

# Larkspur Sentinel March 2023

Serving Perry Park, Larkspur, and the surrounding community

## **Marching toward SPRING!!**

Welcome to March, the start of spring, and often one of our snowiest months. Every year February baffles me. . .while we slog through the gray and gloomy weather and shovel in frigid temps, the month flies by due to fewer days, and this year, before I realized it, the month was over! Now I find myself on March 2, delaying the Sentinel to write my monthly letter to you all. . . so I will keep it brief.

In the next few months, we're exploring new ways to highlight businesses, eateries, and events that are based in our 80118 zip code. If you have ideas or information you think other residents would enjoy knowing about, please reach out via larkspursentinel@gmail.com with details or suggestions.

As we start looking forward to summer, remember that we have a Teens for Hire section. If you need some help with a small project, yard work, pet sitting, etc., check out the back page of the Sentinel. If your teen is looking to earn some money, contact larkspursentinel@gmail.com. That ad section will be updated and highlighted in the May issue.

Be sure to sign up on our website to receive email notifications containing the link for each new issue of the Sentinel. Share this link with your neighbors, anyone new to the area, those who may not currently receive the Sentinel. This will be the **only** avenue for email notification of the release of new issues. So PLEASE, go to the website and sign up! **Click here:** <u>larkspursentinel.org</u>

Enjoy the warmer days as we soak up all the welcome moisture from the snow.

Be kind. . .to yourself and others,

# Margot Patterson

Editor

larkspursentinel@gmail.com

\*The Sentinel will not sell or voluntarily disclose your email address to others, nor use it for any purpose other than informing about the Sentinel, and its local projects.





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













ELIZABETH OWENS has a reputation centered on residential, high-end and acreage properties in Larkspur, Castle Rock and throughout Douglas County. For the past 19+ 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 is a Larkspur resident and is Broker/Owner at RE/MAX Alliance in Castle Pines. View the virtual tours for these homes and all Elizabeth's listings at ElizabethOwens.net.



SCAN HERE FOR AN AUTOMATED HOME VALUATION! CALL FOR A MORE IN-DEPTH VALUATION!

# What's Going On?

## March 4 - Independence Day Planning

Committee Meeting: Perry Park Country
Club - 12:00 - 2:00 pm Two or more of the District's
Directors may be present at this meeting. No official
District business will be conducted, nor official
decisions made, at this meeting. This planning
meeting is open to the public.

# March 8 & 22 - Larkspur Blanket

**Brigade:** Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month (March 8 and 22) at Perry Park Country Club. Contact Cindy Hotaling at cjaspsjr@yahoo.com.

# March 9 - Larkspur Fire District:

6:00 pm at Station 161, Public is welcome, details on website <u>larkspurfire.org</u>

March 9 - Perry Park Metro District: 6:00 pm at Perry Park Country Club and on Zoom. \_ perryparkmd.colorado.gov

**March 14 - Chamber of Commerce** 

**Monthly Mixer:** 5:30-7:00 pm at Perry Park Country Club.

**April 1 - Larkspur Wildlife Seminar:** from 10 am - 1 pm, New Covenant Church in Larkspur. Topics will be our beloved Bears and Mountain Lions and how to peacefully coexist. This is for any new or long-time resident. All are welcome. For more information and to RSVP, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/215889188778210">https://www.facebook.com/groups/215889188778210</a>

**Larkspur Annual Garage Sale:** Details, including dates (most likely in June) will be available soon. If you'd like to be added to the email list, contact stephanie@theorganizedflamingo.com.

# **Upper Cheyenne Motorized Vehicle**

**Access:** At the request of the Perry Park Metropolitan District's Board of Directors, Douglas County has assumed motorized vehicle access control for that area and anyone requesting access to the Upper Cheyenne area should contact Mr. Sean Owens, 303-660-7328.

# Larkspur Sentinel

**Get the news -** Go to our website where you can sign up to be notified monthly about the release of new issues of the Larkspur Sentinel, and browse through past issues.

**Spread the news** - Email this link to your friends - many folks are not receiving the Sentinel - you can help!

**Write the news** - We are always looking for feature writers. If you have a topic that would be of interest to the 80118 community, please contact larkspursentinel@gmail.com.



larkspursentinel.org



# FROM THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

by Wayne Moore, Member-Board of Directors

# **Monthly Report**

Jan 1 - 31, 2023, we ran a total of 65 calls.

a. Fires: Total of 2 calls (2 in-district, 0 mutual aid)

b. EMS: Total of 57 calls

i. Medicals: 34 (34 in-district, 0 mutual aid)

ii. MVA's with Injuries: 23 (23 in-district, 3

mutual aid)

c. Alarms: Total of 2 calls (3 in-district, 0 mutual

aid)

d. Other: Total of 4 calls (6 in-district)

# Larkspur Fire Protection District

**Board Meeting** 

Thursday, March 9th

6:00 pm at Station 161

Public is welcome to attend.

Please check the website for details.

larkspurfire.org

# Would you like to be a LFPD Volunteer Firefighter?

Volunteer Firefighters are vital in the Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD). According to statistics on the National Fire Department Registry, 74.4% of fire agencies in Colorado are either completely or substantially staffed by volunteers. LFPD currently has twelve active volunteer firefighters augmenting 27 full- and part-time paid firefighter staff. According to their qualifications, our volunteers function similarly to paid staff, including staffing shifts within the station. The level of professionalism required of our volunteers frequently leads to becoming paid career firefighters for LFPD or other agencies. There are also volunteer firefighters in LFPD with well-established professional careers (United Airlines pilot, Drug Enforcement Agency senior level management, federal government IT security manager, etc.) who make this commitment to the community where they live!

Being a volunteer firefighter is rewarding, although it comes with substantial responsibilities to those we serve and our fellow firefighters. Applications are now being accepted involving a testing process, background check, interviews, and shift ride-along. The LFPD Fire Academy starts July 18th, lasting 15 weeks of two evenings/ week and every other Saturday. Upon graduation, volunteers will have Colorado Firefighter I and HazMat

Operations certifications. Wildland firefighting training/ certification takes place next. Afterward, a minimum of 48 hours/year of training (typically obtained while on shift) towards a progression in qualifications for each volunteer. Volunteers perform a minimum of 24 hours of duty staffing in the station each month, timing is flexible. Also, following Fire Academy graduation there is a two-year commitment of duty to LFPD.

To start the application process of becoming an LFPD Volunteer Firefighter, go to <a href="www.larkspurfire.org">www.larkspurfire.org</a>. For more information, contact Lt. Calvin Brown, Training Officer/ Volunteer Coordinator: cbrown@larkspurfire.org or 303-681-3284.



# NEWS FROM THE WATER DISTRICT

# by Brian Arthurs

"The earth, the air, the land, and the water are not an inheritance from our forefathers but on loan from our children. Hence, we have to handover to them at least as it was handed over to us". – Gandhi



#### Facts about America's water infrastructure:

- There are 2.2 million miles of water pipes throughout the United States.
- Over 148,000 municipal water systems distribute 39 billion gallons of water each day to homes and businesses throughout the country.
- Most of the water pipes in this country were estimated to last between 75 and 100 years before they needed to be replaced.
- Every 2 minutes, a break in the water pipes occurs, losing 6 billion gallons of water each day and 2.1 trillion gallons annually.
- By 2029, over \$430 billion will be needed to repair or upgrade the country's water infrastructure.
- Because smaller communities generally both use less water and earn less tax revenue, they have fewer financial resources available to repair, maintain, or upgrade water infrastructure.

## **Board Meeting**

The Board met for the regular meeting February 15, 2023 and special session February 1, 2023. Previous minutes (Dec & Jan), disbursements (Jan & Feb), and staff and systems reports were reviewed and approved. Consideration of a request by representatives of Two 30 Properties, developer of the sub-division bordering Echo Valley Road, to enter into a cost-sharing arrangement to mitigate expenses of installing a 12" water line as opposed to 10". The Developer requested time to present further facts and figures to support their request. The Board agreed to resume discussion at the March 15 regular meeting.

Next on the agenda was a request by a customer for a reduction in the amount due for their water usage. The homeowner and the District performed numerous diagnostic tests to determine if the amount billed was entirely due to usage. The District will conduct an additional meter reading February 28th before rendering a decision.

Legal representatives for the Bear Ridge development stated the engineering costs for their project were excessive and requested that the District consider discounting the amounts due. It was noted by Hill & Pollock, attorneys for the District, the agreement in place requires all costs incurred for review, inspection, and approvals be reimbursed to the District. Additionally, after review of the invoices and needs of the project, the District is unable to offer a special discount of the amounts accrued.

GMS, Inc., engineers for the District, provided two additional funding scenarios for the Wauconda Wastewater Treatment Facility improvements. The Board noted many components of the calculations needed revision. A special session has been scheduled to evaluate all financing options proposed.

The District has received numerous replies for the part-time employee position to assist the District Manager. You can check the availability status, download an application, and view the job description by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.ppwsd.org">www.ppwsd.org</a>.

Current Board Members: Gary Peterson - President, Tony Lucas - Vice President, Brian Arthurs - Treasurer, Jim Maras - Secretary, Jim Matchett - Director.



# Perry Park Metropolitan District

The Special District For Perry Park Ranch

# by Steve Ostrowski, Secretary, PPMD Board of Directors

On May 2, 2023, there will be an election for 3 positions on the PPMD's Board of Directors.. Stay tuned for communications on how to vote for the candidates. All documents and information is available on our website at: https://perryparkmd.colorado.gov/metro-district/elections

We are also near completion of our fundraiser to install a memorial bench for Craig Van Doorn, Sr. at <a href="https://gofund.me/27d5332c">https://gofund.me/27d5332c</a> - if you'd like to contribute please do so as soon as possible as we'll be evaluating contributions in our next meetings.

Other current topics on the board include:

- Gateway Pond water rights there is a pending water court case where we are seeking approval of a plan to maintain water rights to current levels on the pond.
- Gilloon Pond improvements we are seeking Douglas County support for improving this natural area. The County has indicated that they may be able to match funds for improvements.
- 2023 Slash Program RFP we are preparing an RFP for slash pickup options, which is open to a

range of solutions from hauling to chipping.

- Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) our voluntary CWPP document was completed and is undergoing final edits.
- Committees we always need volunteers to improve our community. Committees that can always use help include: Independence Day Planning, Firewise, and Entry Design. There are many great ideas for improving our community and to implement more of them we need you! If you don't know anyone involved, you can reach out to us at info@perrypark. org to offer your help and we'll get you connected.

Our March board meeting is scheduled for Thursday – March 9, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Perry Park Country Club and on Zoom. You can see the meeting schedule and documents, as well as other neighborhood information and contact forms, at <a href="https://www.perrypark.org">https://www.perrypark.org</a> - Zoom and in-person attendance are options, making it convenient for you to participate. We hope to have you there.

Follow us on: https://www.facebook.com/

# Wildfire Education 101

# by Keith Worley, Forester and Wildfire Mitigation Specialist

# **Code Red and Emergency Notifications**

We are going to nag you until we have 100% of our area residents signed up with **Code Red**. The Larkspur Sentinel area has the highest home density and greatest risk of wildfire in Douglas County. Go to <a href="www.dcsheriff.net">www.dcsheriff.net</a> to sign up for notifications to your cell phones, email accounts and VOIP I(Voice Over Internet Protocol) and landline service. If you have switched your CenturyLink line to a service provider like Comcast, you are not in the emergency notification system. You must sign up this land line at **Code Red**.

# **High Winds and Embers**

People were stunned that so many homes could be lost in the Marshall Fire in a non-forested area. What happened? Two things: first were high winds, and second were embers blown into neighborhoods igniting landscaping, yard debris and hundreds of other combustible things. Another example closer to us is the home

continued on next page

#### Wildfire Education 101 continued from previous page

loss in the Mountain Shadows neighborhood by the Waldo Canyon Fire in 2012. Of the almost 350 homes lost, only 10% abutted areas with native fuels.

Although we've known of this phenomenon for a long time, we haven't done a good job of teaching you about the ember wildfire exposure. Many of you have done an excellent job of addressing your defensible spaces, this is still important. But now we need to begin "Ember Proofing" or "Structural Hardening" to make our homes ember resistant. Here are some ember (also called firebrands) factoids:

- Embers do not rain down vertically from the sky. They actually move horizontally, parallel to the ground surface propelled by high winds.
- Embers will behave like windblown snow and can take on the form of ember blizzards.
- Embers often ignite homes well ahead of the wildfire front. Randy Johnson and I are still hunting for the not-so-cool aerial photo taken during the Black Forest Fire (2013) that showed homes burning ½ to ½ mile ahead of the flame front. Almost all the burning home photos taken during the Waldo Canyon Fire were ember ignitions.
- Embers can enter voids larger than 1/8 inch. Eave vents, seams in the siding, areas where the deck is connected to the house are examples of voids. If a wasp, hornet, or yellow jacket can get in, so can an ember.
- Embers will tend to collect where horizontal edges meet vertical edges like at the foundation, garage door, or deck/siding connection.
- Embers easily ignite combustible landscaping, patio furniture, and pine needles in the gutter.
- Embers are capricious and find ways to circumvent non-combustible materials like concrete and metal roofs, cementitious stucco, or cement-board siding.

The list can go on. Instead, I am giving you a homework assignment. The first is to view a video by the **Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS).** They built a house in a lab and blew embers at it to demonstrate how a home can be ignited by something as small as an ember. You can view it on <u>YouTube</u> by entering "**embers, IBHS**" in the search engine, or click this <u>link</u>. Or, visit the IBHS website at <u>www.</u> disastersafety.org where other research is viewable under the section on wildfire.

The second assignment is to download the latest Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) info sheets (FIRE-2021 HIZ Quick Guide) with steps you can take to enhance your defensible space and "harden" your home. All their info sheets are downloadable as PDFs. You can also pick up a hard copy at the LFPD Fire Station in Larkspur. Another good site for lots of wildfire information is <a href="www.firewise.org">www.firewise.org</a>. You can even take a "short course" on line.

Watch for upcoming classes sponsored by the Perry Park Metro District or LFPD that cover simple and inexpensive ways to "harden" or "ember proof" your home.

# Fire Adaption- Coexisting with Wildfire

Here in the Larkspur area, we live in ecosystems that evolved with natural fire. The best example of this is the evolutionary adaptations by ponderosa pines to tolerate and survive frequent fires. Even Gambel oak evolved to resprout vigorously after its above ground stems burn completely.

What changed? When did fire become wildfire? It started with Euro-American settlement of the west in the mid to late 1800s, and the land use changes that occurred. These included grazing and timber harvesting on a grand scale. Trees seemed to be an unlimited resource for us to exploit and tree clearing was consistent with grazing of cattle. However, our forests were not clearcut. Only the trees that could be turned into usable commodities were harvested for railroad ties, mine props, lumber, fence posts or firewood. In our area, much of this occurred in the late 1800s to early 1900s, leaving only younger trees or unmerchantable trees too crooked for the sawmill.

continued on next page

#### Wildfire Education 101 continued from previous page

During this same period, fire could no longer be allowed now that settlement occurred where fires had previously burned across the landscape. The US Forest Service was formed in 1907. The pivotal year was 1910, called "the year of the fires," in which millions of acres burned, whole towns were wiped out, and fire became wildfire. I recommend "The Big Burn" by Timothy Egan if you want to read more about this era and how subsequent national policy changed regarding fire's role in nature. It was easy to portray fire as a destructive force that had to be stopped at all costs. By the 1930s, a national policy was set to attempt suppression of all fires by 10 am the next day. All fires became wildfires.

It wasn't until the 1970s that foresters began questioning this policy as ecologically unsustainable. By the 1980s we began to realize the detriment of the unnatural amounts of fuels that had been accumulating on the landscape. This all has led to our current situation with wildfires now burning beyond any attempts at control. Add to this our societal trend of building our homes in these areas forming what we call the "Wildland Urban Interface" or WUI (pronounced woo-eee), and you have devastation.

Enough history. What does this have to do with fire adaption and coexisting with wildfire? First we need to recognize we live in an unnatural ecosystem that is seriously out of balance. The mega-fires we are now

experiencing and energy released are large enough to be measured in kilotons of TNT (Hiroshima was 18 kilotons. Nagasaki was 20 kilotons).

Second, Mother Nature will teach us that she is in control. Put simply - evolve, adapt, or die. Evolution is a slow process so probably not our best solution. Adaption, however, is what humans are good at. . .and probably our best choice. To die, in this case, means destruction of our homes and neighborhoods.

Third, we now know enough about restoring our ecosystems and how to build (or retrofit) our homes to be more fire adapted. For me as a forester, it means the forest not only survives fire, but thrives on it so that when a fire (or wildfire) burns through my property, I will come home to my forest. And if I've taken all the right measures, my home will be there too. Scary stuff! But again, it is adapt or die (get burned out).

Next month's article will either encourage you or scare the daylights out of you. It is titled "Are You Ready for the Drip Torch?" (Drip torches are



# Seeds and Things by Marla Leggette

As I write this, I am again looking at snow out my big window. But I'm still buying seeds and planning my garden because spring will come! Sometimes seed terminology is confusing so here's a breakdown of the different types of seeds.

#### Heirloom

Heirloom seeds have a history of being passed down from generation to generation from within a community or a family and are at least 50 years old. Some can be 100+ years old. They are grown in an open



pollinated area and are considered to be reliable growers, more nutritious and produce better flavor. By using these seeds you will help preserve original seeds- especially if you save them. These seeds can be organic, don't have to be, and are non-gmo. Heirloom tomato varieties that are popular include Brandywine, Cherokee Purple, Black Krim, San Mariano and so many more!

Places to buy Heirloom seeds are:

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds- <u>www.rareseeds.com</u> Seed Savers Exchange- <u>www.seedsavers.org</u> Annie's Heirloom Seeds- <u>anniesheirloomseeds.com</u>

# **Organic**

Organic seeds are seeds are from plants grown by certified organic farmers under strict conditions using federal organic standards for growing and processing. These practices do not include the use of synthetic or chemical pesticides or fertilizers or genetically modified technologies. The plants will do well with organic insecticides and fertilizers.



Organic seeds are non- gmo. Almost all seed companies carry some organic seeds but here are my favorites.

High Mowing Seeds- <a href="https://www.highmowingseeds.com">www.highmowingseeds.com</a>
High Country Gardens- <a href="https://www.highcountrygardens.com">www.highcountrygardens.com</a>
<a href="https://www.highcountrygardens.com">www.highcountrygardens.com</a>

#### **GMO**

GMO seeds are genetically modified organisms and are controversial. These seeds

are produced in a laboratory and use their DNA, in gene splicing techniques, to create specific characteristics in plants that do not occur naturally. Some GMOs are created to resist



insects or control weeds. Agriculturally, these seeds may help farmers but they are not organic, and can alter the natural diversity of plants and seeds. Farmers, by law are not allowed to save these seeds but individual gardeners can. Corn and soybeans are common GMO products.

# **Hybrid**

Hybrid seeds come from plants that are intentionally cross pollinated by artificial mating, in hopes they will have the best characteristics of each plant. These characteristics can cause vegetables and fruit plants to look better, to have more uniformity and better color and become more disease resistant.



Saving these seeds will not necessarily produce the same plant as the year before.

Seed starting for this month includes peppers, because they can take up to 3 weeks to germinate, and tomatoes, because I like them big when I plant them. I'm trying a hemp medium to start seeds this year. More on this next month.

The Douglas County Garden Club will meet Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 1pm, at the Phillip S.Miller library in Castle Rock. Our speaker is Helen Skiba, owner of Artemis Flower Farm, in Boulder. She will speak on growing flowers and how to arrange them.



# **DAVE GARDNER'S**

# Results Team







#### 4435 Echo Butte - Retreat in Perry Park

Proposed "Paired Homes" (2 individual Town Houses) to be built on site. TOTAL price for BOTH Homes is \$1,516,986 making it just under \$758,493 per New Home.



### 8078 La Veta Rd. - Perry Park East

Welcome Home to Perry Park East! This Home sits on a 5-Acre LOT with Finished Walkout Basement and 3-car garage plus a 384 Sq. Foot "She Shed". Located in a Pristine Rocky Mountain Pine Forest.



15536 S Perry Park Rd. - Larkspur

Large 261+ Acre parcel of land IN Douglas County! Land can be divided up to 7 separate parcels of at least 35-acres in size. Amazing Views! County Maintained PAVED Roads.



13050 Deer Ridge Way - Woodmoor Mountain

This 4.20-Acre Lot in Douglas County is "READY-TO-BUILD" with Tremendous Mountain Views and Valley Views.

Located near the Pike National Forest!



6241 Country Club Drive - Perry Park

1-Acre LOT with Tremendous Mountain Views in Spring Canyon Area of Perry Park. All 6 property pins have been located, staked and flagged! Utilities and paved road are only 2 lots away.



#### 14000 True Mountain Dr. - Larkspur

Rare Offering--43.83-Acre Residential Build-Site with lush, forested land. Livestock/Horses Approved! County will allow 3 Houses on the total acreage - \* NO HOA! No Covenants!



In 2022 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

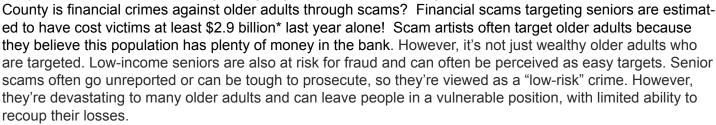




# Be Aware of Scams!

# by Amy Pfister, ARDC Community Engagement

Did you know one of the fastest growing segments of crime in Douglas



Here in Douglas County, we have a Financial Crimes Division through the Sheriff's Office and a dedicated Senior Resource Officer, Ryan Falkner, whose sole focus is to support and protect our older Douglas County residents. He has compiled a helpful checklist to bring awareness to the potential warning signs of current scams circulating the county and the country.

The best way to protect yourself from scammers is to be proactive and create some self-initiated guidelines or rules. This way, you protect your information, and most importantly, your finances. By following these recommendations, you can guard against scams.

# **Scams by Telephone**

- A trusted caller will NEVER tell you what to say to a bank teller.
- A trusted caller will NEVER ask you to keep information a secret.
- A trusted caller will NEVER create a sense of urgency.
- A trusted caller will **NEVER** ask you to pay in gift cards.
- A trusted caller will NEVER ask you to wire money.
- A trusted caller will NEVER ask you to spend money to receive money.

The IRS, Law Enforcement (arrest warrants, jury summons), Medicare, or Colorado Lottery will not contact you directly. You always have time to verify if the caller is legitimate.

Slow down & ALWAYS check with a known or trusted source.

# **Scams through Email**

Use the S.T.O.P. Method: Ask yourself, is this email...

# S- suspicious

- Look at the email address closely. Do you recognize the email sender? Look for red flags; is it a lowercase L or a 1, an O or a zero, S or 5.
- o In the narrative of the email, are there grammatical errors? Does the punctuation seem off?
- Signature lines should have names on them with contact information. If the signature line is absent of a person's name, that is a red flag.
- o Does the company logo seem "off"? That is often a warning sign it's a scam!

continued on next page

Scams. . . continued from previous page

# T- Telling me to click on a link/attachment

- o Only click on links that you know are 100% safe.
- Links and attachments can contain viruses.

# O- Offering something AMAZING

o If an email is offering you something too good to be true, it is. Stop and delete the email.

# P- Pushing you to act quickly

o No email is urgent. You have time to do your research and ensure its legitimacy.

Scammers try to create a sense of urgency to act now. This tactic forces a victim into missing any potential red flags. Remember, you always have time to research, you have time to verify, you have time to confirm. You can always hang up the phone and delete the email.

If you have questions regarding local scams or believe you may have been the victim of a scam, please contact the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at 303-660-7505 or the Consumer Fraud Hotline with the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District at 720-874-8547.

\*statistic provided by the National Council on Aging

# www.agingresourcesdougco.org

# Dining Tidbits! by Mary Ann Fonken

Some restaurants never change and that's good! One of the best Italian restaurants in the area has a cavatappi dish that is out of this world: Via Baci (just off Lincoln east of the Super Target). Cavatappi is a blend of chicken, 3 kinds of Italian cheese, bacon pieces, and lots of fresh garlic in a creamy sauce served over corkscrew pasta. The managers of Via Baci, Heidi and Amy, continue to provide the most wonderful pizza and pasta; I'm trying to talk them into opening a 2<sup>nd</sup> restaurant in Castle Rock!

Also, another favorite dish of mine is the fried catfish with rémoulade sauce served at Castle Café. The rémoulade sauce is a mayo-based sauce kicked up with some Cajun seasoning, mustard, hot sauce, and grated horseradish. It's a great complement to the fish. Another big winner is the buffalo meatloaf covered with spicy gravy! Lots of calories, but something you don't eat every day.

Okay, now on to another favorite in Castle Rock. One restaurant sort of off the beaten path, but tucked up in the motel area on Castleton Way, is the Rockyard Brewing Company. For all you beer aficionados, they offer many award-winning brews. Their creamy, spicy jalapeno soup is very good, especially on a cold winter day (and no,they will not give you their recipe, I asked!). They offer a large variety of sandwiches, and I think their reuben is one of the best. Also, the Rockyard offers a wide variety of side dishes including cole slaw, fries, house salad, sweet potato fries.

Also, we here at the Sentinel would love to have you send us some of your critiques about your favorite restaurant experiences! We'd love to feature some more local experiences. Send them to larkspursentinel@gmail.com.

So, until next month – Bon Appétit!

# In Memoríam...

# **Tony Latronica**February 5, 1937 - February 17 2023

Tony and his wife, Sue, lived in Perry Park for 15 years and made many friends. Both he and Sue considered it the best years of their lives - they loved exploring Colorado and taking trips, as well as socializing, playing cards, organizing golf tournaments, and of course, golfing as much as they could. Tony took over as Commissioner of the Dirty Dozen golf group in 2012, which he managed for six years. During that time, the group expanded from 20 to 40 golfers.

Tony was never bored. He loved the outdoors - golfing, fishing, and hunting. He loved organizing fishing and hunting trips with his buddies and his brothers, as well as meeting friends for coffee or breakfast in downtown Castle Rock. He also enjoyed reading, especially presidential biographies

and western fiction.





Tony was born and raised in California. After earning a BS and Master's degree in Agriculture, he taught courses at Mendocino Community College in Ukiah, CA. After his first wife passed away in 1976, he dedicated himself to work, raising his daughters and perfecting his golf game. He married Sue Hill, adopting her young daughter. Tony and Sue bought 10 acres in Ukiah and started breeding and raising sheep, naming their new passion Latronica Farms. They built their dream house together and started showing sheep at fairs all over Northern California. Latronica Farms was very successful and earned many awards.

After retiring from Mendocino College in 2000, Tony and Sue began looking for places to relocate. They stumbled upon Perry Park and they knew instantly it would be their new home. Then in late 2018, Sue was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. After a three-year

battle, with Tony by her side, Sue passed away on March 16, 2021. Tony grieved for Sue for many months, then found joy taking road trips to visit family and friends in California. In January, after returning from a monthlong trip, he suffered a massive heart attack, then tragically, a few weeks later, a stroke. While in the hospital, he contracted pneumonia, and passed away on February 17. Tony is survived by three daughters: Laurie, Lynne, and Jennifer. There are five grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Tony had so much support and so many visitors while he was hospitalized. His family will be forever grateful to all his friends and the Perry Park community for their love and encouragement. He had a wonderful and rewarding life full of adventure and great times. What his family will



miss most is his sense of humor, his optimism, cheerfulness, and his huge heart.

A celebration of life is planned in Perry Park on Saturday, April 8, 2023. In lieu of donations or flowers, Tony would want you to live bravely and courageously: golf, fish, hunt, camp, hike, play cards, read, travel, get friends together for coffee or breakfast, and just live your best life, doing whatever it is you are passionate about.

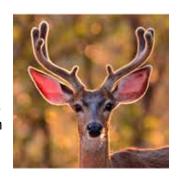
Obituary contributed by Tony's family.



# A few words from Sarah Heckathorn. . .

## Colorado Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator

Recently, a neighbor witnessed the following: a mule deer stumbled into their yard, eventually collapsed in front of a their window. Unfortunately, the deer couldn't get up, so they called Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW). Now, the armchair quarterbacks would have you believe this deer was down as a result of old age. Yet another person "in the know" said the deer had chronic wasting disease. Neither was true. Actually, the deer had been fed and fed and FED by well-meaning but selfish residents who either thought it was "cool" to watch wildlife up close and personal or by those who think the "poor deer" are starving to death.



Deer in winter do NOT have the appropriate gut bacteria to process corn, grains, and hay!! Our deer may be hungry, but they have the knowledge to dig under the snow and eat grasses, branches, and other appropriate food.

"As "ruminants," mule deer rely on a very complex stomach system, including bacteria in their rumen, to aid in digestion. Specific types of bacteria are required for specific types of food, therefore the type of food required for winter feeding of mule deer is highly limited, very specific, and must be properly formulated. Because the digestive system can't adapt quickly enough, supplementally fed mule deer may die with full stomachs. This is especially the situation when starving mule deer are fed alfalfa hay, corn, or other traditional livestock feeds."

Here is the link to the full article from Utah. It may be written from someone out of state, but I'm hoping we're all smart enough to know that mule deer are mule deer, no matter where they live.

#### https://wildlife.utah.gov/.../mdwg-2 winter feeding.pdf

Our District Wildlife Mgr, Sean Dodd had to come out and assess the deer, then euthanize it by shooting in the head between the eyes. The deer had a full stomach....NOT old, NOT sick with Chronic Wasting Disease. After the deer was shot, the homeowners had to drag the deer to their truck and load it up, as it had died on their property. Pretty graphic, I know.

## WE MUST DO BETTER FOR OUR WILDLIFE!!!

If you see a neighbor feeding any wild mammal, please try to have a friendrly chat with them, if possible, about the harm they are causing our wild friends. If it's not possible to have a chat - and believe me, I know how difficult it can be - please call CPW, 720/930-7762. They will ask for photos so they can verify the situation.

In addition to the deer, there are folks feeding turkeys and other wild animals. Bad idea. Believe it or not, in the summer months we also have people trying to HAND FEED bears. Can you hear my neck creaking as I vigorously shake my head? Seriously???

Do you know what a mountain lion's favorite food is? Mule deer! Lots and lots of our deer herds head for higher ground in the summer months where it's cooler, less populated and there is plenty for them to eat. Come winter snows, they head down to where we reside. Guess who follows? Mountain lions!!

When you feed deer and turkeys, you encourage a robust population of lions. No wonder we've been having more lion sightings in the winter months around here! We know the lions gain easy access to the Larkspur area by following the creek beds and draws from Pike National Forest.

Again, we must be better stewards of our wildlife. The stories I hear and the reliable "information" getting put out there is ridiculous. And sad.

That said, I've had folks from Colorado Springs to Castle Rock asking for an educational seminar about coexisting peacefully with our larger wild ones. In response, I will be presenting a Larkspur wildlife seminar on April 1 (no fooliing!), from 10 am - 1 pm at the New Covenant Church in Larkspur.

Topics will be how to peacefully coexist with our beloved Bears and Mountain Lions. This is for any new or old-time resident. All are welcome. Attendance will be limited to 200. For more information and to RSVP, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/215889188778210">https://www.facebook.com/groups/215889188778210</a>

See you on April 1, and thanks for doing the right thing by our wild ones.



# Thursday the 16th & Thursday the 30th 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

7047 Perry Park Blvd. Larkspur, CO 80118

www.perryparkcc.com | Imilan@perryparkcc.com



# **Mitigation Quick Notes**

# by Larry Sutton, Firewise Committee Member

When I obtained a lot in Perry Park 25 years ago, I was unaware of mitigation practices. At the time, the county was not yet making new builds conform to NFPA guidance either so I just given a few suggestions. Since I moved in, many things have changed including the increase in wildfire threats due to drought/fuel conditions, an actual evacuation event and a much larger knowledge base on fire behavior along with better guidance.

Please mitigate. If your property has not been mitigated, a proportional catastrophic risk accompanies the fuel density and load that exists within your span of control. The condition of your unmitigated fuel is not historically normal. Fire events were common historically and served the purpose of clearing undergrowth and fire prone species. (See Keith Worley's article in this issue of the Sentinel for more on the historical perspective.)

Here are some tips that I have learned since becoming a Larkspur resident:

- 1. Please take the time to attend Firewise events and/or study Red Zone/Firewise published information. (https://co-pub.coloradoforestatlas.org/#/) It could save your life and your home.
- 2. Tall majestic ponderosa trees with minimal lower branch growth and large upper 3rd crown branching are generally not a problem and are fire adapted. However, those that have sustained lightning, drought, mechanical and/or beetle kill damage should be culled as a safety and mitigation measure but mature healthy trees are why we live here.
- 3. Gambel (scrub) oak is a gnarly deciduous variety predominant in this area. It is a terrific fuel and will burn underground. It is leafy, grows quickly and covers large areas of ground due to aggressive horizontal growth. It is not fire adapted. Gambel oak likes to grow around the base(s) of large ponderosa trees to steal their water. It can be reduced in density (mitigated) to significantly curtail fuel loading while leaving shade/cover where needed so long as it is not left as a "ladder fuel" directly adjacent to taller species.
- 4. Mid-sized trees can be limbed up and left to grow if density is limited tree to tree to reduce the propensity to serve as a ladder fuel. A variety of species (taller than scrub oak and shorter than mature ponderosa) may coexist.
- 5. Create a perimeter zone around your home foundation 10' (preferably more) that is free of shrubs and similar fuels Those junipers, etc. so loved by suburban landscapers are the enemy in the WUI (Wild Urban Interface). Driveways, rock, and similar non-flammable products are an ally that keep fire from your walls. Consider the alternative.
- 6. Where possible "harden" your building(s) from wind-driven ember intrusion. This is a relatively new topic and more will be presented on this through upcoming Firewise resources.
- 7. Flashy fuels like weeds and tall grass are also a fire hazard. Mowing, weed whacking, etc. are great mitigation efforts as well.

A closing word: Mitigation is not clearcutting. Mitigation is sensible adaptation to the threat of wildfire and a return to more historic forest norms with the addition of dwellings. It is also a constant. Deadfall trees and branches are always present in the WUI. That is why a free slash program exists with twice yearly pickups in Perry Park.



# **Seasonal Journeys Hike Series**

Would you like to spend more time outside this year? Douglas Land Conservancy has over 50 hikes planned for the coming year! The outings will cover a wide range of topics such as geology, birds, wildflowers, and more. Join our email list to hear about hikes and other outdoor activities. Email invites to DLC activities are sent a few days before each event. <a href="https://www.bouglasLandConservancy.org">www.bouglasLandConservancy.org</a>



# DLC will be offering our very popular, Seasonal Journeys Hike Series again in 2023!

Please join us for this series of 8 hikes to notice the changes at Dawson Butte Open Space, and in ourselves, as the seasons change. Along the way, you will learn about the historical seasonal festivals that are aligned with nature and agricultural practices around the world, notice what's happening along our trail and participate

in guided mindfulness and gratitude practices to notice what's happening on your own personal journey. The hikes will occur approximately every 6 weeks. Registration will be for one hike at a time. The hikes do not contain cumulative information. You may participate in just one or all the hikes.

## **Hikes in the Seasonal Journeys Series:**

Brigid's day First Fruits
Spring Equinox Fall Equinox
May Day Haloween\*
Summer Solstice Winter Solstice





Affordable Pricing
Fire Mitigation
Remodel and Construction Debris Demolition
Ranch Land Cleanup

Chris Miller 303-919-1996

mrhauling19@gmail.com

"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

#### Just Listed!

623 Cumberland Road Hidden Forest, Larkspur \$1,295,000

Completely Remodeled 4 Bedrooms/5 Bathrooms



This stunning 4,203 finished sq ft custom ranch home has been completely remodeled with top of the line finishes. The chef's gourmet kitchen has professional grade appliances and slab granite countertops. The great room boasts numerous windows and a stone surround double sided gas fireplace with access to the spacious covered deck. The main floor master suite has numerous windows with forest views and an enormous 5 piece bath featuring heated marble floors and alder wood cabinetry. The finished walk out lower-level features an additional master suite and a spacious family room with patio access.



#### **Just Sold!**

11513 Canterberry Lane Villages Of Parker, Parker \$875,000

> 5280 For Outstanding



#### Just Sold! 61 Mountain Ranch Road. L

1561 Mountain Ranch Road, Larkspur \$840,000

This custom mountain home which has been completely remodeled is an amazing horse property on 3 level acres including a barn, loafing shed, and pasture for up to three horses on the pastoral property. Miles of horseback trail riding nearby. This remodeled home included a finished 1,300 square foot lower level with a separate entrance and full kitchen making it perfect for multigeneration living.

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



"Ben is honest, professional, communicative and informed. He knows the local market, its trends and reasonable values. There is no better agent for the

local Larkspur market (whether buying or selling) than Ben Wolfe." *Feedback from Derek and Denise Meredith*  Wolfe Realty Group, Inc.
Office 303-681-3553
Cell 303-667-7995
Ben@DiscoverLarkspur.com
www.DiscoverLarkspur.com

# A Walk on the Wild Side...

by Susan Peters

Spring!...Grizzly Toes...Some more Nature Photo Winners...Short Takes

# Spring - Really?

Well, like saying that "it is 5 o'clock somewhere" for the excuse for a happy hour, one could say that "it is spring somewhere" to go out and plant seeds. Have fun chiseling through the frozen snow! And still another storm is predicted for this week. But such is March. The "Springtime in the Rockies" cry has soon grown tired after such a cold winter and the promise of Rocky Mountain "spring" for another two months.

At least towards the end of March, we will rejoice when we see crocuses, daffodils, and tulips emerge before snow dumps on them. And on a nice day, a bee or two will buzz about and perhaps some butterflies will flit by.

Aha, the bluebirds are returning from their winter

hiatus. Some will land high-end homes to raise their young-ins. Others will have to settle for a tree cavity. This picture of a nest was a result of cleaning out one of the birdhouses at the end of the season. Two eggs did not hatch, although I suspect that either they



were not fertilized or they froze before being allowed to develop.

Enjoy a time-lapse video of a Mama Bluebird finishing up a nest, then voilá. . .eggs appear and hatch! It seems like one of the four eggs disappeared. And then they all fly the coop. If I had a video camera inside a nesting box, I would spend all day watching the happenings. How about you? <a href="https://fb.watch/ioncPapY3I/?mibextid=6aamW6">https://fb.watch/ioncPapY3I/?mibextid=6aamW6</a>

#### **Bearses without Toeses**

Check out this bear picture closely. The hind left paw is missing two claws and the tips of those toes.

Clayton Lamb, of Alberta Canada, a field scientist studying grizzly bears, started noticing grizzly bears missing toes, either by prints, or when he had to arrange transport of a bear to a different location. He

put aside his current

doctoral studies of grizzly reproduction to do a sixmonth study on this toe quagmire.

First, it is critical that bears have good claws and strong



shoulders to allow them to dig for food – rodents and insects, and to dig their way to China for a comfy den in winter. Missing digits also puts them at a disadvantage when fighting.

Lamb and his team were quite puzzled as to what was happening to the grizzlies. The toes were "cut" off in a straight line, not jagged as would happen in a fight. So, the problem had to be of human origin. After reasoning between the team, the obvious culprit was traps, but small ones, as a larger one would take off more than toes, most likely traps for martens, small weasel-like rodents, prized for their firs. They set up a collection of traps, modifying them so that the bears could not injure their toes. Sure enough, the traps were visited and triggered. Next, they tested to see if a marten trap applies enough force to nearly amputate the bear toes. Nope. But it was enough force to cut off the circulation to the toes, causing them to eventually atrophy and fall off over the course of weeks and months. This process is very painful to the bears leaving them at a disadvantage for feeding, fighting, and digging a den.

So, now what? Ban marten trapping? Change the hunting season? Modify the traps? Too many issues arose for the first two options. So, modifying the traps, so toes could escape the mechanism of the traps worked nicely. Hooray!

continued on next page

#### **Short Takes**

Need a Halloween costume? Yeah, it's early for that topic, but you will need a bit of time to make this costume. When I saw a picture of a carpenter ant face, I shrank in terror. It looks



like the man-eating monsters in Alien. According to the Washington Post, the parts of the ant's face that look like glowing red eyes are in fact the bases of its antennae, while what appear to be yellow teeth are very small 'trigger' hairs that ants use to sense the surrounding environment. A little bit of photoshopping here, but they achieved the desired effect.

Let's take your heartrate down a peg. Central Park in New York City is a bird watcher's mecca. Two species of owls in particular, frequent the surrounds: the Great



Horned and the Barred Owl. Barry the Barred owl, below, was a popular resident. She recently went to birdie heaven and a proper memorial was performed for her.

Then, we have a Great Horned Owl caught in a truck grill in Pueblo. He spent the night there with his head sticking out of the grill, until a wildlife agent rescued him the following morning with no harm



done. He is spending time rehabbing at a Nature and Wildlife Discovery Center.

#### **Nature Picture Contest Winners**

Ok, I will share with you a couple of the many great photo winners.

The first is entitled Iberian Lynx Family by Alessandro Beconi. You have to look closely as to how many lynxes there are. The camouflage is incredible.

"I started looking for the Iberian lynx a few years ago. I had been lucky and I had photographed a lynx with its big



cub, even it was from a long distance. I have returned several times to Andalucia. I wanted to photograph this fascinating and highly endangered species. After a week of unlucky searches, on the last day, I spotted a lynx very far away. I waited but it seems to move to different locations each time. In the end, I understand what happened: the one I'm following from afar is not just one lynx but 4! Mother Lynx and her 3 cubs have already grown up. I'm lucky enough to see them approach and then disappear behind a hill. They are camouflaged with the surrounding environment and being able to see them is complicated. Suddenly two cubs climb a rock and crouch next to their mother. Then the third one also arrives, he sits on the rock and starts to lick himself. I cannot believe my eyes. They are not far from me, but not scared either. They look at me, I look at them: incredible. "

The next photo is Confinement In The Seventh Left' By David Jerez. Where's Waldo? A spider is nestled in amongst flower's seeds.

"The photograph was taken in a field of sunflowers in Guadalajara, Spain, very close to my house. The objective of those days was to photograph birds

feeding and bathing among the sunflowers. This little jumping spider was found [tucked among the seeds], day after day, on the same sunflower.



She watched me a bit strangely while I worked with the birds. When the ripe sunflower, some seeds fell. The spider took refuge in the hole using it as a hunting ground."

**How to Contact Me:** Email is best at <u>susan@</u> <u>larskpurconsulting.com</u>.



# WALTSWORDS By Walt Korinke

Commercial Real Estate

March 2023



Well before the Promenade was conceived, it was rumored that an **Olive Garden** was coming to Castle Rock. The years moved on; the Promenade is here, and finally the family-style Italian restaurant is having discussions with the Town's Planning Dept.

Started as a unit of General Mills in Orlando in 1982 and later acquired by Darden

Laurants in 1995, Olive Garden has grown to over 900 restaurants spread across the US and seven other countries. Denver has nine and there are two in the Springs.



currently used as parking for the Outlets. This is across the street from the Inn & Out to the south side of Memphis Court.

Under consideration is their typical one-story, 7,818 sq. ft. Italian-American design restaurant that could be built on a 17,200 sq. ft. pad site at the NE corner of Factory Shops and New Memphis Court



Offering full-service, casual Italian American dining (lunch & dinner) with seating for 255 hungry customers, Olive Garden is especially known for its breadsticks (my way - oil in a dish with grated cheese and pepper) and a vast menu giving the customer



the challenge of choosing. A favorite of many is their wonderful all you can eat "soup and salad" (with breadsticks) - Zuppa Toscana is the ultimate soup.

Although Red Lobster was part of the old rumor, there is NO MENTION of the usual companion joining Olive Garden in Castle Rock.

These are preliminary discussions with no schedule for a start at this time – keep your fingers crossed and your credit card handy!

Although Walt is semi-retired, he is still writing special interest items.

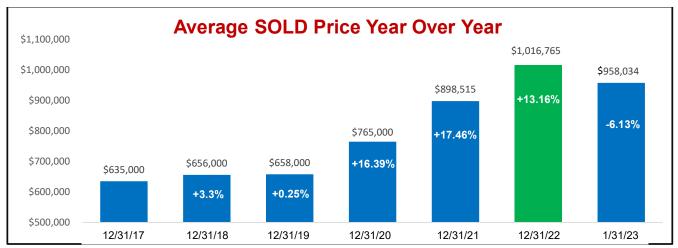


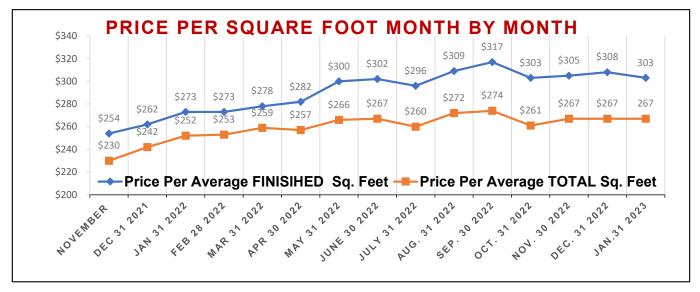
# Larkspur Area Real Estate Stats - HOMES SOLD

Homes Currently For-Sale (2/20/2023) ---12 (\$599,999 to \$2,350,000) --- Median \$1,227,000 <u>▶ Average Days on Market --- 70</u>

Homes Currently "Under Contract" --- 11 (\$620,000 to \$3,999,999) --- Median \$899,900

Average Days on Market --- 102





---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 sales 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 inperson 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.

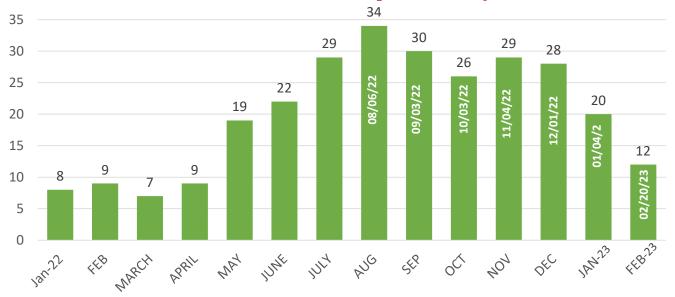
Results Realty of Colorado—Dave Gardner's Results Team 9164 Spruce Mountain Rd., Larkspur, CO 80118 \* 303-681-1000 \* www.HomesInLarkspurCO.com



# **Larkspur Real Estate Stats**



# 2022/2023 Homes FOR SALE in Larkspur Month by Month



# **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**COLORADO MASTICATION:** fire mitigation, scrub oak removal, lot and brush clearing.

719-400-9104

**SPRAYTECH:** preventive beetle spraying, noxious weed control, tree spraying for insects & diseases, tree deep root watering & fertilizing.

720-248-0000

SECURITY DOORS & RETRACTABLE SCREENS: for sale along with screen repair in the Larkspur area.

Call **Jack Hoyt 719-231-1719**.

or business returns/accounting.
Over 40 years experience. Very
Reasonable / E-filing available. Free
Pickup and Delivery.

Call Edd 719-373-0324

#### **ADVERTISING RATES**

Pricing is for Camera Ready Art

Classified	\$5/line (\$10 min)
Business Card (scan only)	\$40.00
Quarter Page Ad(3-1/2"w X 5"h)	\$50.00
Half Page Ad (7-1/2"w X 5"h)	\$62.50
Full Page Ad (7-1/2"w X 10"h)	\$87.50
	,

Submit ad art to larkspursentinel@gmail.com

#### **DEADLINES**

Articles/Letters/Ad Artwork/Classified Ads

20th of each month

Any ads in this newsletter are paid for by the advertiser and do not represent an endorsement from the editor, publisher, writers, or others affiliated with the production of this communication.

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

# **TEENS FOR HIRE!!**

**Colin:** I'm 12, responsible (for my age) and live in Perry Park Ranch. I'd like to help you with pet sitting, plant watering, light yard work or other tasks you need help with. My older brother Bennett (14) may also be available if you need snow shoveling help or heavier yard work assistance. **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: 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.

The Larkspur Sentinel, LLC is a volunteer organization. Any questions, suggestions, ad requests can be emailed to

larkspursentinel@gmail.com

The Larkspur Sentinel, LLC volunteer staff reserves the right to refuse any article or advertising submission.

The Larkspur Sentinel invites your letters, comments, and ideas for columns.

Letters should be limited to 300 words. Because of space limitation and legal ramifications, we reserve the right to edit any submitted material and cannot assure that submissions will be printed verbatim or unedited. The Larkspur Sentinel will correct all errors that occur. If you find a problem with a story – an error of fact, or a point requiring clarification, please email

larkspursentinel@gmail.com.

The opinions expressed in the Larkspur Sentinel are not necessarily the opinions of the staff or its advertisers.