

Larkspur Sentinel

Serving Perry Park, Larkspur, and the surrounding community

September 2022

Recalculating Route. . .

How many times have we heard that from the gps in our car as we divert from the route it has "planned" for us. I have been spending a LOT of time in the car recently, and found myself thinking about this as it relates to life. . . especially this time of year. How often do we "recalculate route" in our lives? It's back to school time - families have enjoyed the schedule freedom of summer, and now the schedule has changed. . . recalculating route. Then the kids get colds, and stay home. . . recalculating route. Grown daughter has major injury and needs frequent help. . . recalculating route. Daughter needs 2nd surgery, and it's delayed. . . recalculating route. Change Friday night plans to attend Music in the Park. . . recalculating route. Actually, it seems to happen frequently in our quickly changing world. And while many route changes are for difficult reasons, they can happen for happy reasons as well! Weddings are planned, children are born, athletic teams are joined, volunteer opportunities are accepted. . . recalculating route time and again. It can be challenging, even jarring to have our lives change course in the middle of what we have planned.

What's the lesson here? In today's world we need to be nimble! And for the big changes, we may need a bit of extra time to acknowledge the loss of where we thought we were headed. We need to accept change in the moment. And we need to recognize that everyone's route is being changed. . .the old "we don't really know what is going on in someone's life, so give them some extra _____!

That's right. . .kindness! You knew I'd get there.

We have some great articles this month - some new folks contributing which is always appreciated! If you have an idea for an article for the Sentinel, please send me an email.

Have a great September - warm days, cool evenings!! So lovely!

Please, be kind,

Margot Patterson Editor larkspursentinel@gmail.com



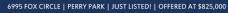


Broker / Owner - RE/MAX Alliance - 7437 Village Square Drive, Suite 105, Castle Pines, CO 80108 720.988.4058 | eowens@remax.net | www.ElizabethOwens.net



4646 DELAWARE DRIVE | PERRY PARK | SOLD! \$1,570,000







7980 SHOSHONE PLACE | PERRY PARK | JUST LISTED! | OFFERED AT \$1,300,000







6616 WAUCONDA DRIVE | PERRY PARK | PENDING! OFFERED AT \$875,000

ELIZABETH OWENS has a reputation centered on residential, high-end and acreage properties in Larkspur, Castle Rock and throughout Douglas County. For the past 18+ years, Elizabeth and her team, the Elite Group, have been providing Top-of-the-Line Service with Bottom-Line Results to both Buyers and Sellers. Elizabeth Owens is a Master Certified Negotiation Expert, Certified Residential Specialist, Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist and is a graduate of the Realtor Institute. Elizabeth Owens is a Broker/Owner at RE/MAX Alliance in Castle Pines. View the virtual tours for these homes and all Elizabeth's listings at ElizabethOwens.net







Monthly Mixer **SPECIAL DATE & TIME***

September 12, 2022 (Monday) @5:30 pm

Location: TBD - check the website larkspurchamberofcommerce.com or Facebook @ LarkspurChamberofCommerce

The last Larkspur Music in The Park was held August 26 featuring Lookin' Back presented by Crooked Willow Farms, Colorado Community Banks and Red Leaf Solutions, The Town of Larkspur & Larkspur Chamber of Commerce at the Larkspur Community Park. Be sure to join us again next summer for these popular events!

The Chamber needs your help! The president and vice president positions are up for election again this year (December 2022) so if anyone is interested in learning more, please contact info@larkspurchamberofcommerce.info each position is a two-year position.

Larkspur Garage Sale Re-cap

Over 500-\$1k sold in many of the sales and overall great feedback from both sellers and buyers (which room for improvement, of course!). We do hope to continue this tradition and bring it back next year. A special thank you to our sponsors Elizabeth Owens, Dave Gardner, Bonnie Schwam, and The Organized Flamingo and to our committee: Mary Sue Brown, Seth Smith, Melony Yousey, and Kerri Schneider. If anyone is interested in being a volunteer next year, to send me a message theory. theorganizedflamingo@gmail.com

Larkspur Free Library

9524 Spruce Mountain Road
Wednesdays: 1:00pm - 6:00pm and Saturdays: 10:00am - 3:00pm
Questions, call Cyndi Cramer at 303-681-3046



Larkspur Blanket Brigade

Meets at the Perry Park Country Club 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month

Blankets are donated to anyone experiencing trauma, loss, adversity, or illness.

Volunteers for sewing or tying and any donated materials are welcome!

For more info - Cindy Hotaling at cjaspsjr@yahoo.com



NEWS FROM THE WATER DISTRICT

by Brian Arthurs

"Anything else you're interested in is not going to happen if you can't breathe the air and drink the water. Don't sit this one out. Do something. You are by accident of fate alive at an absolutely critical moment in the history of our planet". — Carl Sagan



Facts about water:

- Two-thirds of the world's population is projected to face water scarcity by 2025, according to the United Nations.
- In Europe, cargo ships have had to reduce their loads due to critically low levels of the Rhine.
- The Yangtze, the longest river in Asia, reached its lowest level on record for August,
- The two largest reservoirs along the Colorado River—Lake Powell and Lake Mead—dropped to their lowest levels in history.

See quote by Mr. Sagan above.

The Board met for the regular meeting on August 15, 2022 at 2:00pm. Minutes of the June 15, and July 20 regular meetings were reviewed and approved. Disbursements of \$400,537.50 were presented, reviewed, discussed, and approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed the District's Monthly Staff and systems reports. Detailed information to all questions and other inquiries were brought forward and resolved.

A District customer inquired about water inflow line maintenance and filtering options. Will Parker, District Systems Manager, will help resolve this matter.

GMS, Inc., the District's engineering firm, provided an update to construction in progress and summaries of future projects that are considered critical for efficient operations.

Next to present were representatives of D.A. Davidson to provide funding options for capital improvements necessary for ongoing projects including the renovation of the Wauconda and Sageport Wastewater Treatment Plants. In addition, projects to increase the capacity of the water treatment plant, replacement of the Dakota well, and other projects were included as critical improvements, according to the District's engineering firm. Examples for ten to twenty million dollars of funding were presented to the Board.

A representative of Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. summarized their progress on the Water and Wastewater Financial Plan and Rate Study which the District had requested. Raftelis stated these plans would be completed judiciously, and the District confirmed that this information is critical for the study and discussion of the data.

The Board decided a special session would be necessary when the results of these studies are complete.

The Board appointed a committee to put a plan in motion to identify and search for a part-time employee to assist the District Director in matters deemed necessary for continued efficient operation of the District office.

There being no further board member discussions nor audience participation, the meeting was adjourned. Further information is available on the District website, www.ppwsd.org.



Perry Park Metropolitan District

The Special District For Perry Park Ranch

Good News from the PPMD!

This month we have posted our first online survey to gather public comments on recent topics and budgetary items. Please complete this survey at https://forms.office.com/r/zXkwwHHEYL (or follow the link on https://perrypark.org Datest News). We have seen public involvement increasing at board meetings and in online forums which is very helpful in managing the district.

For those Perry Park residents who have been asking for access to the Upper Cheyenne area of the neighborhood, we're happy to report that residents will soon be able to access this area again. Watch for communications on the updated access policy for all residents - not just lot owners.

In August, the Bear Ridge subdivision was approved for inclusion into the PPMD. These new lot developments will be along Comanche Drive and along Mohawk Drive. The developer, Brett Patrick, confirmed that there will be some gated road entrances to this community. Douglas County oversees development of this property.

While we await the next slash pickup cycle in October, you can continue to bring your slash to Douglas County's free slash-mulch site in Castle Rock - see https://www.douglas.co.us/public-works/slash-mulch-program/ for more information.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for September 8th at 6pm at the Perry Park Country Club. You can see the meeting schedule and documents, as well as other neighborhood information and contact forms, at https://www.perrypark.org - Zoom and in-person attendance are available options making it convenient for you to participate.

Have a great September!

Steve Ostrowski
Director & Secretary, PPMD

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perryparkmetro & https://nextdoor.com/g/6vaja7i6t/





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13084 Deer Ridge Way - Woodmoor Mountain Enjoy this Custom 4,581 SF Ranch Style Home with Unfinished walkout basement, 3 beds, 3 baths, located on 4.3--acre lot. Only minutes from I-25. Tremendous Mountain Top View!



8281 Inca Road - Perry Park Custom Two-Story Home has 4,099 Total Sq. Feet and features a Main-Floor Master Suite, Located on a 1-acre lot in pristine Rocky Mountain Pine Forest with Spectacular Mountain view!



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Spacious Ranch-Style Home with Finished Walkout Basement, Backs to Open Space, In-Home Theatre, Wine Tasting Room, 4,572 total Sq. Feet, Covered Patio with outdoor Kitchen.



1876 Mountain Ranch Rd. - Woodmoor Mountain Rare Offering-this 2,305 Sq. Foot Home features 4 beds/3 Baths on 4.055-Acres located at the base of Woodmoor Mountain. Incredible Colorado Mountain Views!



6301 Perry Park Blvd. #20 - Perry Park Super Rare 3-Bdrm 3-Bath Ranch-Style Townhouse (end unit) with Finished Walkout Level overlooks the Perry Park Golf Course and Lake Wauconda. What a view!!



In 2021 Dave Sold MORE Larkspur Area Properties than any other Agent! Call us to find out why more people are choosing the Results Team!

303-681-1000 www.HomesInLarkspurCO.com





St. Philip in the Field Church - Celebrates 150th Anniversary by Dakota Hoyt

Going north on Hwy 105, just before you reach Wolfensberger Road, if you look to the west, you will find a rare beauty, St. Philip of the Field Church. This lovely, well-kept, white frame church has stood for 150 years. It is surrounded by Bear Cañon Cemetery, where generations of West Plum Creek families have been buried. The beginning of this historic little church tells a fascinating story that is still a matter of record and is an important part of the fokelore of Douglas County.

Originally there was a little log building just north of the present church that served as a school, church, and community meeting place. In the years of 1869 to 1871, the pioneer families felt a need of some kind of church and began to plan to build. Mr. Newton S. Grout was hired to build the church. He modeled it after a church that he had attended as a boy when he lived in Maine. It was built over the period of two months in 1872 – four years before Colorado became a state. Mr. H. H. Curtis, his boys, and others hauled the rough lumber from Round's Mill in the mountains, coming down Devil's Gap on Garber Creek, a most hazardous trip, to construct the building. Wooden planks supported by heavy grocery boxes served as pews. The church was built without the help of any group or denomination. Once the outer portion of the church was finished, Methodist Circuit Riders came and held services along with clergymen of other denominations. However, all history does have its twists and turns. A man named Lambert came into the community, posing as a minister, and urged the members to raise money to complete the church. He was so well-liked; he was allowed to hold on to the monies that were collected from various fundraisers. When they had raised over \$600 to finish the church, Lambert and the money disappeared! This was so discouraging to the members that there were no further improvements to the church for many years.

To find out the "Rest of the Story" of the next 150 years, please join us on September 24th at St. Philips in the Field at 2:00. More history will be revealed along with some special presentations by long-standing members. There will also be an optional Bear Cañon Cemetery walk visiting gravesites of several founding pioneers of Douglas County.

The information for this story comes from – The First 100 Years, written by Margaret E. Benn. For more information about the celebration or questions, contact Dakota Hoyt at dakotawindsLLC@gmail.com





Inflation, Food Security, and Older Adults

We all know that surging inflation has been a challenge in our community and across the country. One place where the effects of inflation have been particularly severe is the grocery store. Since July of 2021, the foodat-home index, which measures price changes at the grocery store, notched the largest 12 month increase since 1979. Cereals and baked goods cost 15% more than they did last year, milk and dairy products are 14.9% higher, and fruits and vegetables are up 9.3% over the year.

The rising cost of food has been hard on older adults, particularly those on fixed incomes. Many folks are finding that they need to turn to food banks, SNAP, or other sources of assistance to help make ends meet. A survey conducted by the Senior Citizen's League found that 45% of respondents had visited a food pantry or applied for SNAP benefits in the past 12 months, up from just 20% in October of last year. Concerningly, almost a quarter of respondents said that they had gone without groceries at some point.

No-one should ever have to go without groceries or choose between food and other essentials like medicine or rent. And even if they aren't having to make those impossible choices, sometimes a little extra help in these tight times can make all the difference in an older adult feeling safe, secure, and comfortable in their home. That's why Aging Resources has started our new Help at Home program. Folks in the program receive three nutritious and tasty meals per week, as well as a checkin with a member of our care team and access to the full suite of Aging Resources services. Feedback for the pilot stage of the program was overwhelmingly positive, with 100% of participants saying they always or almost always enjoyed the meals, 95% saying that the meals helped them to eat healthier, and 87% saying that the meals provided them with access to food they would not otherwise eat or purchase.



Thanks to the generosity of the Town of Larkspur, we've established a satellite office, in one of the cabins at the town hall, that allows us to deliver the Help at Home program to the community. We're hopeful that the model we're building here can be used in other communities across the county. In order to make this program work and last, however, we need your support. We're especially in need of volunteer drivers for the Larkspur area to help deliver meals to those folks who might be unable to make it to the pick-up site. Sign up today and help us help your neighbors! Like the rest of our services, this program is all about working with folks so that they can stay in the homes and communities of their choosing. Independence is at the heart of everything we do. If you or someone you know could use an extra hand or a few reliable, healthy meals each week, talk to us about signing up for the Help at Home program – we are happy to answer any questions you might have.

www.agingresourcesdougco.org
303-814-4300



FROM THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

by Wayne Moore, Member-Board of Directors

From January 1 - July 31, 2022, we ran a total of 501 calls compared to 606 calls for the same timeframe in 2021: a decrease of 105 calls.

From July 1 - July 31, 2022, we ran a total of 95 calls compared to 150 calls for the same timeframe in 2021.

- a. Fires: Total of 6 calls (5 in-district, 1 mutual aid)
- b. EMS: Total of 84 calls
 - i. Medicals: 54 (52 in-district, 2 mutual aid)
 - ii. MVA's with Injuries: 30 (27 in-district, 3 mutual aid)
- c. Alarms: Total of 4 calls (4 in-district)
- d. Other: Total of 1 call (1 in-district)

(please see Wildfire article on next page)

Larkspur Fire Protection District Board Meeting

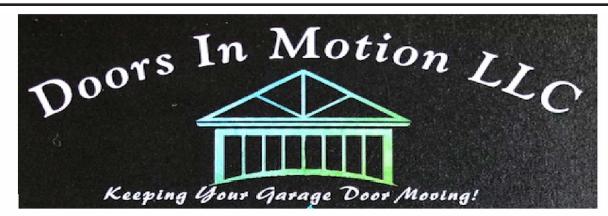
Thursday, Sept. 8

6:00 pm at Station 161

Public atendance is welcome.

Please check the website for details.

larkspurfire.org



- ★ LiftMaster Installer
- Residential and Commercial
- ★ Garage Door Service and Installation



Larkspur resident: Michael Higgins - (720)606-1573

doorsinmotionllc.com





Wildfires occur in EVERY Season

by Wayne Moore, Board of Directors Member, Larkspur Fire District

TV news reports of wildfires often show a wall of flames racing through the forest with a nearby house on fire. These towers of flames look ominous, but usually pass through an area quickly. However, wildfire research shows that often 80% of consumed structures started to burn before the flame front arrived. Wildfires, when driven by high winds create a "blizzard of embers" being blown a mile or more in advance of the flame front. Evidence after the Black Forest Fire in 2013 showed as many as 300 scorching embers per square yard landed on homes. Much like snow accumulates during a blizzard around your house, embers will accumulate following the same patterns; in gutters, on decks, entering through attic and foundation vents, penetrating spaces around light fixtures and utility lines, or lodging in a gap of the house's siding. Then, just like blowing on smoldering embers to start a fire, the house will ignite; sometimes immediately, to even hours after the wildfire has passed through!

Remember that wildfires occur in every season, so these measures are relevant to follow year-round. Here are a few essential tips to help keep your family and property safe by hardening your home against embers:

- Never delay leaving if evacuation has been ordered!
- Property access: Perform vegetation mitigation measures to allow firefighters and their equipment quick and safe access to the area around your home. Leave security gates open if wildfire is threatening.
- Roof: Inspect the roof and eaves for spaces which could harbor embers, then seal them closed. Replace wood shake with fire-resistant types of roofing such as composition fire class A shingles, metal, or tile. Verify with the roofing contractor your expected measures that will stop ember intrusion.
- Roof debris: Clean gutters and remove pine needles and other vegetation that have accumulated anywhere on the roof.
- Vents: Cover attic, eave, and foundation vents with 1/8 inch mesh metal wire screen to prevent ember intrusion
- Decks: Replace flammable decking and stairs with a fire-resistant material. Install metal flashing between the edge of the decking and the house. Place combustible patio furniture and any other flammable material inside the house or garage if wildfire is threatening.
- Under the deck: Remove plant debris, wood piles, and other easily ignited materials. Do not enclose the underside of decks with a wooden or plastic lattice.
- Siding: Fill gaps in siding and trim. Create 6 inches of vertical clearance between the ground and siding.
- Windows/Skylights: Replace single-pane, non-tempered glass with windows having multiple-pane layers and tempered glass. Close windows when no one is home. Close all windows, curtains, and exterior and interior doors if wildfire is threatening.
- Garage door: Adjust garage doors to achieve as tight a fit as possible with the door frame and floor. Close the garage door if wildfire is threatening.
- Cars: If wildfire is threatening, close all windows and park either in the garage or as far away from the house as feasible.
- Woodpiles: Move firewood stacks and scrap piles at least 30 feet from the house or other buildings. Dispose of slash piles by chipping or hauling away.
- Landscaping: Using non-combustible material to create a five-foot zone around the foundation and any extension/overhangs of the home such as decks and steps. Remove dead plant debris near the house. Remove shrubs or vegetation which could ignite the house. Remove branches that overhang the roof and chimney. Mow grass and weeds to a height of 4 inches or less.

In summary, during a wildfire thousands of embers can cover your home far ahead of the flame front arriving. Taking these measures greatly improves the chance your house can survive a wildfire. Learn more about these and other mitigation measures at: csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/protect-your-home-property-from-wildfire/ or contact the LFPD Fire Marshal at 303-681-3284.



Thursday the 15th & Thursday the 22nd 5:30pm-7:00pm

Golf & Social Memberships Available

Call to make your reservation today: 720.787.9353

Special Pricing for these events only!

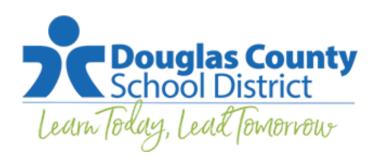
Lana Milan | Director of Membership | Perry Park Country Club www.perryparkcc.com | Imilan@perryparkcc.com Pr











Douglas County School District Board of Education Authorizes Mill Levy Override and Bond for 2022 Ballot

The Douglas County School District Board of Education (BOE) has authorized Mill Levy Override (MLO) and Bond questions for the 2022 ballot. At the August 23 meeting, the BOE unanimously voted 7-0 to place before voters a \$60 million MLO and a \$450 million Bond. If the MLO and Bond are approved by voters, Douglas County homeowners will pay \$1 per week per \$100,000 of home value. For example, a Douglas County resident with a home valued at \$500,000 would pay approximately an additional \$250 per year if both measures are approved.

"Do not doubt the dedication of this Board," said DCSD Board of Education President Mike Peterson. "As the largest employer in Douglas County, if voters approve the MLO in November, our community will provide a raise to the largest employee base in the entire county and it is absolutely the right thing to doto take care of the teachers who are partnering with our parents to take care of our students."

DCSD's average teacher salary is more than \$18,000 less than that offered by Cherry Creek School District.

A \$60 million MLO would enable DCSD to retain teachers and staff by providing pay that is more competitive with other school districts. Should an MLO pass, DCSD teachers, on average, would receive a 9% pay increase, as reflected in these salary schedules. Classified staff members, such as bus drivers, educational assistants, custodians, etc., would also receive a 9% increase. Other staff, including school principals and administrators, would receive a 6% pay increase. Charter schools share in DCSD's MLO on a 100-percent equal, per student basis.

"Our teachers and our employees desperately need this," said BOE Director Elizabeth Hanson. "I need to make a plea to our public education warriors and everyone else, it's time to do the right thing for our kids. We need you very, very much right now to put aside any hard feelings and fight for this and fight for our teachers."

The BOE also authorized a \$450 million bond for the 2022 ballot. A \$450 million Bond would help DCSD construct three new neighborhood elementary schools and create additions to two existing middle schools to reduce crowding and plan for growth. The Bond would also help provide safety and security upgrades, and updating and repairing its existing school buildings, to provide safe, efficient, quality learning environments for students and staff. Click here for details on what each of DCSD's existing schools would receive should the Bond be approved by voters.

"We need to build new neighborhood schools in our communities that are experiencing tremendous growth, and we need to be able to offer a competitive salary to our teachers and staff," said Superintendent Erin Kane. "This is an issue we can all agree on - we must do what's best for our 64,000 students."

Read more about DCSD's comprehensive MLO/Bond plan.

In Memoríam...

Ronald Bush

1/29/1932 - 8/10/2022 Lt. Commander USN

It is with profound sadness that the family of Ron Bush announces his passing after a lengthy illness.

Ron is survived by his wife Anne, granddaughter Anica, sister Donna Oliver (Robert), and daughter-in-law Tina Lee. He was preceded in death by his beloved son Ronald Bush, Jr., and his brother Robert Bush.

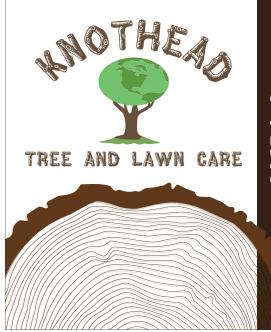
Ron was born in Yuba City, CA to Donald and Lucile Bush. His love of the outdoors began at an early age, fashioning fishing rods as a small boy, later teaching

himself to ski in the Sierras. He became a star football player at Marysville High School, which carried into his athletic career at Stanford University. He was awarded the Most Inspirational Player trophy by his fellow teammates while at Stanford.

Following graduation with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, Ron entered service as a Naval Aviator. He was selected for the Top Gun Fighter Pilot Program, and served on the USS Hancock, accumulating more than 100 night carrier landings. During his time in the Navy, based in Alameda NAS, he met the beautiful Pan Am flight attendant, Anne Stefanuk, who would become his wife.

Following a distinguished Naval career, Ron joined United Airlines, based in both San Francisco Airport and Denver's Stapleton Airport. He retired in 1992 as a B-767 Captain. Post retirement, Ron was involved with the pilot new hire program, as a simulator instructor.

In addition to being with his family, Ron was never happier than when he was fly fishing, golfing and skiing. He was a member of Perry Park Country Club for over 40 years. In that time, he made many wonderful friends. His infectious laughter will be missed by all.



We don't mow lawns,

but we handle everything else.

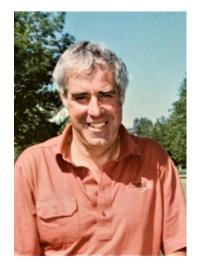
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Knothead Tree and Lawn Care is a TCA member with an ISA certification and an Arborist Certification.



"I am a Larkspur resident and have been specializing in selling Larkspur real estate for the past 17 years. I am the managing broker and owner of Wolfe Realty Group, an independent residential real estate brokerage firm. By choosing to specialize in thereal estate market, I can provide you with the highest level of knowledge and insight when buying or selling your Larkspur or Perry Park home or land. If you have any questions about Colorado real estate, please contact Wolfe Realty Group Inc. at 303-681-3553 or go to www.DiscoverLarkspur.com"



Ben Wolfe Managing Broker & Owner Larkspur Resident & Larkspur Real Estate Expert

What are your neighbors saying about working with Wolfe Realty Group?

"Need a great realtor? You need Ben Wolfe. Ben lives in the neighborhood and is an expert on our local market. He sold our house in nine days, and for a lot more than we would have dreamed of asking. He was very confident in his valuation of the house and was right on. He held firm when we were ready to drop the price. He is incredibly thorough, explaining his methods and array of tools in detail and always keeping us informed of status. He listed our house on a Thursday afternoon. We started getting calls first thing Friday and had 27 showings. He and his assistant, Debbie, spent several hours helping us stage the house. He was on site for all inspections and was able to recommend local contractors to get needed work done quickly. Ben is a pleasure to work with and he made the whole process as smooth, efficient and as painless as selling your home can be." *Feedback from Charles & Debra Nienburg*



For Sale

8000 & 8038 Monarch Road Hidden Forest ~ Larkspur \$175.000

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CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



"When we decided to sell our home in Larkspur, the only realtor we considered using was Ben Wolfe. He is results oriented and absolutely fantastic to work with! Honestly, Ben Wolfe exceeded

our expectations! We knew he was going to represent the sale of our home extremely well and we could not have been happier or more impressed with his success! We highly recommend Ben Wolfe to anyone planning to buy or sell their home. He is incredibly knowledgeable, professional, pro-active and engaging! He sold our home in less than 10 days and he made sure our experience was flawless from beginning to end." *Feedback from John & Cathy*



Just Listed!

2205 Vista Drive ~ Valley Park ~ Larkspur \$749,000

This quaint cottage with a mountain feel is nestled on a private 5 acre wooded horse property showcasing 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and a large patio. The main level master bedroom features numerous windows with a relaxing sitting area or home office and access to the back patio. The unfinished lower level provides ample storage space or could be finished adding an additional guest suite, home office or recreational room.

Wolfe Realty Group, Inc.
Office 303-681-3553
Cell 303-667-7995
Ben@DiscoverLarkspur.com
www.DiscoverLarkspur.com

OLD DOGS, NEW TRICKS

by Reatha Baker

Well, it finally happened! I took down my hummingbird "sugar water" feeders that have been up during the day from April to September since 1974.

Our neighborhood bear decided that we are not dangerous. He is also VERY hungry. At 3:30 am, June 30 he, or one of his sisters/brothers, broke into our next door neighbor's house, ate some fruit, pulled the toaster oven to the floor, and exited as they came down to check on the noise he was making. Then, at noon on the same day, he came back to get another snack! Friday July 1st., he was back in our yard! We decided that it is not worth tempting him any longer so we opted to replace the sugar water feeder with a desirable hanging plant that would probably be healthier for my hummers anyway.

Now it's early fall, and the bears will be back look for food opportunities. So, take it from me: Please be careful! As much as I enjoy having the hummers AND the bears, I now have to be smarter to be able to have them both and stay safe!

(Editor's note: August 26, I saw a bear walking right through Reatha's front yard – at 10:30 in the morning! No snacks at that home!)





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Late Summer Gardening

by Marla Leggette

September can be a transitional month for gardeners. The days are getting shorter and the nights are cooler. The weather is a bit more stable and we love the rain! With the kids in school for some of you, it can mean uninterrupted time to be in the garden as we watch our plants wind down, while enjoying the benefits of our hard work. It's also a good time to clean up and harvest.

Here are some things that can be done in your garden in September.

Tomatoes! For your indeterminate varieties only, it's time to really prune down the branches that don't have flowers on them. This will give the most energy where it is needed in producing tomatoes, prevent disease or fungi, and clean up the appearance of your plants. Pruning can be challenging if your plants, like mine, are a bush by now. To start you can pinch or prune the yellow leaves on the bottom, or any touching the ground. Then take off the suckers which are the small branches coming out between branches. It's also best not to prune when the plants are wet, and don't forget that some of the bigger branches can be either be tied up to provide shade, or removed. A good fertilizer can be applied now and after don't forget to deep water. All of this will bring on your end of summer toma-

toes. In a month, we will stop watering and really stress them out!



It's also a good time to clean up your garden, cutting off any yellowing or dead leaves on your plants. Deadheading annuals and perennials gives a fresh appearance to beds and promotes any fall blooming. I usually don't deadhead too heavily on the perennials I'd like to see spread like poppies or cosmos that rely on reseeding to come back next year. Composting your flower beds now will help your spring growth.

Many gardeners are looking into buying and planting garlic now. I know I get confused about varieties and never seem to remember what I planted the year before. Garlic is related to onions, leeks, and chives and is a heart-healthy herb. There are 11 different groups of garlic, including 3 classified under softneck and 8 hardneck groups. Basically, if you like lots of garlic scapes you could choose the hardneck varieties, which are also grow better in colder climates. Softneck is usually what you buy at the store, and it typically will last longer than the hardneck varieties. Porcelain hardneck or Chesnok Red are popular, intensely flavorful garlics. I'd choose Inchelium Red or Early Red Italian as a good softneck. Do some research to find what will meet your needs. It's always fun in the fall to start picking out your spring bulbs for fall planting.





Inchelium Red

There's most likely lots of harvesting occurring in your vegetable garden. My son had so many jalapeño peppers that he started pickling them! Here is that recipe and a few others for any abundance of vegetables! https://gimmedelicious.com/quick-10-minute-pickled-jalapenos/

Dilly beans - https://www.attainable-sustainable.net/dilly-green-beans/

Zucchini fritters- these freeze well too. https://lovingitvegan-zucchini-fritters







DENVER BRONCOS

2022 SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Time	TV	Opponent	Broncos	Opponent	W	L
Pre - Season Games Final Score								
13-Aug	Sat	6:00 PM	ABC	Dallas				
20-Aug	Sat	1:00 PM	ABC	@ Buffalo				
27-Aug	Sat	7:00 PM	ABC	Minnesota				
Regular Season								
12-Sep	Mon	6:15 PM	ABC	@ Seattle				
18-Sep	Sun	2:25 PM	CBS	Houston				
25-Sep	Sun	6:20 PM	NBC	San Francisco				
2-Oct	Sun	2:25 PM	CBS	@ Vegas				
6-Oct	Thurs	6:15 PM	CBS	Indianapolis				
17-Oct	Sun	6:15 PM	ESPN	@ LA Chargers				
23-Oct	Sun	2:05 AM	CBS	New York Jets				
30-Oct	Sun	7:30 AM	ESPN	@London - Jaguars				
6-Nov	Bye Week							
13-Nov	Sun	11:00 AM	CBS	@ Tennessee				
20-Nov	Sun	2:05 PM	FOX	Vegas				
27-Nov	Sun	11:00 AM	FOX	Carolina				
4-Dec	Sun	11:00 AM	CBS	Baltimore				
11-Dec	Sun	6:20 PM	NBC	Kansas City				
18-Dec	Sun	2:25 PM	FOX	Arizona				
25-Dec	Sun	2:30 PM	CBS	@ LA Rams				
1-Jan	Sun	11:00 AM	CBS	@Kansas City				
8-Jan	Sun	2:05 AM	CBS	LA Chargers				

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Dining Tidbits!

by Mary Ann Fonken

What an interesting month it has been for carnivores (....and vegetarians)! Below are 3 recently discovered restaurants that I've loved:

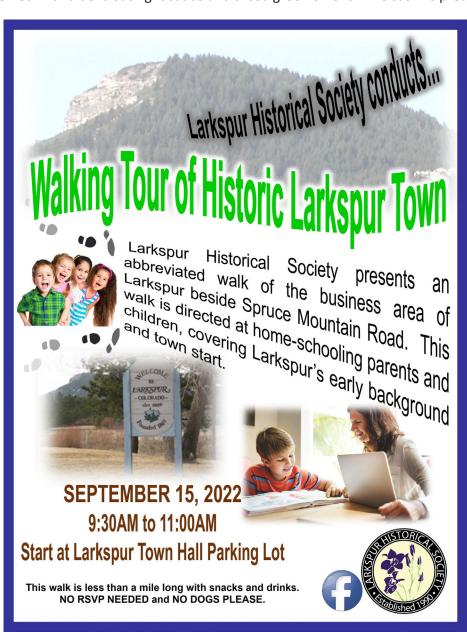
In the Aspen Grove mall, "The Rice Bistro and Sushi Bar" restaurant has one of the most encompassing menus I've seen in an Asian restaurant. This establishment is made of gleaming maple dining chairs and tables with a clean, modern vibe along

with an attractive bar area. The Mongolian Beef was superb! Also, the hot/sour soup and eggrolls were delicious; they accompany each entrée. The other customers there confirmed that the sushi was very fresh and delicious. I can't wait to go back.

In Castle Rock, the Whole Foods store on the Promenade has a small, Japanese restaurant called "Genji Izakaya". Their small, mouth-watering menu boasts Bao Buns, Poke Bowls and a variety of Gyoza; my favorite is the "Loaded Chicken Gyoza" (six pieces) which is served with a delicious light sauce and sliced green onions. The sushi is pretty

amazing and is prepared by a vendor right there in the store. They also serve wine, beer, and Japanese spirits. So, after shopping at Whole Foods, treat yourself to a great lunch, dinner, or take-out.

And, here's a heads up to Castle Rock's newest restaurant on the downtown scene. "Block and Bottle" is now open. It's on the lower level of the Enclave building just south of "Dos Santos". The décor is ultra-modern, and the menu is quite interesting. While encompassing some old classics, they're also offering some new, very innovative dishes. I opted for a house salad and the smoked salmon pastrami crostini drizzled with light lemon, dill, capers, and sour cream. Both were excellent. My hubby had the beef stroganoff with gnocchi in a very rich blue-cheese creamy sauce. Oh my, what decadence – yum. The crowd was a happy mix of yuppies and families. Do give it a try!



A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

by Susan Peters

Major Misstep...Summer Wanes...Sea Turtle Happenings... Short Takes

This week we are supposed to be in transit from Edinburgh to Rome. Instead I am in transit from the hospital to home. Folks, do not take on the door of a train in the airport even if you get there first, unless your kickboxing skills are on the par of those of an Olympian. The airport camera footage shows me in a crumpled mass as two doors beat the living hell out of me. THAT was not supposed to happen. And I am 5'tall and 130 pounds. Doors win. I thought that they were not supposed to close if someone is in the doorway. Silly me.

My "minor" injuries include: 4 broken ribs, a broken femur, a broken hip, 2 broken vertebrae, and smudged makeup. Plus there were some young medical assistants at the hospital who seemed to be adamant about helping a little old lady get dressed. What happened to just helping us across the street?

Late Summer Happenings

The adult Rufous hummingbirds left as expediently as they arrived, leaving their young'uns behind to gorge themselves before their first big migration, and to pester the other hummingbird species clamoring to get to the feeders. Shortly the whirring and chipping sounds of the hummers will disappear for another season. The departure of many other birds means an eerie silence in nature with the approach of another long cold, snowy winter.

Flies begin invading homes, just as spiders do, as it gets colder outside. But this is the second year that the house flies are streaming inside when the inside is cooler than outside. My record fly kill count for one day was last year, when 374 of the little darlings perished. Do not take this sport lightly. Once you start, you must persist, ignoring the pain in your rotator cuff. And when the slaughter ends, there are all those dang bodies to cleanup, which means scraping them off the counters and floors. Just too much fun.

Apparently we are in the midst of a very large spider migration, particularly the tarantulas, whose migration peaks in August/
September in Colorado. I have



to remember to take a lawn chair and sit next to the lonesome country roads to watch them scurry along.

The last we "talked", news had just hit of the Monarch butterfly being put on the Endangered Animals list.

I had recently read that the California's Monarch numbers are up almost 35 percent in many places.

And the Mexican forest, where they winter over, was innundated. So, what happened? I did not have enough time to research the truth and cause before publishing; perhaps next month.

Yes, there are isolated pockets of success worldwide, but the vast majority are outside the US. These butterflies have declined 85% in the past two decades and 26% in the past year according to the Center for Biological Diversity.

The Monarch, the Grand Dam of American butterflies, hatch from eggs as resplendent caterpillars that feed for about 2 weeks on their food of choice: milkweed, before forming



their chrysalis. The butterflies that emerge from the chrysalisafter about 10 days only live for 2-6 weeks, laying eggs before they die. This year I was able to purchase lush milkweed plants of the swamp milkweed

(Asclepias incarnata) and common milkweed (A. syriaca), which provide the averaged the highest number of eggs variety. I prepared a bed very lovingly. BUT instead of putting in water crystals,



I mistakenly put in crystalized salt for the pond. Duh. Major hint: Don't do that! Yeah, there is always next year. That gets to be really old.

Recall: Monarchs are threatened by pesticides, climate change, urban sprawl, and illegal logging of the forests where they migrate for the winter.

continued on next page

Happenings in Sea Turtle World

A hotel 30 miles from Tampa, was overrun by baby sea turtles. It had grown dark outside and the turtles became disoriented. They were found in the hotel pool, bathrooms, storm drains, and everywhere there was water,

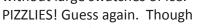


except the ocean or sea. Rescue teams and tourist volunteers scrambled to get them gathered up and directed to the sea.

And an unexpected fallout of global warming: the rising sea temperature, which determines which sex sea turtles will be. The sex of the turtles is not determined at fertilization but by the ambient temperature. Studies over the past few years show that as water temperatures rise, the percentage of female baby sea turtles rises. Pretty soon there will be no males, which produces a dilemma. . .you think? Compounding this issue is the fact that sea turtles take as long as 20-25 years to become sexually mature.

Short Takes

My gorgeous daughter-in-law thought that she finally had me. Noting the dilemma of the polar bears with lack of sea ice, she announced that the polars had figured it out: They just mate with brown bears (grizzly), and voila! A new species that can survive better without large swatches of ice.



rare, intermating between the two bear species has been occurring occasionally for centuries and millenium. It is called opportunism, just like with wolves-coyotesdogs.



Also, specimens of mammoth grizzlies are showing up. Just another fluke of nature, and likely to be rarer as food sources diminish.

What a fun end-of-season it has been with the flittering fledglings doing their happy bird dance to get food from

mama and papa. One young black-capped chickadee gave an award-winning DWS (Dancing With the Stars) performance. But once it turned around to get more food from his mama and there was a white-breasted nuthatch, both staring at amazement at the bird in front of them. "You are NOT my mama!" "You are NOT my chick!"

Four young-ins actually made their ways indoors: a broad-tail hummer, a house finch, a lesser goldfinch, and a baby Huey (banded dove with a brain the size of a pea). The Huey settled into the Master Bedroom. I opened windows and doors and she did not move. Yeah, these are not the sharpest tools in the shed. Three times I was able to get hold of her with a towel, but each time she squiggled out, so out with the scissor hold to hold the head back. It was nother three weeks before I saw any pigeon/doves again. The word was out. And bird poop is like cement. And these birds can really poop!

The Cornell free birding app Merlin did not disappoint this past month: Whoopee! A Calliope hummingbird! The first I have seen in years! And I added the longeared owl to my listening life list.

As the hummers move to their southern vacation dwellings, we humans need to gradually take down the feeders, clean and put them away for the winter. Leave

one out until the end of October to help the still-migrating snow birds.

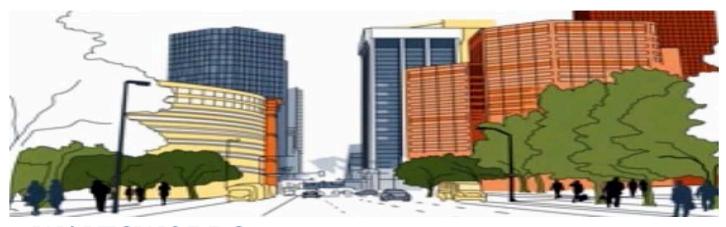
If you are interested in a very enjoyable evening Sept. 10, go to Denver Zoo's Flock Party – lots of great food, unlimited drinks, zany dress, music, and demonstrations everywhere. And there is art work for sale created by the local residents.

That's all folks for this month. Gotta run – I am losing ground on the black fly killings as they

nonchalantly glide over my keyboard and my hands, as if to get their own message out.

How to Contact Me: Email is best at susan@
larskpurconsulting.com. Alternatively, call my cell phone at (303) 725-6868.





WALTSWORDS

By Walt Korinke

Commercial Real Estate

September 2022

<u>CASTLE ROCK</u> – A little hungry? Following are 9 new eating opportunities coming to town:

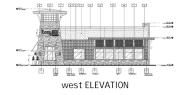
Twenty-year-old Los Dos Potrillos, a fine Colorado Mexican restaurant with four existing Denver area locations plans to open its 5th location in the spring of next year at Castle Rock's Promenade. The parcel is across the parking lot from the Home Goods store.

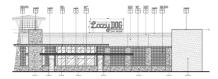
The pet-friendly Lazy Dog restaurant is processing a permit to build an 8,000 sf building + 1,900 sf covered on Promenade Pkwy caddy-corner across the street



from King Soopers. The Costa Mesa, CA firm was founded in 2003 as a chain of restaurants that offers main, kids, bar, and dog menus as well as online and take away choices. The menu features such items as the Dirty Dog (bacon-wrapped Nathan's hot dog on a Hawaiian bun, grilled lemon chicken, beer-battered fish & chips and other fine delicacies.











Founded in 1993, and named after a smoke-dried jalapeño chili pepper, Chipotle is planning a second Castle Rock location. Across the street to the north of the Sam's filling station, Chipotle has commenced processing plans with the town for a restaurant with drive thru service. Their other location is on the other side of I-25

across from the Home Depot. Chipotle owns and operates all of its 3,000 stores and has a current goal to have 7,000 North American stores at a growth rate of about 250 openings a year.



Two more downtown eateries are opening in the new Encore condominium building at 20 Wilcox. Block & Bottle offers fine American cuisine and over 150 bottled beers served indoors or on their 600 sf outdoor patio. Slab Deli & Market has indoor seating and a 250 sf outdoor patio and markets itself as a communityfocused chef inspired deli and market where you'll be able to



continued on next page

pick up steaks, fresh fish, chops, fine meats & cheeses or enjoy one of their specialty sandwiches to go or sit and enjoy it with some wine and charcuterie.

After a long delay over at the Promenade, Buffalo Wild Wings is charging



ahead with their construction across the street from Lowes. The American casual dining restaurant and sports bar (TVs galore) based in a 4595 sf building with both a 633 sf covered patio and a 560 sf exterior has great wings, but my favorite is their potato wedges.





The new Pizza Hut has been completed on Wilcox, and finally, the old one torn down, allowing the start of the three small shops (4,635 sf) construction. There is <u>NO</u> inside seating in the new Pizza Hut.

The old library continues to function in the former Safeway building, while construction of the new Library is well underway in the existing parking lot. Completion probably

by the end of next year when the old library will be demolished.





McDonald's east proposed. Still in the game with a very busy store at the Promenade and the remodeled older store on Wolfensberger, the top of the hill almost rounds out the town. The empty lot on Plum Creek would make a nice south side addition completing the circle. In the initial stage of "neighborhood meetings," is a 4597 sf McDonald's with double drive thru proposed for the 1.38-acre site near the intersection of Founders and Hwy 50 in Founders Marketplace.





The year was 1948 when Open Kettle started serving 10 cent coffee and 5 cent donuts in Quincy, Massachusetts. Upon observing that customers were dunking their donuts in their coffee, Dunkin' Donuts was born in 1950. The franchise was evolved in 1955 growing to over 12,000 today all over the world. Unfortunately, in 1999 they moved to Styrofoam cups, but it was also the year they introduced donut holes. 2018 brought "modernizing" to the company which resulted

in their name shortening to just "Dunkin'." The good news is that it took only 73 years to finally get a "Dunkin'" in Castle Rock with the development of a 2,340 sf store under construction in Founders Marketplace at the top of Founders Pkwy and Hwy 50 near the King Soopers.



A new discount store has come to town: Look out Dollar Store, a new Five Below opens about four doors down in the former Sports Authority space (between Michaels and Big 5), adding to the competition for bargain price shopping. The 1,200-store bargain chain offers most items priced between \$1 and \$5 with a select few up to \$25. The Philadelphia headquarters chain was founded in 2002 with stores in 40 states including several in Denver. Products include Style, Room, Sports, Tech, Create, Party, Candy, and New & Now.





Medical facilities continue to grow: "Partnering With Physicians" is developing a 3-story, 35,000 sf medical office building on the large parcel within the complex across from the Adventist



continued on next page

Hospital to the south. The site is between the Firehouse Subs and the AMC theatres, directly across the street from the Castle Rock Fire Station.



Housing for the 'active' over 50: Just south of the above-mentioned medical facility and shops, across the Santa Fe, Atchison & Topeka rail tracks, fronting on Meadows Pkwy the **Affinity at Castle Rock** is planned, an <u>active</u>

adult community for age 55 and up. The single 4-story elevatored building will have interior corridors and contain one- and two-bedroom units and enclosed parking. Amenities include a theater room, fitness center, game room, pub,

golf simulator, indoor pool, workshop, and community garden. There will <u>NOT</u> be a commercial kitchen, nor daily meal service or assisted living. Private outdoor amenities include a community garden, pickleball court, and dog park. Tenancy is geared to residents who wish to downsize from their single-family homes but are not in need of assisted living services. The developer, Inland Group of Spokane, WA has developed and manages over 50 similar communities in the west including units in the Denver Metro area, Colorado Springs, Lafayette, Loveland, and Fort Collins.

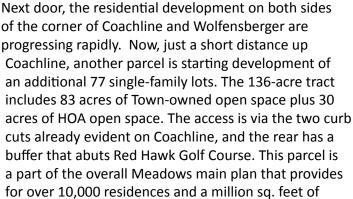




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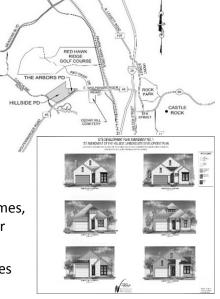
New Homes: Another residential development, Hillside Arbors, has commenced on Wolfensberger just east of Coastline. The 50.47-acre tract is currently undergoing grading and subsurface work. The four phases will have 120 one- and two-family "age restricted – 55+" dwellings. The key words are "low maintenance," "high energy," "easy living," with an emphasis on single level living homes. The concept is to create a modern new urban village with

pedestrian walkways and trails, interconnecting homes, community gardens, a Community Gathering Center and of course, a community dog park.





office, commercial, and light industrial space. The rapidly growing Town of Castle Rock has a current population of 80,000 and 100,000 is just around the corner.



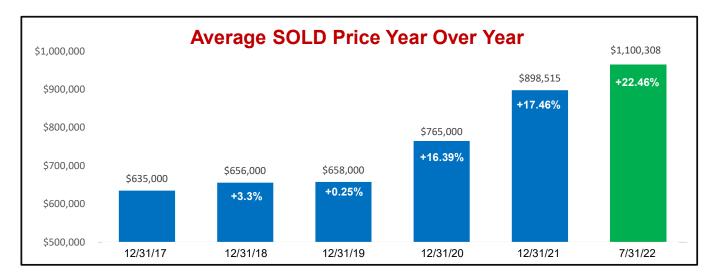


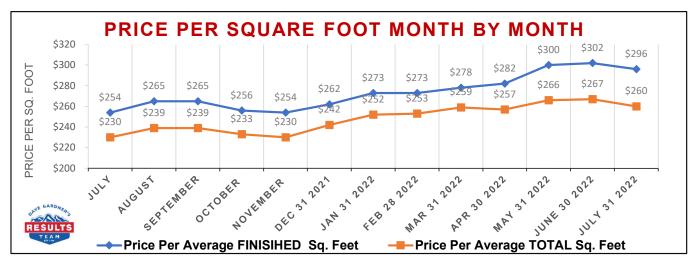


Larkspur Area Real Estate Stats - HOMES SOLD

Homes Currently For-Sale (8/16/2022) ---30 (\$424,900 to \$1,390,000) --- Median \$879,000 ▶ <u>Average Days on Market --- 47</u>

Homes Currently "Under Contract" --- 19 (\$484,900 to \$3,585,000) --- Median \$1,000,000 → Average Days on Market --- 44





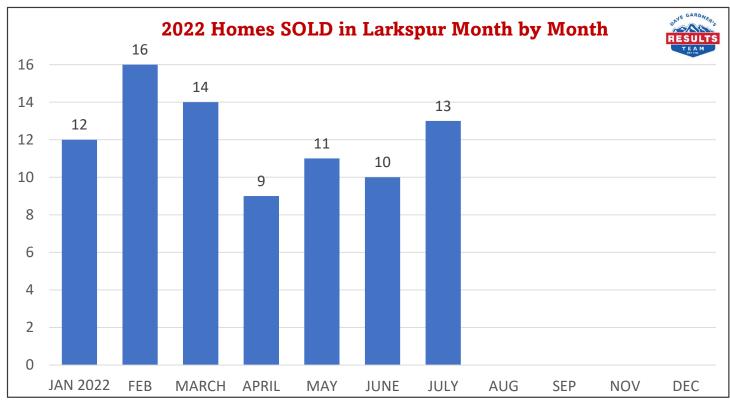
---The charts above represent a 6-month study of home sales ending on the last date of the month indicated. The top 2 and bottom 2 figures have been removed/deleted from each study. This is because very unusual properties can skew the factors that reflect actual market conditions. For example, a property with 100 acres but having a small 600 Sq. Foot house would be something that is simply not "typical". And because one property sells for over \$4 million does not mean that all other properties have gone up in value. Likewise, a property selling under \$250,000 does not mean that all others have gone down in value.

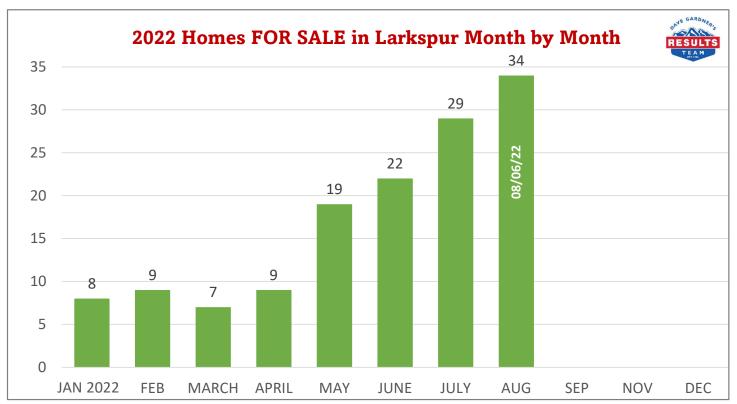
---The above information has been researched from the Metro Denver MLS System (www.REcolorado.com) by **Dave Gardner of Results Realty of Colorado**, located in the Town of Larkspur, CO. It is believed to be accurate but is NOT guaranteed. Every property will have unique factors affecting value such as location, condition, acreage, quality, size, age, upgrades and features. A thorough in-person assessment by an experienced real estate broker or licensed real estate appraiser is recommended to determine the actual current market value on an individual property.

Results Realty of Colorado—Dave Gardner's Results Team 9164 Spruce Mountain Rd., Larkspur, CO 80118 * 303-681-1000 * www.HomesInLarkspurCO.com



More Larkspur Real Estate Stats





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20th of each month

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Ad requests after the 20th are subject to a 10% charge

TEENS FOR HIRE!!

Bennett: I'm 14 and live in Perry Park. I'd like to help you with yard work, snow shoveling, pet sitting, plant watering or other tasks you need help with. Please text **414-430-1363.**

Eva: I am 15 years old, and I am excited to babysit your kiddo(s)! I have taken my Red Cross Babysitting and CPR classes. I have experience with a variety of ages, and just love kids! I am happy to read, play, get snacks and light meals, and clean up after myself. I look forward to helping you out! Please call or text **303-807-5483**.

Three teenage brothers: available to help during the summer. Ages 16 (Antonino), 14 (Gianni), 13 (Tommy). We can work separately or together depending on the workload need. We have done lawn work, snow shoveling, watering plants, and pet sitting. We do have to work around our school and sports schedules. We live in Perry Park and the oldest can drive. Please text 480-209-9003.

Do you have a teen who would like to advertise here? Please email larkspursentinel@gmail.com

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