

Serving Perry Park, Larkspur, and the surrounding community

August 2021

August already??!!

I am dumbfounded by the fact that according to the DCSD website, school starts on August 9!!! That seems so early to someone who started kindergarten a few, several, okay, a really long time ago when the first day of school fell in mid- to late September! How can the summer be going away so fast - especially a summer that we all were looking forward to for so long! I hope you have been able to get out, get away, spend time with family and friends, enjoy the outdoors, enjoy dining in, and do all the indoor things that we were unable to pursue last summer. (I know from our experience, that the freeways have been very busy, and between Denver and Boise, I saw a personal best 38 different state license plates and 2 provinces.) Certainly the increased gas prices have not kept folks off the roads. What a different story for "What I did on my summer vacation" for 2021! And for that, we can all be grateful.

As we head into fall, we can look forward to those cool, crisp evenings that are so lovely, fall sporting events, and a holiday season with in-person gathering. Although it has been strange as things have opened up, it's always amazing to see how we all adapt.

🎜 See you in September 🎜 . . .and until then. . .

Please, be kind.

Margot Patterson

Editor

larkspursentinel@gmail.com

PS: Finally--The links in the pdf of this issue should be clickable!!



ELIZABETH



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



7330 FREMONT PLACE | SAGE PORT | JUST SOLD FOR \$853,500!



8214 RED ROCK COURT | PERRY PARK | JUST SOLD FOR \$795,000!



4131 BELL MOUNTAIN DRIVE | BELL MOUNTAIN | JUST SOLD FOR \$1,575,000



4095 CHEYENNE DRIVE | PERRY PARK | JUST SOLD!



12565 MESA VIEW | LARKSPUR | JUST SOLD!



2775 HWY 105 | MONUMENT | \$1,050,000 | FOR SALE!

ELIZABETH OWENS has a reputation centered on residential, high-end and acreage properties in Larkspur, Castle Rock and throughout Douglas County. For the past 17+ 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



5th Annual Music in the Park

Continuing thru August @ Larkspur Community Park All dates are Fridays

August 13th - Timberline Troubadours (Bluegrass) August 27th - Looking Back (70's and 80's)

We have limited sponsorships available, including non-profit partners. For more information on sponsorships, you may contact: Bonnie Schwam at 719-651-2916 or email bonnie@bonniesellscolorado. com.

Monthly Networking Mixers

August 9th @ 5:30pm September 12th @ 5:30pm

For details on location or zoom, visit our FB Page <u>@LarkspurChamberofCommerce</u>

Blanket Brigade Warms Hearts

The Larkspur Blanket Brigade makes quilts for anyone experiencing trauma, loss,



adversity, or illness. Our group was formed in 2015 with 4 ladies and we have grown to 15 dedicated souls. We are able to create and give away 300 quilts each year. If you know of anyone in need of a little extra comfort, contact Gwen Underwood at gwenspur@icloud.com or Cindy Hotaling at cjaspsjr@yahoo.com. We will arrange to get a quilt to you. We are a 501 (c)3 and we operate mainly with donations of fabric. If you have any extra fabric, batting or yarn, please consider donating to our group.

We will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at the Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd. Please consider joining us in this fun endeavor. You do not need any special sewing skills because we only do the tying of the quilts when we meet. All you need to know is how thread a needle, but if you like to sew we can accommodate those skills as well. Come join us!



Deadline to be added to the PAPER maps is Tuesday, August 17th and Wednesday August 18th for the VIRTUAL maps.

Garage Sale Hours: 8 am - 2 pm



by Sean King, Secretary, Perry Park Metro District

Independence Day Celebration Success and Thank You

This year's Independence Day celebration was fantastic! From the parade and food in the morning to the 30 minutes long fireworks show in the evening, and the excellent weather throughout, the entire day was amazing.

A wonderful event like this requires a lot of help, and this year simply could not have been a success without the following people and their contributions:

- Dave Gardner Results Real Estate Team for the Avenue of Flags at the front of the park, judging of the parade, providing trophies for the winners of the parade, lending the sound system, and being a participant in the parade (the multiple person bicycle)
- Elizabeth Owens Remax Real Estate for being a major donor towards the food and drinks, being a participant in the parade (the 4-wheeler at the end of the parade), picking up signage, pylons, and miscellaneous items at the Big D.
- Chris and Autumn Miller of M R Hauling for leading the parade in the big grapple truck, being a major donor and setting up all the food, and serving that food to the neighborhood with family and friends, and providing the sound system at the food site.
- Larkspur Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary for coordination of the order of the parade including handing out the numbers and categories, and traffic control at some corners.
- Perry Park Country Club for helping coordinate the fireworks show over Lake Wauconda, serving food on the island to non-members before the fireworks, and putting on a celebration at the club for members.
- Larkspur Fire Department for overseeing a safe shoot of the fireworks and helping lead the parade.
- All of the residents who participated in the parade! While it is safe to say that everyone on the board had a

hand in helping make this day happen, Craig VanDoorn deserves special commendation for the tremendous amount of effort he and his wife, Linda, provided being the overall coordinator of the activities. Craig's tenacity and devotion are the reason we all were able to enjoy such a great day. Thank you!

Financial audit complete

Every three years the PPMD board voluntarily commissions a third party to conduct a full audit of our financials for the year. This is done to ensure that the PPMD is conducting financial matters in accordance with auditing standards.

This year, The Adams Group LLC conducted the financial audit providing a "clean opinion with no material misstatements". They did recommend making one correction to the capital assets for 2020 which is already in process. For those that wish to learn more about the audit, details will be posted as part of the board minutes after next month's meeting.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, **August 12th, 6:30pm** at the Perry Park Country Club

Again, we will also be hosting the meeting on Zoom for those who wish to attend virtually. As usual, details for the meeting will be posted before the meeting through our mail list and on social media. Please go here to sign up for our mail list: PPMD Mail List Sign Up

All Perry Park residents are welcome to attend and participate.

The PPMD Board of Directors

Randy Johnson – President (thru May 2022) Craig Van Doorn – Vice Pres. (thru May 2022) Bonnie Schwam – Asst Vice Pres. (thru May 2022)

Joe Brickweg – Treasurer (thru May 2023) Sean King – Secretary (thru May 2023) "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

Under Contract!

934 Cottonwood Ln Sage Port, Larkspur \$795,000



Beautiful 2,858 finished sq ft ranch with 3 car garage attached plus a 1,000 sq ft detached 4 car garage perfectly situated on a 1 acre wooded lot! This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings and picture windows. The kitchen showcases slab granite countertops, pantry and breakfast bar. The family room features pellet burning stove, picture windows and access to the large wrap around deck. The master retreat features wood floors, large walk in closet, 5 piece master bath and a private deck. The finished walk-out lower level boasts a family room, 2 bedrooms and a full bathroom.



Just Sold!

210 Saber Creek Dr Monument \$642,000

Consistent Winner Of

5280

For Outstanding Customer Service

Just Sold!

928 Riddlewood Ln Highlands Ranch \$650,000



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. His 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 and Cathy Sweeney

For Sale!

6811 Woodhall Ct Bear Dance, Larkspur \$550,000



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

NEWS FROM THE WATER DISTRICT

by Brian Arthurs

"In their efforts to provide a sufficiency of water where there was not one, men have resorted to every expedient from prayer to dynamite. The story of their efforts is, on the whole, one of pathos and tragedy, of a few successes and many failures."

- Walter Prescott Webb

News for July will be presented next month as the Board meets after the publication of this issue. With that in mind, the following may be of interest.

Water Wars and Conflicts Throughout History

Whiskey is for drinking; water is for fighting over." -attributed to Mark Twain

There have been countless conflicts with water being at the center. War, with loss of life, realignment of borders, and availability of water to the parties. One of the earliest was a conflict over irrigation water between the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers in the ancient Mesopotamian era over 4,000 years ago, between two ancient city states.

The following are a bit more recent and relevant:

- 1950-51, the U.S. attacked North Korean dams along the Yalu River. North Korea released floods from the Hwachon Dam to damage U.S. floating bridges downstream; the U.S. responded by bombing the floodgates.
- 1951-53, Israel and Syria sporadically shot at each other when Israel tried to build a water project in the demilitarized zone between the two countries. Eventually, Israel moved the project to the Sea of Galilee.
- 1958, Egypt sent troops into disputed territory in the Sudan because of tensions over irrigation projects on the Nile River. Sudan's government changed and a treaty was signed between the two countries.
- 1962, Brazil sent troops into the Paraná River area of Paraguay in a dispute over development of the river. The troops were not withdrawn until a study commission was set up in 1967.
- 1963-64, several hundred people were killed in fighting between Ethiopia and Somalia. The dispute was over critical water sources in the Ogaden desert.

- 1965, Israel and Syria again exchanged gunfire over an Arab plan to divert the headwaters of the Jordan River, the same river that flows into Israel. Syria was convinced to halt its diversions a year later.
- Late 1960s, the U.S. bombed irrigation systems in North Vietnam and tried to seed clouds and produce rain to stop the flow of material down the Ho Chi Minh Trail.
- 1969, Israel suspected Jordan was diverting too much water from the Yarmouk River and destroyed a new irrigation canal in Jordan. The U.S. brokered secret negotiations in 1970.

Even within the "United" States, there was a time when one state threatened to go to war with another over water. In 1935, Arizona National Guard troops were dispatched to the Colorado River to stop California from building a dam and "stealing" Arizona's water. A hundred Guardsmen with machine guns showed up at the dam site.

It has been said water is so important, particularly for growing food, that disputes will have to be resolved through negotiation before countries start shooting. Author Sandra Postel wrote in Pillar of Sand: "All told, reaching the food production levels needed in 2025 could require up to 2,000 cubic kilometers of additional irrigation water — a volume equivalent to the annual flow of 24 Nile Rivers or 110 Colorado Rivers... Supplying this much additional water will be difficult."

Water wars are as old as the river, but today the weapons of choice are lobbyists, lawsuits, and money. No one knows if or when the next water war will come, but we can be sure that it will be fought over either the quantity of water or the quality of water.

For updates for July and further information, please view the district website, www.ppwsd.org.

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kathy.lobato@gmail.com





















FROM THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

by Cindy Applegate, Secretary-Board of Directors

Yearly Call Review: From January 1 - June 30, we ran a total of 456 calls compared to 420 calls for the same timeframe in 2020: an increase of 36 calls.

Monthly Call Review: From June 1 - June 30, we ran a total of 108 calls compared to 79 calls for the same timeframe in 2020: an increase of 29 calls.

Fires: Total of 1 call: Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire (1 in-district)

EMS: Total of 48 calls

Medicals: 30 (27 in-district, 3 mutual aid)

MVA's with Injuries: 17 (17 in-district)

Trench or below grade rescue: 1 (in-district)

Alarms: Total of 3 calls: Fire alarm system

malfunction: 3 (in-district)

Other: Total of 56 calls (53 in-district, 3 mutual aid)

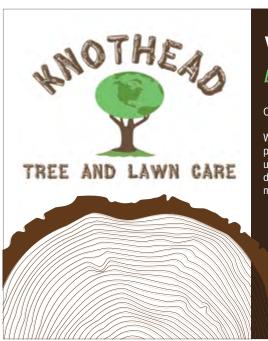
Please call Fire Marshal Johnson at 303-880-4724 to set up an appointment for a review of your property to assess your wildfire hazard/risk. Johnson will share recommendations for reducing your risk from wildfire, as well as helping you to prioritize the work that needs to be accomplished. There is no charge for this service.

Fire Protection District Board Meeting

Thursday, August 12th 6:00 PM at Station 161

The meetings are open to the public.
This may be a virtual meeting.
Check the website for details.

larkspurfire.org



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 $\label{thm:continuous} \textbf{Knothead Tree and Lawn Care is a TCA member with an ISA certification and an Arborist Certification.} \\$



Bon Appétit, a bear's gotta eat!

We bear refer to August as "bear-topia" because all is good in the bear world this time of year. Much like your kid-cubs who are home from college, we spend our summer days sleeping in, aimlessly strolling about, and visiting our favorite watering holes and dining spots. Imagine a Pearl Street Mall Crawl the size of Larkspur. Groovy.



Hopefully, your den address is not on our Taste of Colorado list of favorite greasy spoon locations. If it is, don't despair. You can turn off the flashing neon "EASY MEAL" sign posted in front of your house by eliminating the outdoor and indoor dining opportunities. You know the drill: Use only bearproof garbage containers, hang bird feeders and sides of beef ten feet

up and ten feet out from any climbable objects, and keep ground floor windows and doors secured. Yes, this includes large doggy doors. Some shameless bear moms send their cubs through these pet doors to bring food out for the rest of the family. Talk about curbside delivery! Do these simple things, and we will quickly move on to more fertile feeding grounds.

Hyper what?

Soon we will enter a period known as hyperphagia. This term sounds scary, but it's totally natural and necessary for our survival. This seasonal metabolism change is nature's way of ramping up our appetites to gain poundage as we prepare for our long winter nap. I know I've entered hyperphagia when my stomach growls louder than my mouth. Just think of this phenomenon as the reverse of

Weight Watchers. The object is for us bear to eat large quantities of food high in fat and calories. Pound for pound, seed from your bird feeders is a huge score. So, treat bird feeders like the title of one of my favorite Clint Eastwood western movies – " Hang em High."



Ask Beary Bear

This month I'll ask you a question: Which outcome do you prefer? Same bear, different result. Bear-proof garage containers make a huge

difference in our health and will save you valuable clean-up time if your house is selected for a "garbage audit" by one of our local furry representatives.





Not a honey pot

Colorado Parks and Wildlife officials in Boulder County confirmed they captured a young dame spotted by area

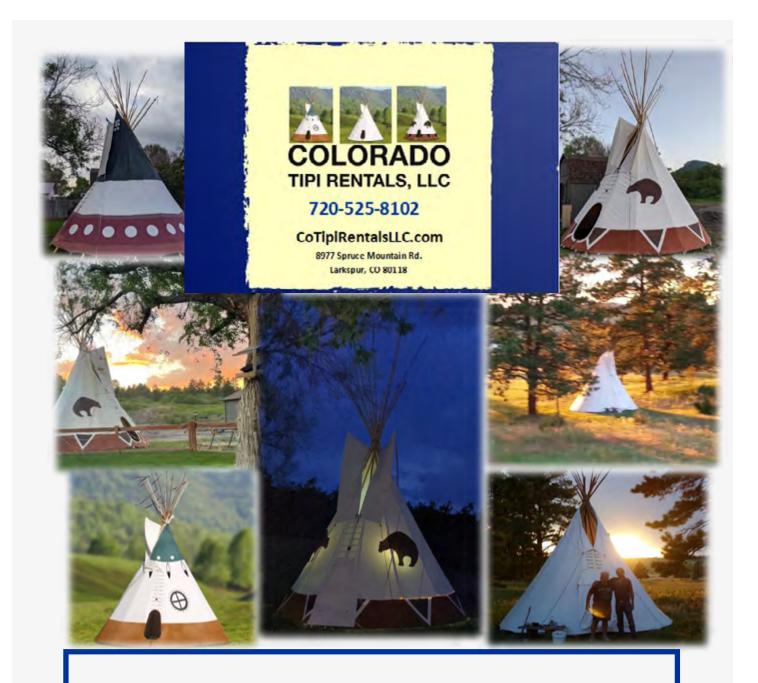
residents wearing a chicken feeder that had become stuck on her head. Fortunately, the headdress was removed, and young Winnie was set free without injury (except maybe her pride.



Until next time, be safe, be happy, and always remember, especially when you feel annoyed by one of us, we were here first.

Your friend in the woods,

Beary



Colorado Tipi Rentals, LLC offers the customers a unique tipi experience that is fun, educational, and historical. We offer 16' and 18' Tipis for rent. Our tipis are perfect for weddings, birthdays, parties, corporate, and other events. We offer delivery, set up, take down, and some staging. A 16' Tipi will sleep 4-6 comfortably and accommodate 6-10 sitting side-by-side. An 18' Tipi will sleep 6-8 and accommodate 8-12+ sitting side-by-side. We also have an open door set up that makes it easy for entering and exiting the tipi.

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MONEY TO BURN

by Karl Roscoe

How to keep what you've paid for where you paid to put it...

Well, it's August and what better time to talk about solar power? There's an old saying from the solar industry: When's the best time to install solar? Yesterday. When's the next best time? To-day.

Common excuses for delay: I'm waiting for the right time. I'm waiting for my ROI to be less than 10 years. I'm waiting for rock-bottom prices.

If you are considering solar, get solar. That's it. Prices have never been lower. Power collection has never been more capable. Contractors have never been more plentiful. And honestly, very few people have been known to say "I really hate the way my energy bills have zeroed out since I got solar."

IREA. We've all got 'em. Maybe you've heard some stories. Well here's some firsthand experi-ence: They were great. Not hyperbole, I'm not on their payroll; we simply had a seamless experi-ence with the transition, and they did everything they said they would, when they said they would, and how they said they would. These days, that's what you call amazing customer service. Here's a link to their solar starter page: https://irea.coop/considering-solar-call-irea-first/. And one to their rooftop solar page: https://irea.coop/rooftop-solar/

The trick with IREA is to work with a contractor who has done business with IREA in the past and can guide you through their process. Also, do your due diligence: Look through the IREA website and prepare questions for your contractor. The more you know, the better prepared you'll be and the happier you'll be with the transition.

Some basics:

- You need some southern exposure, free of shade.
- Learn about the panels themselves. There are some very powerful collectors with some wonderful magic tools to make them even more efficient. As with all things, "cheaping out" will likely not produce the results you're looking for.
- Ask others about their experience and savings.
- Educate yourself about solar—if for nothing else than to be able to evaluate the quality of the answers you get from asking others!
- Prepare to be addicted. We installed our panels a year-and-a-half ago and still check our power production every day. You'll soon learn what your key numbers are for a net-zero day.
- Hire a good contractor.

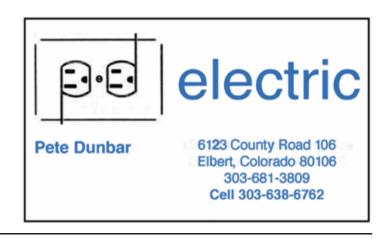
Hiring a good contractor is essential. We went with Solar Power Pros and, quite frankly, I can't say enough good things about them. Every step of the way, my questions were answered, their presentations were professional, their people were courteous and professional, and their products were top notch. Shameless plug time: Do business with these guys. Tell 'em I said so.

Each of the aforementioned qualities can be found in many contractors. So again, do your due diligence. Research contractors, and interview a few before making your choice. It is well worth the time invested to ensure a great experience that delivers the results you expect (which, I guess, is a return to the 'educate yourself about solar' argument...).

Bottom line? Well, it is the bottom line, isn't it: How much will solar save me? How does this sound: We installed the panels in March of 2020. From May to December, our billed kWh was a total of 0. That's right, zero! From January to June of this year, billed kWh were 29. (May was weird, all other months were zero.). Last year our post-solar-install total electric bill was \$196. So far this year, it's \$159.

But I believe the bottom line is actually bigger than that. As I write this, the entire American west is on fire. Death Valley just logged a 130-degree day—the highest temperature ever recorded on Earth. British Columbia recorded a high temp of 49.6 C (121.3°F) —4.6 degrees higher than the previous record set in 1937. It's only going to get worse. Nobody's going to save us from what's coming. Nobody but us. Yesterday was the best time to do something to fix this. Today is what we have.

Enough doom and gloom. Next time we'll be prepping for winter. 'Til then...



DAVE GARDNER'S

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9138 Spruce Mountain Rd. --- Town of Larkspur

Fixer-Upper in the Town of Larkspur! Can be Commercial, Residential, or Both! 1,750 Sq. Foot Ranch built over a 3,202 Sq. Foot Garage! Formerly "Larkspur Auto Body". Zoned "Business", call for Huge List of Pre-Approved Uses! Sold AS-IS.



12721 Mesa View --- Larkspur

Fully remodeled Tri-Level Home PLUS finished Walkout Bsmt on 10-Acres backs to Greenland Ranch Open Space. TREMENDOUS Mountain Views! Zoned for horses and livestock, there is a 1,223 Sq. Foot Barn.



6279 Perry Park Blvd. --- Perry Park

1-Acre Corner Lot is right across the street from existing paved road and utilities.

Breathtaking Mountain Views PLUS views of towering Red Rock formations. Flat
to gently sloping topography allows for easier home construction.



5503 Country Club Dr. --- Perry Park

1-Acre "Ready-To-Build" LOT in popular Perry Park. County-Maintained paved roads and all utilities including high-speed Comcast cable. Backs to open space.

All utilities are buried so as not the interfere with the Tremendous Views.



7973 Inca Rd. --- Perry Park

1-Acre LOT is "Ready-To-Build" with plentiful Ponderosa Pines and magnificent Douglas Fir trees. Located in the front half of Perry Park, you have easy access to I-25. Neighborhood deer visit you daily.



1115 Kenosha Dr. --- Sage Port

1-Acre LOT in the forest at Sage Port near the Bear Dance Golf Course is fully "Ready-To-Build". Water and sewer tap fees are PRE-PAID (save \$13,100 over other lots that do NOT hav pre-paid taps).



In 2020 Dave has Sold MORE Larkspur HOMES than any other Agent! Call us to find out why more people are choosing the Results Team!

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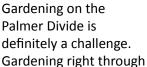




LARKSPUR GARDENERS

by Renee Glover

Clematis Photo - Mike Montgomery



a Palmer Divide winter is like achieving a small victory over the forces of Nature.

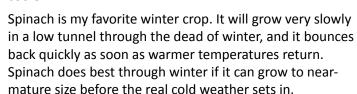
Wait! What? Garden through the winter? In Larkspur? Absolutely yes!

I know it seems as if we just got the summer garden going, but yes, it is time to think about winter gardens. All it takes is a little planning and preparation and you can have fresh vegetables well into winter, and possibly even year-round.

In a previous article, I talked about using PVC pipe to make low tunnels or mini-hoop houses over raised garden beds. With heavy plastic sheeting over the hoops, a garden bed full of cold season crops should thrive right through all but the most brutal winters.

There are some vegetables whose flavor gets sweeter after a frost. These plants react to the cold by producing more sugars. Brassicas are the best at this. Brassicas are the cruciferous vegetables in the cabbage and mustard family. Collards are the most cold-hardy of all the brassicas. I've had a lot of success with kale and cabbage in my winter garden, too. Arugula, a spicy, lettuce-like brassica, is

another one to sow as soon as the days turn cooler.



If you don't have low tunnels or hoop houses, there are still many options for a fall and early winter garden harvest. Leaf lettuces, especially mesclun mixes and Bibb lettuce, are a wonderful fall crop. Beets, Brussels sprouts, parsnips, broccoli, radishes and leeks will withstand light-to medium-frost temperatures. Green onions will survive snow and even hard freezes!

It's deeply satisfying to dig through the snow on Christmas or New Year's Day to open up a low tunnel and harvest fresh vegetables! Think about a spinach salad with hot bacon dressing, mashed parsnips and roasted beets. Start planting your fall and winter garden this month, and with just a bit of luck, you will wow your holiday guests with a bounty of fresh-from-the garden produce.

Doesn't that sound wonderful? Garden on, my friends! Garden on!



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Larkspur Fire Protection District

Dedicated to our community through quality services, compassion, and excellence

Campfires within the Larkspur Fire Protection District:

The LFPD permits all recreational campfires on a per occurrence basis. The campfire pit location must first be approved by the LFPD. A permit must be requested *each time* you would like to have a fire. The request can be by fire permit request form at https://www.larkspurfire.org/, phone, or email during business hours of the LFPD (website form is best). Please request your permit with a minimum notice of two business days prior to the date(s) you would like to have a campfire (but no more than a week in advance). Once you are on the LFPD's approved list, you may request a permit as often as you like. Permits will be issued unless area wildland fire conditions are not conducive to do so. Wildland fuel and weather conditions are monitored by the LFPD and form the basis for the decision to permit or not. The LFPD decision to not issue a permit is final. As fuel and weather conditions can change rapidly within the fire district, the length of time a permit may be valid will will be the decision of the LFPD and can vary accordingly. There is no fee for the permit.

Permit rules are as follows:

- Area where the campfire is to be located shall be visited and approved by the Chief or Fire Marshal.
- Campfire is limited to the area and in the pit or firebox as approved by the Chief or Fire Marshal.
- Ground surface within 25 ft. of the fire shall be paved with a non-combustible material or cleared to mineral soil.
- Maintain a charged water hose line, 10-gallons of water, or a 10 lb. ABC dry-chemical fire extinguisher within 25 ft. of the fire at all times.
- Fire must be attended at all times by an adult (age 21 or older).
- Flame lengths shall not exceed 3 ft. in length.
- Fire must be totally extinguished immediately after use.
- The Permit shall not supersede any County or State ordinances, laws, or fire restrictions.
- **DO NOT BURN** if wind exceeds 10 mph and immediately extinguish if the wind exceeds 10 mph while burning.

Upon your request, I will be happy to visit your campfire site for approval. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Randal R. Johnson Fire Marshal

9414 South Spruce Mountain Road Larkspur, Colorado 80118 Phone: (303) 681-3284 Fax: (303) 681-3201 www.larkspurfire.org





DLC Protected Open Spaces

by Richard Bangs, DLC Member
Photos by DLC Staff

Through a partnership with Douglas County Open Space and the Town of Castle Rock, DLC has accepted conservation easements on more than 13,000 acres of public open space. This provides opportunities to hike and explore nature close to home. Some areas also allow bicycles and horseback riding.

Below is a list of properties protected by DLC that are open to the public. For more specific information about access and recreational opportunities on Douglas County open spaces, please go to www.douglas.co.us/dcoutdoors/trails/open-space-trails. For open spaces in Castle Rock, go to www.crgov.com/1985/Open-Space-and-Trails.

Dawson Butte Ranch – Off Tomah Road, the five-mile Dawson Butte Trail travels through mostly forested areas with some open meadows and views of the front range mountains. The trail follows gently rolling terrain. Optional bridle paths include more than 60 horse jumps.

DuPont Open Space – Near the historic town of Louviers. The property contains a cottonwood riparian forest, riparian shrub land, mixed foothill prairie, and healthy rugged montane shrub land plant communities.

Glendale Farm – Adjacent to I-25 near Castle Pines, this 145-acre property has native chokecherry and wild plum shrubs along a dry stream bed. The 1.6-mile natural surface trail winds up through Gambel oaks and onto a grassland plain with views of Pikes Peak and the front range.

Greenland Ranch West – This 3,600-acre property lies south of the town of Larkspur, adjacent to I-25 and features roughly ten miles of trail, stunning views of open prairie and surrounding buttes. A large equestrian parking lot facilitates horse-trailer parking and access to the multiuse trails.

Hidden Mesa – This 1,224-acre open space is east of Castle Rock and features a 4.7-mile trail looping from the Cherry Creek trail up onto the mesa overlooking the Franktown/Parker area.

Hungry Horse Open Space – This 166-acre grassland is four miles south of Parker along Cherry Creek and the Cherry Creek Regional Trail. Access the trail at the North Pinery Trailhead.



Lincoln Mountain Open Space – This 876-acre property west of U.S. Highway 93 south of Cherry Valley School was acquired by Douglas County in 2009 and includes two trail loops with views of the Cherry Creek basin and Pike's Peak.

Nelson Ranch Open Space – A 695-acre property located south of Roxborough State Park behind the hogback. It includes a variety of wildlife habitats.

Pfeifer Open Space – This 7-acre parcel, accessible off Highway 86 near Franktown, accommodates a portion of the Cherry Creek Regional Trail and preserves important wildlife habitat along Cherry Creek.

Pike Hill Open Space – This forested, 308-acre property rises from the western side of Nelson Ranch Open Space and borders Pike National Forest.

Quarry Mesa – This 133-acre open space on the southern side of the Town of Castle Rock features a 3-mile trail open to hikers and mountain bikes and overlooks the town. This area is the site of the town's first rhyolite quarry (which opened in 1872) and offers access to the nearby Rhyolite Regional Park.

Sandstone Ranch Open Space – Accessible from a trailhead off Highway 105 about two miles south of Perry Park, this 2,038-acre ranch borders the Pike National Forest and features an extraordinarily diverse landscape including red rock formations and sloping meadows; vast wildlife habitat and corridors, expansive and diverse vegetation, and other natural resources; as well as cultural and historic assets, including a historic ranch operation and a number of historic buildings dating back to its original owners in the 1870s.

Spruce Meadows Trail – This 1,100-acre property west of I-25 and south of the town of Larkspur features the 8.5-mile Spruce Meadows Trail, open to hikers, mountain bikes and horses. This trail links the Spruce Mountain and Greenland Ranch open spaces and features beautiful prairie scenery and views of the surrounding buttes.

Spruce Mountain Open Space – Spruce Mountain is a large, tree-covered mesa south of Larkspur visible from I-25 and hikers will enjoy spectacular views from the top of the mesa. Douglas County is working to improve forest health and decrease the risk of wildfire at Spruce Mountain Open Space.

Woodlands Bowl – Located in the Woodlands neighborhood of Castle Rock, it is a key part of the local trail system.

Douglas Land Conservancy values its partnerships with all entities in Douglas County. These partnerships will continue to provide public access to some of the unique and desirable open spaces in the community. For more information on DLC, go to www. douglaslandconservancy.org.



Larkspur FREE Library

Open on Saturdays from 10-2

The library is taking donations for:
 kids books -- young readers
 any non fiction
(please NO cookbooks, business, or decorating)

Special request for a set of 1995 or newer
Encyclopedia Britannica

Jean Auel C.J. Box Pavid Baldacci Kristin Hannah Nora Roberts JP Robb

Also popular are books by:

and Movies!

There are still about 2000 items stored in the garage of the annex that will be added to the collection.

YAY for our library volunteers!!





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A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE...

by Susan Peters

REALLY?... Have you Lost Your Head?... Short Takes A Quiet Summer in Larkspur

People are asking, "Where have all the hummingbirds gone?" as PP&M would have crooned. There are but a few around our property other than the in-your-face Rufouses. Our three hummer feeders look like a buffet table at the height of COVID. In our 25 years here, this is a first. We usually have put up five highly-trafficked feeders by now.

I was also perplexed with the lack of brown-headed cowbirds this year. A pair finally showed up to stay for the season. Friends said that they had read that the relentless winds in mid-to-late spring had blown many migrating birds off-course, but we have had many years of wind that would make a category 2 hurricane look wimpy. I noted a decline in many other migrating birds — as I have said, the

hummingbirds, but also Rufous-sided towhees, pygmy and white-breasted nuthatches, chipping sparrows, and others. I checked Cornell Lab's ebird website, and, for Douglas County, only a few hummingbirds have been reported. One notable hummer was in my own neighborhood: a calliope, which I have not seen in years.



OK, there are other explanations in the drop-in numbers. It turns out that the hummers will scope a place out to see if it is viable to support them and their young-ins. If an area is in a long-term drought, then it most likely cannot produce the flowers required by a voracious little bird. In our case, we had repeated snows and cold weather in May, when most hummers arrive. The blooming toadflax, which has been a harbinger of the arrival of these little dynamos did not emerge until the third week in May, weeks after their usual initial blooming. Obviously migrating hummingbirds and their scouts did show up, but did not stay in late April-early May. And cold weather is not suitable for insects and small invertebrates, which constitute 50% of a hummingbird's diet and 75% during nesting season. Hummers do require a

source for protein, particularly the

newly-hatched ones. Hopefully, we will experience better weather in the spring of 2022 and replenish some of the natural resources that we lacked this year.

Off with His Head!

I am not referring to Queen Elizabeth I, regarding her half-sister Mary Queen of Scots, but rather the seemingly harmless, fragile-looking, and magicallooking dragonfly that fairies use for transportation. True.

But first, let's review what we know about insects: The adults have a segmented body with a head, thorax, and abdomen, a hard exoskeleton, and six jointed legs. The total number of insect species numbers between six and 10 million with only one



million species having been identified to date. They exist in the harshest of environments. It is predicted that when the earth starts really heating up by its absorption into a dying sun, the insects will be the last surviving creatures, able to endure heat better than the rest of living things. Today, insects are categorized into wasps, lice, ants, praying mantis, grasshoppers, dragonflies, true bugs, fleas, flies, bees, butterflies, beetles, and moths. Of these, many are stinging and others are biting. In the case of the dragonfly, it has mandibles - great for biting. And dragonflies are very territorial during mating season, going for their competition's head before devouring the rest of the body. And they view a large swath of critters, as their competition, from bees to other dragonflies, and even humans. Although with the latter, they cannot even break the skin, and one is likely not to feel it, unlike the "jaws with wings" or tiny no-see-ums or black flies. Applying a tar mixture is supposed to be continued on next page

Wild Side continued from previous page

the most effective defense against them, but I would rather retain my skin.

Short Takes

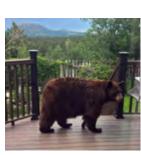
Beverly Carson of Perry Park called me to share a video she took of a young bobcat having fun at her bird bath, acting like, well, a cat! You can see the short video on youtube.com at https://youtu.be/yle6oZXkvQ8 Thanks, Bev! In case you see what looks like a giant kitty outside, if it has a stubby tail and is from 1.5 to two feet tall and weighs from 13 to 33 pounds, it most likely is a bobcat. They do NOT have tufted ears like their cousin, the lynx, which is also much larger.

And how about a kingsnake which ate a copperhead snake in the backyard in Camden, Alabama? A kingsnake is a constrictor which "hugs" its prey to death. A copperhead is a viper with a strong venom that can land one in the hospital, but it is generally not



deadly. The family was alerted when their German short-haired pointer started noisily carrying on. The dog had incidentally been bitten by a copperhead the month before. In this case, the copperhead bit the kingsnake several times. But, guess what? The kingsnake is immune to its rival's poison. The result: Kingsnake – 1 with a hardy meal, and Copperhead – 0.

Recently I entered our Great Room in time to see a sow tumbling over our deck railing onto the deck. She had one goal: our grill, which we had not burned



off from a BBQ the previous evening. She readily took off when I opened the slider, then ran across the yard to exit over the fence. Our dogs should have been right after her, but, no, they were too busy sniffing her trail and pee spot. Some mighty hunters they

are. But this serves as a reminder to burn off grease and residue on your grill and to change out any fat collection gizmo like a jar.

And, now, we have a young cub hanging around which has the same coloration as the yearling cub I talked about last month – light gray-tawny. The bears this year do not frighten easily when people appear, so we are having to haze them to move them along. And

with Waste Management not picking up trash on the scheduled days, it encourages bears to look to humans for their grub while decorating our neighborhoods with the discarded trash.



Cornell Ornithology Labs has updated their free bird identification app called Merlin. In addition to identifying photographs, it can now identify bird songs. Cool, huh? You can download the app from Apple or Google Play store. If you already have it, you just merely need to do an update.

That's all folks for this month. Gotta run – an errant Baby Huey AKA Banded Dove fledgling has decided to settle into our bedroom, and getting rid of their poop is like scraping paint off of rocks. Birdie must go. Speaking of, the hapless fledglings are smacking



into the windows. Another Baby Huey hit a Great Room window with some force, but it was able to re-gain what little sense it has and flew off, leaving a cloud of down feathers, like a light, fluffy snowstorm floating down.

How to Contact Me: Email is best at susan@ larskpurconsulting.com. Alternatively, call my cell phone at (303) 725-6868 or send a short write-up to 2255 Quartz Mountain Drive.





WALTSWORDS By Walt Korinke

August 2021

August is like the Sunday of summer.

The Chicken Sandwich War continues. Love my In-N-Out and Whataburger, but more and more chains are continuing to expand their menu with unique chicken sandwiches. A number of new chicken



sandwiches have been mentioned over the past couple of months (Popeyes, McDonald's, KFC, and more) – today's new inclusion is **Burger King's** June introduction of their **Ch'King sandwich** which they promote as "hand-breaded." BK spent two years perfecting the sandwich before release, along with training and new equipment. **Taco Bell** is adding a different twist," a different way to enjoy chicken," bringing

back its **Naked Chicken Chalupa**. A fried chicken shell with all-white meat chicken, Mexican spices, lettuce, cheese, tomatoes, and avocado ranch sauce priced to sell for \$3.49. All the new chicken activity along with a lack of poultry processing workers has actually created a chicken shortage.



The 40-year old **Quiznos** chain, with new ownership in 2018, is looking to change its marketing with drive-thru lanes, ordering kiosks, and new menus derived from their new flat-top grills, fryers, and toasting machines. The range goes from new Philly cheesesteaks to doughnut holes. Their test kitchen is alive with a variety of new items. Their first new store opened last month in New Mexico and the other stores are in various stages of preparation for the "new" Quiznos.

Covid has brought many changes to the "eating out" industry that are expected to remain. Many were overdue and much appreciated, i.e., additional, or new drive-thru lanes, speed up of order taking with servers taking orders as they walk the line of cars, digital ordering, and specialized pick-up lines.

Applebee's is testing its first drive-thru in Texarkana, Texas, and Shake Shack has redesigned its restaurants for walk-up

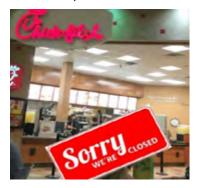
and curbside pickup. The first (of 2) Castle Rock Chick-Fil-A restaurants is currently closed for drive-thru renovation and that's just a few of the many changes going on. Long drive-thru lanes have actually caused problems for neighbors, so hopefully the addition of new lanes will improve the situation for them as well. Placing menus along the line rather than just at the ordering point would also speed up the process. **Predictive Personalized Systems** are under development for next year that would give customers the ability to "reorder" past preferred meals and the ability to pay at the "board," thereby speeding up the line – get your food and go!

COLORADO SPRINGS – After 37 years operating in The Citadel Mall food court, **Chick-fil-A** has

closed the facility, but they are NOT leaving the neighborhood! A brand new 5,200 sq. ft. restaurant will replace the Casual Male (closing in Sept.) free-standing store located in the lot of the 38-year old Citadel Crossing Shopping Center, across from the mall. The new restaurant will have dual drive-thru lanes, indoor seating



for 88 people and a 12-seat patio. Adjacent tenants are looking forward to the customer draw and a spike to their sales activity.



Arkansas based **Slim Chickens** plans a 2nd fast food restaurant in the Springs. Their first Slim Chickens



opened last March at Victory Ridge just east of the area's first In-N-Out. Their next restaurant will be at the Falcon Marketplace shopping center under construction at Woodmen and Meridian Road in Falcon, which is unincorporated El Paso County, northeast Colorado Springs. It should be open by next March. The 3,400 sq. ft. store will be similar to the Victory Ridge facility. Two more Slim Chickens are about to be announced as they

continue to make a presence in town. Other new chicken restaurants in town include the recent openings of three Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers and the California based El Pollo Loco is making plans for the Springs as well.

Anchoring the exploding Interquest Parkway corridor at the southeast corner of I-25, is the 57.8 acre parcel owned by Penrose-St. Francis Health Services. Ask you exit I-25 onto Interquest Parkway you can

see the entire parcel being bulldozed which started with a formal groundbreaking in May. The \$160 million **St. Clare Hospital** is scheduled to open in March 2023. The four-story, 140,000 sq. ft. hospital will specialize in orthopedic and spine care. The initial phase will include 64 inpatient beds and a 14-bed emergency department along with 10 operating rooms with robotic equipment



and 30 beds for surgical preparation and recovery. Future expansions are expected to rival the 195-bed St. Francis Medical Center. An announcement is forthcoming on a medical office building and surgery center to be included in the first phase. The lead hospital, Penrose-St. Francis is also adding 60 more patient rooms in an \$80 million expansion due to be complete in a year.



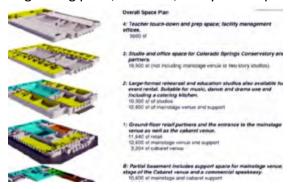
Another downtown apartment project, **The Avian**, is planned for s/e/c Weber and Cucharras Streets. Six stories will contain 168 units and a 220-stall parking garage. The Meininger Art Supply building and adjoining 10-unit Midtown apartments will be razed to accommodate The Avian. First units expected by Spring 2023.



With all the new construction, Colorado Springs is not ignoring its older historical buildings. Built in 1923 at the cost of \$424,910, plans for renovation and expansion that will triple the space of **The Auditorium** are underway. The estimated cost of \$60 million is only 141 times the original cost - that's inflation for you! Its

duties include concerts and theatrical performances, and during the 1940s, wrestling matches and even roller derby. It's hard to beat the sound of one of Farny Wurlitzers incredible Wurlitzer Pipe Organs housed in the

facility. The non-profit Community Cultural Collective will take over temporary ownership in order to enhance the financing and tax benefits available for the renovation. Falling ceiling parts, asbestos, 100-year old plumbing and



original seating were

among the many factors that encouraged this long-sought improvement. Addition of 2 floors will increase the size from 31,000 to 90,000 sq. ft. When completed, management believes the enhanced uses can keep the property active 20 hours a day, 7 day a week as well as add life to downtown as Colorado Springs becomes a "24 hour city."

<u>MONUMENT</u> – In March, construction commenced across from the Walmart/Home Depot center, adjacent to the TSC Farm Supply, on the new **Fox Run Veterinary Hospital**. In planning for the past two

years, it is currently in the framing stage, and is expected to open this fall. The founders, Dr. Jessa Kocher and her business partner Jessica Daniels will feature wellness care, vaccinations, surgery, and dentistry,



along with other unique services i.e., luxury cat boarding (Atmosphere Cat Hotel) or daycare resort for cats. There will be a living room style lobby, a feline-only exam room and three more exam rooms for the dogs. The large treatment center and surgery suite will provide for



the best of care for your pets. You can access the Fox Run website at https://www.foxrunveterinaryhospital.com/

CASTLE ROCK – Adventist Hospital builds out an additional 36 rooms. Recognizing the speed of



to the existing 55-bed layout on the third floor with two rows of rooms and a nursing station in the middle. The new rooms will serve post-surgical patients and will include a specialized surgical unit. More beds, more patients, and 50 new health career employees. A great facility filling a growing need in our community.

The process has just started with the Planning Dept. to develop the <u>s/w corner @ N. Wilcox and 3rd Street</u> across from the Old Court House - **221 Wilcox** - which is currently functioning as a parking lot. This would effectively complete the **RiverWalk** block. The plans call for 4 stories with 38 residential apartment units over a ground floor with 8,100 sq. ft. of retail/restaurant space.



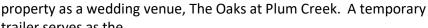
population growth in Castle Rock, the hospital started with an ER and Imaging Center in 2011 and in 2013 the 55-bed hospital opened. Following two years of planning, Adventist is now expanding with an additional 36 rooms in available space on the 4th floor to be completed by October. The layout will be similar





Parking would be accommodated on two levels below ground and accessed through the alley and include 60 spaces for residents and visitors. A roof-deck patio will be provided for tenants. The façade duplicates the existing RiverWalk buildings providing continuity for the entire block.

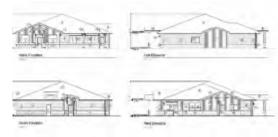
The former Plum Creek Golf Clubhouse was sold, and the current ownership operates the





trailer serves as the current golf clubhouse facility, but not for long. Across from the old clubhouse at 331

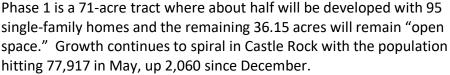
Players Club Drive, SW Greens Plum Creek LLC is planning a new 3,290 sq. ft. clubhouse to serve the needs of the Plum Creek Golf Course. Not what it used to be, but better than a trailer.



Another residential project to be located in the center of the Terrain



North Basin has been approved. The Terrain is the large development taking place at the "top of the hill" at the n/e/c of Founders Parkway and 5th St. (CO #86) as you head east toward Franktown. North Basin Village





With four locations in Colorado Springs, Owner Nick Green has opened other **Nékter Juice Bar** in Castle Rock in the small center (Little Caesar, d Express & Wisteria S&L) on the s/w corner of Trail Boss & Founder's rkway, across the street from the

iginal Chick-fil-A. Founded in S. Cal in 2010, Nékter has already grown to 160 stores in western states and is

targeting 425 with its southeastern expansion. Nékter serves fresh juice, smoothies, cold pressed juice cleanses and handcrafted acai bowls. Besides traditional smoothies and fusion blends, they have three shots on the menu, Elderberry, Ginger, and Turmeric which include antioxidants, immune system boost, and anti-inflammatory boost. Flavors include peanut butter, mango, banana, dragon fruit and more. Sound like a healthy lunch choice to me.



CASTLE PINES - Looking for a home with a phenomenal view? One of the final pieces of The Village



néktər

at Castle Pines, **The Summit**, is underway. The 37-acre parcel perched high over the village, across from The Country Club of Castle Pines offers spectacular views of mountain tops, rolling hills, and just down the road, buffalo. Water, sewer, utilities,

and roads are about complete, and lots should be available for development of 60 semi-custom

detached homes by late summer. Four different styles are planned with sizes ranging from 2,500-4,200 sq. ft. The site

was zoned for 100 homes but was reduced to 60 to maintain the exclusivity of the location. Completion is anticipated by summer 2023.

The Larkspur Area Real Estate Market – As of 7/10/21 (Seller's Market---Low Inventory and Homes Selling Fast)

Homes Currently For-Sale (7/10/2021) ---18 (\$699,000 to \$3,500,000) --- Median \$1,037,000

• Average Days on Market --- 58

Homes Currently "Under Contract" --- 14 (\$595,000 to \$4,495,000) --- Median \$850,000

Average Days on Market --- 18

6 month period Ending in	Number Sol	d High Sale Low Sale	Average D on Marke	•	nn Sold Price	High and Low Price Per FINISHED Sq. Foot *
6/30/2021	60	\$4,350,00 \$ 280,10		\$81	16,750	\$751 \$165
6/30/2020	59	\$4,115,00 \$ 285,00		\$69	90,000	\$338 \$141
6/30/2019	47	\$3,440,00 \$ 161,000		\$68	31,000	\$285 \$132
6/30/2018	64	\$2,440,00 \$ 298,000		\$65	59,188	\$356 \$119
6/30/2017	74	\$2,719,20 \$ 215,000		\$57	79,450	\$365 \$100
6 month period Ending in	Ave Sale* Price	Gain Over* Previous Yr	Ave Price Per* Total Sq. Feet	Gain Over* Previous Yr	Ave Price Per FIN Sq. Feet	* Gain Over* Previous Yr
6/30/2021	\$843,468	+ 20.50%	\$237	+31.67%	\$261	+27.32%
6/30/2020	\$699,962	+ 1.45%	\$180	+ 5.88%	\$205	+ 9.04%
6/30/2019	\$689,934	+ 6.23%	\$170	+ 2.41%	\$188	+0.00%
6/30/2018	\$649,480	+ 9.95%	\$166	+ 9.21%	\$188	+8.67%
6/30/2017	\$590,721		\$152		\$173	

^{*---}The calculations with an asterisk above have had the top 2 and bottom 2 home sales removed/deleted. Items such as very large acreage or very poor condition are factors that are out of the "norm". These items can skew the factors that reflect actual market conditions. Just because one property sells for over \$3 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 HomeSmart from his office location 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. This is reflected in the wide range for "High and Low Price per Finished Square Feet" shown above. 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.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Fire Mitigation, Tree removal, mistletoe prune, Rampart Landscape & Arbor Service. Call Susan Rule **303-681-2085**

Security doors and retractable screens for sale along with screen repair in the Larkspur area. Call Jack Hoyt

719-231-1719.

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

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

larkspursentinel@gmail.com

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!!

AJ: My name is AJ and I am 17 years old. I live in the Sage Port area and I specialize in yard work. I rake pine needles, mow lawns and weed wack! Call or text me at 720-483-5442.

Antonino "T": Very responsible, honest, hardworking 15 year old. Willing to help with walking dogs, raking lawns, shoveling snow, outdoor work, help around the house, etc. Restrictions: school schedule and sports practices. 480-209-9003

Mya: I'm 13 years old. I live in Perry Park. I am available to take care of your kids, house, plants or pets. References available upon request. Very reliable. 720-244-1111

Sydney: Responsible teen, age 15, available to watch your plants, house, garden, or kids. I have completed my babysitting class and have references. 720-244-1111

Taylor: I am 17 years old. I live in the Sage Port area, I do yard work, babysit, and pet sit. The best place to reach me is to text 720-480-5441.

TEENS FOR HIRE WAS UPDATED 5/24/21

Do you have a teen who would like to advertise here?

Please email

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.