrests since 2025. The figures were presented to City Council by Police Chief Brice Current on Tuesday, which marked DPD's second monthly Flock report. The council requested monthly reports following widespread concern and community pushback from

the public regarding the introduction of a "mass surveillance" network, as described by residents and members of DeFlock Durango. Current qualified the rough cost-per-arrest estimation as using the lowest number of arrests Flock cameras were involved with. He also cited research from the RAND Corporation estimating that the average societal cost of a motor vehicle theft is about \$9,500 and the average cost of a traffic crash is about \$8,200 to demonstrate the cost-value of

the investment. The majority of arrest types were warrants, 33% of the total. The next most frequent arrest type was for stolen vehicles, 15% of total arrests, and the third was hit and runs, which composed 9% of all arrests. The next five types of arrests made, in order of decreasing frequency, were: traffic offenses, shoplifting, theft, accidents, and reckless driving. The rest of Current's presentation focused on data collected during the month of May. Six hundred ninety-six au-

tomated license plate reader searches were made through the Flock system in May and were associated with 85 unique law enforcement cases. Every ALPR search conducted by an officer is expected to include a case number, per DPD's policy. Those without are subject to an audit, Current said. The department does not automatically track how many searches are later flagged for missing case numbers. One council member asked

See **FLOCK, 8A**

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