



July 2025

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Arseniy Merkuchev

Building Maintenance Technician 3

Building Maintenance/Services

Arseniy had been working to repair a faulty pizza oven at Sawmill Taphouse. Just before Courage Classic, the chef reached out to let us know that it would be a very busy evening in the restaurant and asked if there was anything we could do to expedite the repair. Although Arseniy was waiting for parts to continue troubleshooting a recurring error code, he was able to get the oven working temporarily and taught the staff how to safely acknowledge the error code and reset the unit, allowing them full capacity pizza baking for their busy night.

Arseniy's creative solution demonstrated his Entrepreneurial approach to his work. His quick response and commitment to support the F&B team's need showed he embraces Copper's Values of Enduring, Responsible, and Teamwork as well. We're fortunate to have Arseniy and his skills as part of the Building Maintenance team. We appreciate you, Arseniy! Nice job.

NOMINATED BY: Justin DeSola



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Alex Bustillo

Building Superintendent

Property Management

Alex has been a key member of the Mountain Plaza and Property Management Team. His dedication, drive, and commitment to excellence have allowed him to exceed expectations in every aspect of his role. By completing his Certified Pool Operator (CPO) course and actively developing his trade skills, Alex has demonstrated a strong commitment to both personal and professional growth. His eagerness to take on new challenges and continually expand his knowledge highlights his desire to grow within the department. We sincerely thank Alex for his outstanding contributions and hard work.

NOMINATED BY: Tony Taylor



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Lindsey Kuligowski

Employee Housing Manager

Employee Housing

When you look at the job description for Employee Housing Manager - nowhere does it state that this position is responsible for coming up with imaginative and creative ideas for employee celebrations/events -but Lindsey has taken that 'all other duties as assigned' role very seriously. Lindsey is our chief creative mind for all of our recent employee celebrations/events including the holiday party and our most recent summer kick-off. When we talked about mixing up the event this year to do something different - Lindsey took that and ran with it. Fast forward to an amazing event with huge inflatable obstacle courses and games, photo booths, delicious food, DJ and great giveaways. Lindsey goes above and beyond in anything she does and she truly takes ownership with the employee experience. Please see some attached pics of this amazing event. Thank you Lindsey for using your passion for our employees to take our employee events to the next level!



NOMINATED BY: Kelly Renoux



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Eric Bankston

Security Supervisor

Security

Eric is one of our quiet, but effective leaders behind the scenes who deals with some of the most difficult situations with professionalism and integrity. Whether it is after-hours guest/employee issues, coordinating with the fire department on alarms/issues, thefts, lock-outs, wildlife wandering into common spaces, or any number of random issues - Eric is there and leads his team with a calm demeanor and effective action. I so appreciate his willingness to jump in, no matter what the issue is and make sure that Copper is safe and in good hands. Thank you Eric for your leadership during the recent evacuations at the Front Desk/Athletic Club!

NOMINATED BY: Kelly Renoux



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Trent Hillier

Security Supervisor

Security

In the past month Trent and members of the Security team have herded moose, caught bats, birds and squirrels and dealt with all the normal craziness of doing security work in the summer in the High Rockies. But Trent really shines when we have serious security incidents. In July we had an incident that required coordination with the Summit County Sheriff's Office, paramedics and multiple internal departments at Copper. During the entire situation Trent was professional, efficient and had a high level of communication with everyone involved. Trent's attention to detail, swift action, and leadership have been a huge benefit to us here at Copper. In order to prepare for these significant situations - Trent and the leadership team have invested a significant amount of time into creating SOP's, conducting training and fostering relationships with our local first responders. Thank you Trent for your handling of this sensitive situation this past month and for all you do to keep Copper safe!

NOMINATED BY: Kelly Renoux



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Teagan Fox

F&B Crewmember

Aerie

Teagan is a returning employee to the Aerie, who held her first job with us last summer. As a high school student, she is eager to make some money while school is not in session. I can say that she is "earning her keep" by demonstrating entrepreneurial work ethic at the restaurant. It is normally slow in the mornings, so she will find extra cleaning tasks to complete and stay busy until guests arrive. I often see her wiping down tables in the dining room and taking laps around the outside patios to look for any extra dishes or trash. She is one of the better employees at bussing also; by taking dirty tubs to the dishwasher in a timely manner so they can get a head start on cleaning and not wait until the end of the day to do everything at once. I really appreciate the dedication and responsibility that Teagan brings to work with her and setting an example for other employees.

NOMINATED BY: Ryan Putnam



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Cole Weiler

F&B Crewmember

Aerie

Cole is new to the Aerie but has worked in F&B at the resort the previous two winter seasons. His extensive knowledge of warehouse operations makes him a valuable asset for our team this summer. His value of enduring is very evident by making sure tasks that are started get completed. This week especially, Cole has gone above and beyond by picking up extra hours in the warehouse to assist with early morning deliveries before he comes to fulfill his regular job duties at Aerie all day. Despite working long hours and helping facilitate things in both the base and on top of the mountain, Cole keeps a warm and soulful attitude with guests and coworkers. He is always polite and communicative, and I know I can count on him to get things done when needed. Thanks, Cole, for being a great addition to our team this summer!

NOMINATED BY: Ryan Putnam



July
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Deborah McMichael

F&B AP/Systems Specialist

F&B Admin

Since joining our team last November, Debbie has played a key role in enhancing the efficiency of our accounts payable processes within the Food & Beverage department. Her strong attention to detail, effective communication with vendors, and deep understanding of food and beverage operations have significantly supported our progress in managing invoicing and cost of sales.

As we begin the transition to a new inventory management system, we are especially grateful to have Debbie's expertise guiding us through the change. Her involvement will undoubtedly help ensure a smooth and successful implementation for our F&B team.

NOMINATED BY: Greg Neumann



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Leesa Harris

Beverage Cart Attendant

Grand Hall Market and JJs Tavern

Leesa consistently goes above and beyond her job responsibilities. Whether she's stepping off the beverage cart to assist us inside JJ's during busy times, ensuring every golf guest feels genuinely cared for, or volunteering to work extra shifts on her days off to keep our operation running smoothly—her dedication never goes unnoticed. We truly don't know what we'd do without her! Leesa's positive attitude is infectious and makes a meaningful impact on our team. Working with her is not only a pleasure but a privilege.

NOMINATED BY: Valerie Michalak & Tim Apple



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Sarah Schulte

Server - JJ's

Grand Hall Market and JJs Tavern

Sarah joined our team this summer at JJ's and she has quickly become an invaluable asset. She approaches her role with dedication and professionalism, and it's clear she genuinely cares about JJ's overall success. Even during our busiest shifts, Sarah maintains a consistently positive attitude that lifts team morale. Her sense of humor adds a fun and refreshing energy to the workplace, helping us all stay motivated. We're absolutely thrilled she chose to spend her summer with us!

NOMINATED BY: Valerie Michalak & Tim Apple



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Josh Wilton

Advanced Cook

Sawmill Pizzeria

Josh truly exhibits our core value of teamwork; during a medical emergency this past month - Josh jumped in to assist a community member and performed CPR until paramedics were able to arrive. While this is obviously not in his job description as an Advanced Cook - he jumped in and helped in any way that he could. This selflessness of being available to help others around you and quick thinking are so appreciated. Thank you Josh for being a good Samaritan and assisting as a first responder!

NOMINATED BY: Kelly Renoux



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Hunter Burns

Central Reservations Supervisor

Central Reservations

While Hunter has been in her current role as a Supervisor for a little over a year, she has been with Copper for several years, in multiple departments, and her knowledge is invaluable. When she stepped into the supervisor role she successfully embraced everything that has been thrown her way. She has taken charge of some of the "back of the house" items with her role in our Systems & Inventory line of business, but she is always willing to help out wherever it is needed. Recently, she has been assisting not only with answering calls and selling our products, she has also been helping out by filling in the gaps with other lines of business when needed, while ensuring that everything within Cen Res is running smoothly. Hunter is a great asset to our team, and Copper as a whole.

NOMINATED BY: Katie Llewellyn



July
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Eloy Mascarenas

Condo Maintenance Foreperson

Condo Maintenance and Housekeeping

Thank you, Eloy, for once again demonstrating what the definition of TEAMWORK MEANS!

Teamwork in the workplace refers to a collaborative effort where a group of employees work together, utilizing their individual skills and strengths, to achieve a shared goal or objective within an organization, often involving open communication, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for the outcome. Two playmakers in our CM department that are continuously working together defining what teamwork means are Eloy and Jarrett.

This was most evident this past week when we had an ALICE ticket for a ceiling light out in one of our Union Creek Townhomes. No big deal, right? You would think this would be an easy-peasy task for an experienced CM tech, but when Eloy assessed the situation, he realized the light was in the vaulted ceiling more than 20ft high and to complicate matters more, it was above the stairs. Eloy returned to the shop to see what type of ladders we had available that would work for this task. Due to safety concerns, he enlisted another coworker to help with this task. They grabbed the largest ladder we had available and headed to the condo. Once at the unit, they realized they would need to build a platform for the ladder to stand properly on the steps. They headed back to the shop and built a platform. Once they had this essential tool, they were ready to tackle this courageous task 20ft in the air. Due to their teamwork and ingenuity, they were able to complete the task of changing out several light bulbs safely. Their mission was accomplished!

I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize the incredible teamwork you have demonstrated. Your ability to collaborate with others, share ideas, and troubleshoot with your colleagues has had a noticeable impact on the team's success.

Thank you for embodying the spirit of collaboration and for being such a vital part of the Lodging Division. We are lucky to have someone as dedicated and inspiring as you. YOU ROCK!

NOMINATED BY: Sandi Siebenthal



July

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David Tornow

Front Desk Supervisor

Front Desk

On July 27th, the Athletic Club had a sick call and no one was able to make it in to cover the evening shift. Dave stepped up and took over the Athletic Club desk with no training, checking in members and employees, selling day passes and retail and selling Summer Activity passes. He was able to keep the gym open for our employees and members and did it with a smile on his face the entire time. Thank you for stepping in and helping out in another department Dave!

NOMINATED BY: Colleen Ward



July
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Brenda Troyo

Resort Services Supervisor

Guest Services and Guest Experience

Brenda Troyo has truly exemplified the Playmaker title this year, but specifically, this month. Each summer, Climax Mines visits our lovely resort to enjoy all the activities we have to offer. Brenda was ready to take the lead on the guest service side of this group, working with multiple departments to ensure Climax had a fun day at our mountain. From start to finish, Brenda was ready and able to facilitate all the guest service needs for this group, even going as far as to be present at the check-in table to ensure each guest had an understanding of the activities and any other questions this group might have had. She has shown incredible growth over the past year, and we are so glad that she is part of our Center Village Guest Service team.

NOMINATED BY: Julia Vara



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Mike Scelsi

Electrical Maintenance Lift Journeyman

Lift Maintenance

The Forage & Feast dining room at Aerie had a problem with the lighting control system and one of the chandeliers wasn't working. Building Maintenance had calls out to the company who installed the system but response was slow and a wedding event was coming up quick. Mike was able to get on with technical support to work through the issue in time to get lights on for the event. He implemented a temporary fix and ordered parts for the repair and backstock. This was a complex issue but he got it done.

Mike demonstrated Copper's Value of 'Entrepreneurial' by leveraging his skills and experience with only over-the-phone support. He also showed his commitment to the values 'Enduring', 'Responsible', and 'Teamwork' by working closely with and supporting both Food & Beverage and Building Maintenance.

Thank you, Mike! Great repair, great timing, and fantastic team play.

NOMINATED BY: Justin DeSola



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David Hock

Bike Patrol

Ski Patrol

David has been a full-time ski patroller for three years, and this summer he joined the Copper Bike Patrol team. From Day 1, he's brought a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, and a strong work ethic to every shift. It's never easy stepping into a new seasonal role—different tools, different trails, and a whole lot less snow—but David has absolutely thrived

Whether it's opening trails, fixing signs, handling guest interactions, or hopping on a side-by-side at a moment's notice, David jumps in with a smile and a "let's get it done" mindset. He asks smart questions, learns fast, and genuinely wants to get better at every aspect of the job. He's quick to problem-solve and often suggests smart, thoughtful solutions that make daily operations smoother.

David is dependable, humble, and always looking out for the team. He's brought his winter professionalism into summer and is helping elevate the whole crew in the process. I am glad to have him on the team and excited to continue working with him in the future.

NOMINATED BY: Margaret Chavez



July
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Kevin Chu

Transportation Foreperson

Transportation

This summer as the department prepares for fall training of our new drivers, Kevin has put in exceptional efforts to make things better. His dedication and determination have truly gone above and beyond, contributing immensely to our readiness. Kevin has worked tirelessly to overhaul the training schedules that we use every day. His revisions have resulted in charts that are not only more user-friendly but also clearer and easier to understand. This improvement will undoubtedly enhance the training experience for everyone involved. Kevin's commitment and hard work, show his dedication to our team's success. Thank you for Kevin for all your help and effort you put into this project.

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July
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Kevin Cleek

Shuttle Driver

Transportation

Kevin's enthusiasm for engaging coworkers in after-work activities this summer has truly made a difference. His efforts in organizing team outings and encouraging everyone to participate not only boosted our team's spirit but also has helped us build stronger connections with one another. It's these moments spent outside the bus seat that create a sense of camaraderie, making our work environment much more enjoyable and collaborative. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to making our team feel valued and connected. Keep up the fantastic work! We are looking forward to our next team outing and having everyone come together as a result of your efforts.

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July
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Ralph Knowlton

Transportation Foreperson

Transportation

Ralph has put incredible effort into repairing and replacing the body parts, lights, windows, decals and panels on the buses. His dedication and hard work have been instrumental in ensuring that the fleet is looking its best for the upcoming season. Ralph has consistently gone above and beyond, investing countless hours into this critical task. His attention to detail and commitment to excellence not only enhances the appearance of our buses but also instills confidence in our drivers and passengers regarding their safety and comfort. His work embodies the spirit of teamwork and dedication that we value so highly in our department. Thank you Ralph for your contributions and hard work. I believe this effort will certainly pay off as we prepare for a successful World Cup season ahead.

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July
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Wyatt Lyman

Bus Cleaning Specialist

Transportation

Wyatt has been dedicated to cleaning our buses during the summer months for the last two years. This year, he expressed a desire to expand his horizons and contribute even more to our team other than have to clean a bus all day. With his newfound enthusiasm, Wyatt has taken on additional responsibilities like painting bus parts, installing new heaters, and repairing the flooring. His initiative and willingness to learn new skills not only enhances our fleet's appearance but also improves the overall comfort and safety of our vehicles for everyone. We appreciate his hard work and commitment to helping the team succeed. We continue to support Wyatt as he grows in these new roles and helps build a stronger, more resourceful team. Thanks for all your hard work and commitment to the team.

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July
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Jorel Martinez

Shuttle Driver

Transportation

Jorel's incredible teamwork and support has helped in our transportation department during this busy cleaning period. As several drivers were encountering difficulties with their buses, particularly when tackling some tricky parts during the cleaning process, Jorel stepped in without hesitation to lend a hand. His willingness to assist his other team mates not only eased their burden but also reinforced the notion that we are always stronger together. Jorel's kindness and collaboration not only uplifted our teams spirit but also ensure our operations run seamlessly. His continue support to other drivers and his strive for excellence in every facet of his job does not go unseen. We appreciate Jorel's hard work and dedication to keeping our vehicles in top shape! It's moments like these that truly showcase his commitment to one another and the team. Keep up the amazing work!

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July
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Caleb Norton

Shuttle Driver

Transportation

On Sunday July 6 while Caleb was driving around in circles on Copper Loop, he noticed some not so nice graffiti. Caleb displayed remarkable initiative and commitment by taking the time to clean the graffiti off trash cans, electrical boxes, and signs within the area. His dedication not only improved the aesthetic appeal of our surroundings but also cultivated a sense of pride in our resort.

Caleb's efforts went beyond mere aesthetics they demonstrated a profound respect for our environment and an understanding of the impact our surroundings have on both visitors and local residents. By tackling this issue head-on, he not only worked to beautify the area for everyone passing by but also set a shining example of how one individual's action can inspire positive change within our resort. Thank you, Caleb, for seeing a problem and taking the time to fix it.

NOMINATED BY: John Gillespie



July

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Andrew Gausepohl

Lift Operator

Lift Operations

I would like to nominate Andrew Gausepohl and Luke Wilson for their assistance during a recent wedding at the Aerie. When the group arrived with an unexpected amount of décor, they jumped in without hesitation to help load the gondola cabins efficiently and carefully. I have never had a wedding pull up with a box truck full décor! Their positive attitude, kindness, and willingness to go above and beyond made a stressful situation much smoother. Their help really made a difference and was greatly appreciated by both me and the wedding party!

NOMINATED BY: Katie Weyant



July
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Shawn Lindquist

Crew Leader

Lift Operations

Shawn has done very well taking over as lead for the go karts. He helped me open the activity smoothly and puts effort into making his workplace better and more functional everyday. It's abundantly evident that he gives a hoot about his job and his responsibilities. Recently Shawn had to deal with some disgruntled customers whom he'd ejected from his activity for unsafe conduct. He remained professional yet firm when speaking to them as he did his best to prevent further escalation. He demonstrates effective leadership and excellent guest service everyday. On another occasion we had two small kids who were not tall enough to drive a go kart themselves and did not have enough adults in their group to drive with. Shawn was happy to jump in a cart and drive one of the kids around so they could race with the rest of their family. Thank you, Shawn.

NOMINATED BY: Joe Cahill



July
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Luke Wilson

Lift Operator

Lift Operations

I would like to nominate Andrew Gausepohl and Luke Wilson for their assistance during a recent wedding at the Aerie. When the group arrived with an unexpected amount of décor, they jumped in without hesitation to help load the gondola cabins efficiently and carefully. I have never had a wedding pull up with a box truck full décor! Their positive attitude, kindness, and willingness to go above and beyond made a stressful situation much smoother. Their help really made a difference and was greatly appreciated by both me and the wedding party!

NOMINATED BY: Katie Weyant



July

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Macey Darr

Woodward Camp Coach Supervisor

Woodward Copper

Copper Mt. and Woodward go together like peanut butter & jelly OR snow & good times! This partnership and commitment to excellence is built on people who strive to be their best for the rest, so the Transpo Dept would like to nominate Macey for being one such person - a Playmaker! Among Macey's responsibilities with the campers, she communicates and works with our drivers in making the best coordinated effort for both teams. Whether it is bus staging, preparation for weather, or the ability to work on our off-mountain duties - Macey's leadership has been noticed by our drivers. We appreciate her positive attitude, support, and thoughtfulness in making this a great summer, even for the grease monkey chauffeurs like us!

NOMINATED BY: Kevin Chu