Gmail Judy Brannberg <judy.brannberg@gmail.com>

Aviation in Rifle, CO

1 message

Jim Hybarger <flynfishing@gmail.com> Thu, Oct 29, 2026 at 12:01 PM
To: Judy.brannberg@gmail.com

Dear Mrs Brannberg,
Per our discussion I would like to express my great admiration for the project you're anticipating in my home town of Rifle, CO.
I grew up in Rifle, started pursuing my dream of flying at age 14, learning from two former WASP pilots, Betty Clark and Pat Sullivan both were wonderful people and both are now in the Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame and the Federal Aviation Hall of Fame.
I have held FAA Instructors ratings for single engine, multi engine, and instrument ratings.
I still hold ATP , and Airframe and Powerplant certifications. Having held Inspection Authorization certification for over 25 years.
I helped design and build the Rifle Jet Center with Andrew Doremus at its inception. I also managed same for numerous years.
I fought forest fires in PB4Y-2, and KC-97 aircraft.
More recently I have just retired from Airborne Resources in Denison , Texas after roughly 10 years of hands on piloting in Convair 340 and lead maintenance on Grob 520 and various other turbine and reciprocating engine aircraft.
We were very much responsible for the successful missions sponsored by Airbus, the Perlan Project and Blue Condor.
For which we were awarded the Collier Award, and SAE Award for sustainable aviation.
In the Perlan Project we set tow altitude records for altitude of 46,700 ft and the gliders went on up to set 3 records over 76,000 feet.
Also we worked extensively with the US military and Raytheon in their pursuits .
My point is that I am living proof that even a farm boy from Rifle, CO can make a difference and I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to help work with you to establish this greatly needed goal for our young entrepreneurs.
Thank you and good luck.

Sent from my iPhone