

Mike McKibbin
Lakewood, CO
mikewordsmith@outlook.com
720-507-3576

MikeMcKibbin.com
[linkedin.com/in/mikemckibbin](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mikemckibbin)
[facebook.com/mike.mckibbin1](https://www.facebook.com/mike.mckibbin1)

JOURNALIST, WRITER, EDITOR

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Consistently recognized as a prolific writer with a flair for identifying, researching and producing interesting and meaningful stories and content. Exceptionally strong editing skills and effective headline writing. An allergy to typos, grammatical mistakes, stylistic and factual inconsistencies. Deadline-driven, detail-oriented. Produce quality stories remotely, independently and in teams. Ability to maintain, augment and improve online presence. Exceptional communication, online research and social media skills. Known for adaptability, resourcefulness and innovative problem-solving.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- **Writing & Editing:** Engaging and creative storyteller with a dedication to accuracy and journalistic integrity. Strong editing, proofreading and fact-checking skills. Specialties include features and human interest, environment/natural resources, business, politics/government, breaking news. Extensive familiarity with Associated Press style.
- **Technical Profile:** Proficient in Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop/InDesign/InCopy), WordPress Content Management System, Microsoft Office (Word/Excel/Outlook/ PowerPoint), Social Media, PCs and Macs.
- **People Skills:** Gifted communicator with proven ability to form lasting relationships with — and gain the trust of — colleagues, clients and story subjects. Strong interpersonal and community-building skills.
- **Operational Profile:** Exceptional planning, organization and prioritization skills to ensure smooth and efficient processes.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Colorado Press Association first-place awards for Business News Story, Education Story, Series, Environmental Story, Serious Column Writing (2013).
- Associated Press second-place award for Environmental Story (2004-05).
- Nine-day energy and environment fellowship, Institute for Journalism & Natural Resources (2006).
- Fellowship, Council for Advancement & Support of Education conference (2010).

CAREER EXPERIENCE

Independent Journalist | Lakewood, CO | August 2014—Present

- Produce client-assigned online and print articles including feature stories, news briefs and photos.
- Research, write and edit news releases.
- Created website content for Colorado Mountain College's Marketing Department to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary.

NewsBreak | Denver, CO | February 2022—August 2023

- Produced and posted daily online Colorado local government news stories.

Reporter | The Colorado Statesman | Denver, CO | August 2016—June 2017

- Researched, photographed and wrote stories on the political climate, policy decisions and events at national, state and Denver levels, including Denver City Council and district attorney.
- Followed up on news releases and legislation from Congressional delegation for stories related to their actions and national political issues.
- Produced in-depth features on Congressional issues, increased activism, political divisions, local government committee meetings, among others.

Editor | The Citizen Telegram | Rifle, CO | April 2012-August 2014 & February 2008-April 2009

- Initiated, wrote and edited story and photo assignments on local news and events, government meetings and human-interest features.
- Consistently attracted new subscribers and maintained a strong reader base with focused stories and content to align with community values and interests.
- Developed content management system procedures to consistently beat deadlines so management could add new commercial press printing jobs that increased revenue.
- Planned and executed annual holiday season promotional event to drive community engagement and increase local business revenue.

Public Information Editor | Colorado Mountain College | Glenwood Springs, CO | June 2009-April 2012

- Promoted 11 community college campuses through research and writing feature stories, news briefs, opinion columns and calendar events.
- Produced and formatted photographs to pair with feature stories.
- Collaborated with campus leaders on public relations campaigns that promoted educational programs and achievements.
- Recognized for role in arranging news coverage of a ceremony to recognize CMC as the first Colorado community college to offer bachelor's degrees.

Bureau Reporter | The Daily Sentinel | Grand Junction, CO | November 2000-February 2008

- Traveled across Northwest Colorado to investigate and report on breaking news, weather- and wildfire-related events, land management issues, natural gas development.
- Produced regional news stories focused on environment/natural resources, business, politics, local government, court and crime coverage, community and human-interest features.

EDUCATION**University of Northern Colorado | Greeley, CO**

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, broadcasting minor
