



The Perry Park

Sentinel

FEBRUARY 2018



Hugs and thank yous to all the faithful *Sentinel* readers and writers, advertisers, photographers and proofreaders. It takes a village to produce a good newsletter. The *Sentinel* is a labor of love—from a whole community. Corny? Sure—but true. Have a great year.

Karen and Diane



DAVE GARDNER'S RESULTS TEAM
EST. 1986

Dave Gardner
REAL ESTATE BROKER
Leader of The Results Team

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7085 Kiowa Road **\$399,900**
Perry Park



Short Sale! 2,734 Total Sq. Ft, 3 Bed, 4 Bath, Backs to Open Space!

5605 Country Club Drive **699,900**
Perry Park



5,588 Total Sq. Ft, 5 Bed, 5 Bath, Stunning Views from Deck!

When you are ready for RESULTS, we are here to help you! Meet Dave Gardner's Results Team:



Dave Gardner—Results Team Leader
Over 31 years real estate experience, serving the Larkspur community since 1991, Dave has assisted over 2,000 satisfied buyers and sellers in the Larkspur and South Metro Denver area



Bonnie Schwam—Broker Associate
Community minded Perry Park resident with over 12 years real estate experience. Member of Larkspur Chamber, Parks & Rec Board Member, Tri-Lakes Chamber Member



Will Schneider—Broker Associate
With family in Colorado for 5 generations and two grandfathers serving as governors here, Will is truly connected to the lifestyle and culture of the area. He loves the lifestyle and sharing the Larkspur community with our clients.



Ruth Ann Arfsten—Agent in Training
As a lifelong Larkspur resident and 4th generation Douglas County native, Ruth Ann is our resident story teller who loves to show our clients the community her family has called home for over 62 years.



Danielle Chini—Broker Associate
As a lifelong Douglas County native, Danielle has lived in Larkspur since 2016. She is a neighborhood expert and can share her unique insights regarding the local real estate market. She earned a BS in Marketing and has 14 years of sales, marketing, and negotiating experience she puts to work toward your specific goals.



Our amazing support team in the office:
Ann— Listing Coordinator
Lindsey—Transaction Coordinator
Debbie — Director of Operations

Helping People Buy and Sell Larkspur Homes for Over 26 Years!
Why hire an agent when you can hire a TEAM?

When you are ready to buy, sell or invest in Real Estate, our team of local experts is here to serve you!



PERRY PARK BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, February 20, 10 a.m. at the home of Cindy Hotaling, 5408 Country Club Drive. The book for discussion is *Americanah*, a novel by the Nigerian author Chimamanda

Ngozi Adichie, for which Adichie won the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Fiction award. *Americanah* tells the story of a young Nigerian woman, Ifemelu, who emigrates to the United States to attend university. The novel traces Ifemelu's life in both countries, threaded by her love story with high school classmate Obinze. The book for March is *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, the first of Alan Bradley's Flavia de Luce mysteries. All books are from the Douglas County Library's Book Club Express Program and copies will be made available. For additional information about the book club, consult the website at http://applelane.com/Perry_Park_Book_Club.html.

2018 PERRY PARK PILE BURN PROJECT: During the winter/early spring, the Perry Park Metropolitan District will be burning the community slash pile located in the gravel pit at the NW corner of Perry Park and possibly up to 30 small slash piles located in Bear Creek Canyon approximately one mile upstream from the canyon mouth. These burns may occur at different times and will occur during the winter, spring or fall of 2018 depending on environmental and fuel conditions. The Larkspur Fire Protection District will conduct the burning operations. If you have any questions regarding the burn operations, please call Randal Johnson at 303-681-3284.

THE BLANKET BRIGADE had a productive year in 2017 making 315 quilts that were given to people in need of comfort. Our success was due, in large part, to the generosity of so many people who donated fabric, batting, yarn and thread to create these quilts--heartfelt thanks to each and every person who made this possible. We are a 501(C)3 and our quilts are given to anyone experiencing loss, trauma or difficult circumstances. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Perry Park Country Club at 10am. However, in 2018 the Country Club will be undergoing a major renovation, so we will be meeting in our Blanket Brigade members' homes. Please contact Gwen Underwood at gwenpur@icloud.com or 303-681-2125 or Cindy Hotaling at cjaspsjr@yahoo.com or 303-681-0374 for details on those meetings. We tie the quilts when we meet, so you do not need any advanced sewing skills to join us. We'd love to have you become part of our fun group in 2018! ~Ginny Sanders

THE LARKSPUR FREE LIBRARY, AKA BOOK EXCHANGE, is open on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Thursdays, 5 to 8 p.m. The Exchange is located at 9524 Spruce Mountain Road, in the old Town Hall Annex on the east side of the road. Plenty of parking in the back. The Book Exchange has over 7000 volumes of adult fiction (from lady's romances to classic literature) and nonfiction (categories such as history, biography, travel, crafts, and many more), and 600 volumes for children, young readers, and young adults. And all for free.

That's right. An entire building of free books. No cards, no check out, no due dates, no overdue fines. Free. And no need to bring one to take as many as you can carry, because we have plenty. In addition, the Book Exchange has a collection of rare and valuable volumes offered for sale; the perfect splurge for a book lover. All proceeds to benefit and support the Book Exchange. Come and check out what everyone is talking about. For more information, contact Cindy at 303-681-3046 or Krystine at 413-348-3579.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR LES PTO ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Rebecca Winckler...

The Larkspur Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization is very proud to offer three \$1,000 college scholarships. Two of these scholarships are in honor and memory of two very special young people who passed away in 2006,



Stuart Mazanec and Liz Yost, both graduates of LES and long-time residents of the area. These scholarships were created to allow LES PTO to give back to our students, while remembering these two young people whose families still remain active members of our community.

The third scholarship is in honor of all LES volunteers past, present and future! This scholarship was created to honor the many volunteers who have dedicated their time and talents to the students and teachers of LES. We want to help a Larkspur graduate who has also dedicated their time to volunteerism continue their higher education.

Stuart Mazanec and Liz Yost Scholarship Requirements

We invite high school seniors who will graduate in 2018 to submit a written application based on the following criteria:

1. The student must have graduated the sixth grade from Larkspur Elementary School.
2. The student must be graduating from any of the Douglas County High Schools.
3. The student must be going to college, university or vocational training, and submit an acceptance letter with the application.

The LES Volunteer Scholarship Requirements

We invite high school seniors who will graduate in 2018 to submit a written application based on the following criteria:

1. The student must have graduated the sixth grade from Larkspur Elementary School.
2. The student must be graduating from one of the Douglas County High Schools.
3. The student must be going to college, university or vocational training, and submit an acceptance letter with the application.
4. Must have a minimum of 100 verifiable high school volunteer hours.

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SCHOLARSHIPS Continued from page 3

Applications will be accepted until Friday, February 23, 2018, and must be emailed to: Rebecca Winckler at rebeccaewinckler@yahoo.com. Attn: LES Volunteer Scholarship-2018.

IMPORTANT: Your application should include a cover page with your name, address, phone number and email address. Please do not include your name or contact info within the body of your application (answers to the questions). Applications will be reviewed by the committee "blind," meaning without your name.

The committee will be made up of LES PTO members, former LES Teachers and community members. The Scholarship winner will be notified by email no later than April 2, 2018. If you should have any questions, please contact Rebecca Winckler at rebeccaewinckler@yahoo.com.

You are encouraged to apply for all of the scholarships.

Application information and submittal requirements can be found at the Larkspur PTO website <http://www.larkspurpto.org/scholarships-3/>. Please contact Rebecca Winckler at either 720-255-8116 or rebeccaewinckler@yahoo.com with any questions. Please click on the three (3) individual scholarships through the drop-down menu to find out more information about each scholarship and the requirements.

NOMINATE A SPECIAL TEENAGER FOR A 2018 DOUGLAS COUNTY YOUTH INITIATIVE AWARD

Do you know a special teenager, between the ages of 13 and 19, who resides in Douglas County and has overcome adversity and created positive change in his/her life, as well as the lives of others?



Nominations for the 2018 Douglas County Outstanding Youth Awards are now being accepted. Ten award recipients will have the opportunity to share their special night with family members, their adult supporters and elected officials at an April reception hosted by the Douglas County Youth Initiative at the Douglas County Commissioners Hearing Room in Castle Rock.

"The young people who are recognized with these awards are people who very often have not received public recognition for their personal achievements," said Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas. "This event not only calls attention to the untold stories of achievement by our community's youth, it is also an opportunity for area businesses, the community at large, civic leaders and educators to demonstrate their belief in and

support of young people in our community by recognizing them for the individual challenges they have overcome."

This one-of-a-kind award encompasses all youth: youth who have not finished their K-12 education, youth in traditional classroom settings, youth in group homes, youth in alternative schools, and youth in foster homes.

Award recipients will receive a signed letter from elected officials recognizing the teen's achievements, a \$100 certificate for educational or activity fees to be redeemed at a later date and County-wide recognition of their award.

Nominators will be invited to speak at the ceremony about the obstacles the individual they nominated overcame and how those individuals have inspired change.

For more information on the Douglas County Outstanding Youth Awards, contact Marsha Alston at malston@douglas.co.us or 303-814-5327. Nomination forms may be filled out online or downloaded from the website and must be filled out and returned no later than March 31, 2018.

The Douglas County Youth Initiative was established in 2005 to coordinate local youth-serving efforts and assess the needs of the County's youngest residents. It is an active collaboration between Douglas County Government, the Douglas County School District, the City of Lone Tree, the Town of Castle Rock, the Town of Parker, the Douglas County Library District and the Highlands Ranch Metro District.

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WALT'S WORDS

Walt Korinke



I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.



The Senior Property Tax Exemption for senior citizens was created for qualifying seniors and the surviving spouses of seniors who previously qualified for the exemption. Taxpayers 65 years and older as of January 1 of the year of application who have owned and occupied the property as their primary residence for at least 10 consecutive years may qualify for the senior exemption. An application for the tax exemption must be sent to the county assessor between **January 1 and July 1 of the qualifying year.**

The exemption reduces the actual taxable value of qualified residential property by 50 percent of the first \$200,000 of taxable value. The state is responsible for reimbursing the Douglas County treasurer for the lost revenue. Once approved, the ex-

emption remains in place until there is a change in ownership.

To apply for the senior property tax exemption, visit the county website: <https://www.douglas.co.us/assessor/exemptions/senior-property-tax-exemption/>

PERRY PARK - As spring rolls around, a couple of changes coming to Perry Park. Douglas County will be upgrading the Park Entrance by adding turn lanes to improve the safety aspects of the corner. When construction starts the I-25 "GAP" in 2019 (hopefully), we can expect increased traffic on #105 during the three-year highway widening. Also scheduled for this spring, Douglas County plans to resurface the roads in Perry Park – bring it on!



Back in 1972, on the 18-acre hill site 500 feet above and overlooking the Perry Park County Club, **The ECHO HILLS CLUB** was opened with its social and business conference rooms, dining, lounges, and

recreational facilities (swimming, tennis, etc.). Unfortunately, they picked a poor economic decade to operate as it joined the many failing enterprises of the time. Succumbing to closure, vacancy then decay, only the concrete foundations remained like a monument at the top of the hill. Following several more development attempts, it was foreclosed by Colorado Capital Bank, who itself became a failed bank with the property transferred to First Citizens Bank.

In 2011, the property now known as "7107 Echo Hills Club Road" was acquired from the Bank by Steamboat, Co. developer Greg Stetman's trust for a mere \$512,000. He spent the next couple of years dismantling the environmentally affected concrete structure and removing the pool and tennis courts. Soon becoming frustrated working his development plans through the County processes, he began marketing the property for sale starting in the \$1 million plus arena. Today it is listed at \$649,000. At present, Adamo Homes is processing a zoning request to permit the development of seven single-family properties on the 18.35-acre parcel, which requires the County's evaluation of the access, topography, and surrounding lot patterns along with other issues. If successful, we may eventually see a half-dozen, high-end homes on the top of hill overlooking Perry Park – what a view!



**BOOT
SCOOTIN'
BOOGIE**



**LES PTO Presents the
21st Annual Boot Scootin'
Boogie**

Friday, May 4th, 2018

6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Spruce Mountain Ranch

<http://www.larkspurboot.org/>

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CASTLE ROCK – The Gateway to the Wolfensberger Corridor



– 20 Wolfensberger & Kineer Road – which is adjacent to the I-25 S access road, will be changing soon as the old vacant gas station building will be

razed to permit the construction of a new 2,000 square foot **STARBUCKS COFFEE RESTAURANT** which will of course include a drive thru. With the recent remodeling of the Kineer Road Wendy’s and Burger King, and the McDonald’s just down the road, Wolfensberger is starting to shine. Now just need the very old Village Inn to join the movement.



The Historic **OLD STONE CHURCH** Restaurant has been sold – soon to be an Italian Restaurant. The church was built in 1888 as home to the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church until they moved to a new church in 1966. It remained vacant for

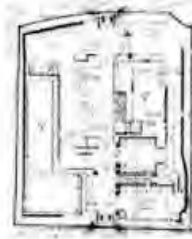
the next 11 years, when in 1975 it was converted into the restaurant that has served fine meals for the past 24 years. Many patrons also know it as the home to the ghost of a little girl dressed in white which has experienced several sightings over the years – hope she speaks Italian. Keep an eye out for the reopening.

While in the neighborhood, the new building next door deserves a visit to **THE OFFICE CO. BAR & KITCHEN** for its weekend brunch or its weekly lunch menu priced at \$9.99. A top rated burger and an expansive selection at the bar, Thursday Ladies Night, and Taco Tuesday are some of the other features. Located adjacent in the building is the new high design **QUAIL + BLU** curated kitchen and home studio with hand picked design items to achieve your personal home interior look.



CULVER’S UPDATE – It took a year, but Culver’s has finally worked out its access problems with the Town and is processing their development plan. They are joining the two lots with access provided to both Genoa Way and

Castle Way, satisfying the town on the traffic flow in this very



busy area. The combined site lies between the Arbys and the Holiday Inn Express. Plans call for a small, in-line retail center and the Culver’s restaurant with a drive-thru.

Another new restaurant opens in Castle Rock across from Castle Rock Adventist Hospital to the west in the 2nd phase

of the two-building complex that also hosts The Egg & I. **CRUSH WINE BAR** can be found on the western-most frontage of the new building and features over 50 wines and their very reasonably priced “small plates” i.e. duck wings, gulf shrimp, scallops sambuca, ranging in price from \$5 to \$11. Five speciality pizzas include Bianco, Duck Confit, Salume and cost \$13 to \$15. A range of pastas around \$15 per plate and entrees of Market Fish, Pork Saltimbocca and even a \$12 Burger provide a good variety for all tastes.



Here it comes!!! The 65-acre mixed use **MILLER’S LANDING** located at the n/w/c of I-25 and Plum Creek is formally underway and developers have announced that the centerpiece of the

development will be a \$300 million **SNOWSPORTS 365**, a year round snow sport complex. The first steps include a massive contaminated soil removal and replacement. The rest of the story can be found in the December/January issue of the *Sentinel*.



Last August we mentioned the changes coming to **Augustine’s Grill**. The new plans have been approved for partial removal of the existing facility and construction of a new 3,450 square foot brewery on the

front corner of the parcel to be know as the **WILD BLUE YONDER**.

Back in November, we noted that Joey Edge’s building next door to the Outlets was processing a permit for 1,894 square ft. expansion to the 9,542 sq. ft. building. Now we know why. The property was purchased by



Continued on page 8



10 Full Golf Memberships at \$4,500 (NOW \$2,500)

Twilight Golf Preview: \$1500 for 2018 *limited offer for 2018

Social Memberships Available!

For over 40 years we have been providing an extraordinary golf experience at an exceptional value. This Spring, to fill our 300 member cap, we're offering 10 Full memberships at the very attractive price of \$2,500 (only 10 available, ACT NOW!)

Here's your chance to experience all the benefits of an outstanding private club: readily available tee times, a course always in tournament condition plus an eventful, year-round dining and social scene.

For more information on memberships and special offers, contact Amy Morrow at 303.681.3305, Ext 4 or Amorrow@perryparkcc.com.

And visit our website at www.perryparkcc.com.

Perry Park is a 501 (c) 7 Corp. Membership approval is by application and requires approval.



We're Honored!

We're proud and honored to be named the winner of 7 Caggy Awards including: Colorado's "Best Value" and "Most Underrated" Private Course by Colorado AvidGolfer.



WORDS Continued from page 6



Colorado Springs attorney, Perry Sanders Jr. who owns The **FAMOUS STEAK HOUSE** in downtown Colorado Springs (31 N. Tejon), and he is in the process of fitting out the former Edge Building for another **FAMOUS STEAK HOUSE**.

The restaurant will operate on all three floors of the building. All going well, the restaurant should open in June. Bring your checkbook along when you visit – appetizers in the mid \$teens, salads, with steaks ranging from \$28 to \$46.

MONUMENT – Annexation and permitting for the planned **WAGONS WEST** mixed residential development is underway. The 34.17-acre



parcel is located midway along the Old Denver Road just north of the Monument Ice Rink. Twenty acres will be developed with 54 duplex style homes and 77 townhouses with the remaining 14 acres (including Teachout Creek) retained in its natural state plus an additional 2.5 acres developed as a private park for the area. The units will be two-story with a mix of three and four-plex formats. The project will be built in two phases with the first phase being 56 of the townhouse units.

COLORADO SPRINGS – With a long history of bankruptcies and foreclosures, tenant’s woes and closures, the 35-year-old, 1.2 million square foot **CHAPEL HILLS MALL** is in trouble again with two foreclosure notices totaling a county size record \$37 million by Capital One and National Association.



The Sears, Macy’s and Dillard’s are under separate ownership and are not part of the foreclosure. Gordman’s very short-term occupancy last year along with the J C Penny closure in 2014, and Borders and Old Navy in 2011 have all led to the Mall’s miserable performance. Brick and mortar retail stores continue to struggle against the vast and growing internet sales industry. Is this the end, or just another historic event for Chapel Hills?



The big news at the end of the year comes from the long dormant former Colorado Crossings. The new owners have renamed it **VICTORY RIDGE** and their first step was to open the exciting new 14 screen **ICON** theatre as they start on the various mixed-use aspects of the previously stalled 153-acre development. But that is not the best part! The real news is that **IN-N-OUT BURGER** is



acquiring 22 acres at Victory Ridge to support its entry into Colorado/New Mexico/Wyoming with a patty production and distribution facility that can support about 50 new In-N-Out restaurants, including one to

be located at Victory Ridge. Hold that saliva build-up as the restaurant will take to 2020 to open. The +300 restaurant California chain has a cult-like following that swears to the goodness of their burgers, fries and shakes. Other plans for Victory Ridge include 1.6 million square feet of commercial space, +500 residences and the super Larry Ochs Sports Complex.

DENVER – The former Elephant Bar (8121 E Arapahoe Rd – Greenwood Village) which has been closed for several years will soon be home to Denver’s first **CHUY’S TEX-MEX** restaurant. The 36-year-old Austin-based chain 100 locations stretching across 19 states from Colorado to the East. Start



with a Mexican-based menu and add Texas and New Mexico recipes, and you have Tex-Mex. Their kitchen prepares from fresh-not-frozen ingredients, and their flour tortillas are homemade daily. Scheduled to open early this year.

A \$52 million senior living facility, **THE CARILLION at BELLEVIEW STATION**, is coming to the Denver Tech Center this summer. The 173,000 square foot facility is being built at 4855 S. Niagara St. near the Belleview light rail station, providing ease of access along with many retail options for residents, i.e. restaurants, shopping, medical and other needs. The six-story facility includes a salon, spa, and fitness center for the 163 independent and assisted living apartments along with a bonus 1,500 square foot “sky lounge” on the top floor.



**NEWS FROM THE LARKSPUR
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**
Mike Grill, Board of Directors for the LFPD...

LFPD Mission Statement

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



This month's issue profiles **CAPTAIN CHAD CAMPAGNOLA**.



RANK AND TIME SERVED WITH LFPD: Captain – Started in 1992 as a volunteer and was hired full-time in 1997.

OTHER FIRE SERVICE EXPERIENCE: I was with the Sable Altura Fire District from 1995 to 2000. I started as a firefighter, was promoted to Lieutenant 2.5 years later, then was promoted to Captain. I left Sable Altura in 2000.

ORIGINALLY FROM: I was born in Larkspur, so I'm a native of the community. I'm a fourth generation Campagnola here, with my family settling the area over a century ago. My great grandmother was a McClure and my great grandfather was a Turner.

FAMILY: I met my wife Marcie in 1999. She was a firefighter with Castle Rock Fire Rescue at the time. We were married in 2000. We have three children – my oldest son, Justin, is 15. My daughter Kate is 13. Our third child – Hayden – is 10.

HOBBIES: I currently play on a co-ed indoor rec team. I enjoy riding ATV's and running construction equipment. There's something about moving dirt that I LOVE! I also enjoy going to Disneyland, family vacations, hunting and fishing.

WHAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT SERVING WITH LFPD: I've been called by my fellow firefighters "the Pope of Larkspur." I love the longstanding ties I have with this community. I've been on calls where I walked into a home and heard "Chad, I'm so glad you're here."

WHAT SHOULD OUR COMMUNITY KNOW ABOUT LFPD: Our membership is made up of caring and dedicated individuals who take pride in providing the highest level of service in a time of need.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR?

The LFPD will have three board positions open for the May

8, 2018, elections: one two-year and two four-year positions. These are compensated directorships.

Current challenges facing the LFPD include:

- Upcoming budget challenges imposed by state legislation impacting all special tax districts;
- Recruitment and retention of qualified fire/EMS providers – both full-time, part-time and volunteer;
- Ability to continue to provide the highest level of emergent and non-emergent services

The Board of Directors is responsible for overall operations (financial, operations, etc.) of the LFPD, exercising its authority to do so through the Fire Chief.

If you are interested in serving our community as a board member, you may pick up and return nomination forms at the Larkspur Fire Station located at 9414 South Spruce Mountain Road. All nominations must be turned into designated election official Jodi Warner no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 2.

Calls for Service Summary: 2017

LFPD Call Statistics - January 1 – December 31, 2017

Fires	29
EMS	351
Alarm Activations	23
Other	408
TOTAL	811

Upcoming Events

LFPD Board of Directors Public Meeting: Thursday, February 8 – 7 p.m. at Station 161 located at 9414 South Spruce Mountain Road in Larkspur.

On behalf of the entire Larkspur Fire Protection District family, we thank you for your continued support – and please stay SAFE!





electric

Pete Dunbar

1341 Quartz Mountain Drive
Larkspur, Colorado 80116
303-881-3809
Cell 303-638-6762

2018 SCHEDULE OF METRO DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

The regular meeting place, the Perry Park Country Club is going to be remodeled and the meeting room unavailable during the first quarter of 2018. The February, March and April 2018 PPM.D Board meetings will be held at the Larkspur Town Hall, 8720 Spruce Mountain Road. The meetings will be start at the regular time, 6 p.m. The PPM.D Board greatly appreciates the support and assistance from our partners at the Town of Larkspur. A big shout out to Matt Krimmer, Town Manager, for his flexibility and willingness to work with the PPM.D Board.

Date	Meeting Type	Location	Start Time
February 8, 2018	Regular Meeting	Larkspur Town Hall (8720 Spruce Mountain Road, Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
March 8, 2018	Regular Meeting	Larkspur Town Hall (8720 Spruce Mountain Road, Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
April 12, 2018	Regular Meeting	Larkspur Town Hall (8720 Spruce Mountain Road, Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
May 10, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
June 14, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
July 12, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
August 9, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
Sep 13, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
Oct 11, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
Nov 15, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.
Dec 13, 2018	Regular Meeting	Perry Park Country Club, 7047 Perry Park Blvd Larkspur, CO 80118	6:00 p.m.

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The year of the bobcats: a number of sightings this year and some wonderful pictures posted on the Larkspur Wildlife FB page. Carolyn Jones took this one—her second “win” in the Douglas Land Conservancy’s Wildlife Wednesday contest.

JANUARY NEWS FROM THE WATER DISTRICT
Jim Matchett...

The January meeting of the Perry Park Water & Sanitation District was called to order at 4:30 p.m. with three directors present as Directors LaCrosse and Peterson had received excused absences. The first order of business was audience participation. Two residents were in attendance with one of them expressing an interest in perhaps running for the board in this year’s upcoming election. Next was the approval of the minutes of the December 20th regular board meeting, and it was unanimous. Disbursements totaling \$176,792.53 were then also unanimously approved.



The board then unanimously approved a resolution establishing the date, time and location for regular board meetings in 2018. The schedule follows the normal practice that meetings would be held on the third Wednesday of each month, excepting the months of November and December, when the meetings will occur one week earlier given Thanksgiving Holiday and 2019 finalized Budget considerations. This resolution complies with the requirement for posting notice of district meetings with the Open Meetings Law and Special District Act. Accordingly, such postings will be made at the following three locations within the District boundaries: 5676 Red Rock Drive (the District Office); Red Rock Drive and Highway 105 (the Perry Park Ranch entrance); and 1103 West Perry Park Avenue (the Larkspur Elementary School).

Another resolution calling for the 2018 regular district election

and appointing a designated election official was than unanimously approved. The District Systems Report for December submitted by Semocor was reviewed and normal operations across the District were noted. The Monthly Staff Report submitted by District Manager Diana Miller was reviewed and briefly discussed. It was noted that new construction permits for the year 2017 totaled 29, an improvement of 1 over 2016. There were no board member discussion items and the meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.. As always, further information is available on the District website, <www.ppwsd.org>.

STARRY SKIES
Chris Dunmall...

I am always awe struck when I step outdoors late at night or very early in the morning and I find myself blanketed by a star filled sky. It sets me back a bit and reminds me of what a special place I live in and how much beauty is just outside my door day or night. Recently I read a listing for a Perry Park home that features “views of starry skies.” Obviously its not just me who values the wonder of a night sky and a view of the Milky Way. Somebody else would love to step out the door and see the clear night sky and is willing to pay money for it.

This year, probably because of the nice weather, I’ve spent more time outside at night. I’ve noticed the sky glow growing to the north and south of us as Castle Rock and Monument develop. I fear that the city glow will soon fill our night sky and forever cloud our view.

The lighting technology that is enabling us to light up our
Continued on page 12

Computer Support

When you need it. Where you need it.

Local, hometown computer support for your home or office. Larkspur resident with 35 years of computer and customer support experience. Fair and honest service.

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The key to a truly safe night-time environment is to shield lighting on roadways, parking lots, residences, businesses and landscapes.

Smart lighting that directs light where it will be most useful can help you achieve a balance between safety and starlight. The wise use of lighting can lead to less crime and a greater sense of security, while restoring our view of the night sky.



homes and streets is only over a century old and is getting cheaper and more prolific every year. Fortunately, the techniques for using outdoor lighting have been improving both the efficiency and visual aesthetics. New techniques make outdoor lighting better, safer, and more environmentally friendly. International Dark-sky Association provides city planners, architects, and homeowners useful information on using outdoor lighting wisely.

Three primary goals of thoughtful outdoor lighting are to re-

duce sky glow, provide a safe level of lighting around our streets and homes, and to maintain the outdoor environment for wildlife. The sky glow is light pollution that we see creeping up on us from the urban development to our north and south. Poorly directed light shines up into the night sky and reflects off the atmosphere, blocking our view of the stars. Unshielded lights from streetlamps and security lighting create glare which blocks our vision and dark shadows where strange things can hide. Constant and unnecessary lighting confuses and scares the nocturnal creatures that share our environment.

There are simple, educated steps by which you can utilize environmentally friendly technology to reduce light pollution. Fortunately, these solutions are both cheap and visually appealing.

Poor Lighting Reduces Safety and Security

Glare from bright, unshielded lights actually decreases safety. See how glare in the photo on the right makes it hard to see the man at the gate?

Glare creates deep shadows, making it more difficult to see. It also shines into your eyes, constricting your pupils. This diminishes your eyes' ability to adapt to low-light conditions. So, is that bright light really making this area safer?



Outdoor lights are most useful and efficient when they are directed towards the ground. Light up where you want to walk, not where the bats and night birds are flying. Fully shielded lights reduce glare and direct the light to where it is needed. The shielding hides the source of the light, keeping it out of the sky and your neighbor's windows.

Continued on page 13



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SKIES Continued from page 12

Outdoor lights are relatively cheap these days, so some people think that more must be better. This is a case where that axiom just doesn't hold. Better quality and thoughtful applications are better. Cheap timers and motion detectors allow you to deliver light where and when it is needed. A light that goes on with a motion detector gives you more security information and makes it more difficult for a criminal to check out your house. The objective is to use only the light you need and only when you need it. How many times have I had to tell the kids to turn out the lights when they leave the room?

Finally, I was surprised to find out that the color of the outdoor lights is important. The new LED lights are cheap and come in a variety of color temperatures. The yellow tinted lights cause less damage than the blue lights. The color of lights is measured in degrees Kelvin, and 3000 K and below lights cause less distress to animals and less sky-glow.

I was inspired to write this article for the *Sentinel* because I like to be able to step out my door and see the awesome night sky. Apparently other people value that opportunity as well, just as they value the open space, wildlife, trees and rocks that we are blessed with here in Perry Park. I hope that by using outdoor lighting smartly we can preserve our dark night skies and keep some of the urban sky glow well away from our homes.



'Twas the day after Christmas or an alternate title, "Build it and they will come": A community hockey game December 26 at Perry Park Ranch's Gateway Pond.

Photo by Hannah Tenneson

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COUNTING BIRDS IN PERRY PARK Harriet Stratton...

The Douglas County Christmas Bird Count was Saturday, December 30, 2017. An intrepid team of bird spotters, Mary Kay Waddington, Carolyn Jones, Peggy Gonder, Sue Majeski, and Harriet Stratton, dressed for winter and set out to count every bird they could find. They were assigned to cover the Perry Park wedge of a 15-mile radius Douglas County count circle. The National Audubon Society has been Christmas Bird Counting for 118 years and has created a substantial data base of winter birds in all habitats across the country. Thanks go to hundreds of volunteer citizen scientists. CBC organizer Nancy Crews had 12 additional teams counting in adjacent segments of the Douglas County circle.

It was a breezy 16 degrees when we met at 8 a.m. on Dakin Road. We gathered at the West Plum Creek bridge to look and listen. What seems in the first moments to be a cold quiet landscape begins to wake. Robins are the first to call. Then Carolyn tallies several Evening Grosbeak watering in the running creek. Not far up South Plum Creek Meadows Road we spot a single Golden Eagle in a rarely seen situation. Perched on a low hill and hunched over a fresh killed breakfast, it looked at first like a large dog.

Our drive up Dakin Road to the edge of Pike National Forest was beautiful but uneventful bird wise, and afterward we were ready for a soup break in Echo Village where watching and counting birds at the feeder and raptors in the trees proved productive; Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, and Woodpeckers at close range, Red-tailed Hawks and Rough-legged Hawks through the scope.

Warmed and now enjoying a 60-degree afternoon, we continued the search around Perry Park. We missed seeing wild turkeys this year but counted ducks and geese, sparrows and juncos on our walk through Morgan Paulk's private section of Bear Creek at the end of Perry Park Blvd.

We reluctantly quit birding at 3:30 to deliver our numbers to Douglas County count headquarters in Roxborough Park, there to be tallied with the results of the other Douglas County teams. It's fun to swap bird observations and stories with the other volunteers over chili supper and potluck dessert, and then drive home contentedly looking forward to CBC 2018.



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A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Susan Peters...

The Deer Ones, Again...And While We Were Doing Holiday Stuff...A Whale Tale...Short Takes

Oh, Deer

Once more, it is with sadness that I report an abundance of automobile encounters with deer, one courtesy of moi's hubby Dave, while driving (very slowly) on Perry Park Avenue, his having spotted the herd. The insurance adjusters on the way to our house via 105, saw four more kills. And then a week later, I saw another fresh road kill on 105 in Sedalia. Dave's deer bit the big one, and his SUV sustained \$4,400 in damage. Ouch. All the way around.

It happens, but make like a sloth and go slow, looking for signs of deer.

Who Knew?

Outside Larkspur, stuff just happens while we are buried in snow. Not much snow this year, so far.

OK, with the warmer weather, bear can sometimes be seen, like in a small town outside of Telluride. Video was taken of a bruin



angling up a driveway in search of a buffet. This is the time of year that we feel more secure leaving our trash cans out with the bears hibernating, rather than trash can diving. But it is back to cautionary practices. No, I have not been bringing in the bird feeders at night. We have not seen bear scat or prints in the snow YET.



So, I bet you have heard of blue-assed flies? I thought that it was a Kentucky saying, but I recently read a book about an Irish country doctor who used the same vernacular several times. So

now a blue-bodied tarantula has surfaced into news stories in the U.S. The cobalt blue tarantula is native to Myanmar, but has crossed the border into Thailand. These beautiful spiders dig their own deep tunnels to burrow in and emerging only to eat (you). Apparently, they are a mainstay of exotic pet collectors, even though they have a fast-acting and virulent venom, resulting in severe muscle cramps. Sounds like the perfect pet in case you are looking for an idea for a special occasion gift. And don't forget the deep tank to keep them in, along with some damp substrate like peat moss. The recommended tank depth is

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WILD SIDE Continued from page 15

12-18 inches, but I would go for 12-18 feet.



Moving along to South America where many new species have been discovered – 30 in Guyana, seven in Bolivia, etc. In the Galapagos on a small island called Daphne Major scientists spotted a finch, much larger than the native ones. The finch was able to mate with one of the natives and produced hybrid offspring. These two birds were unable to attract mates from the native population. The songs were all

wrong. No Frank Sinatra for those babes, whether large species or small species finch. So, the two hybrid offspring did the incest thing and mated with each other. 30 years later, and voila! An entirely new species, much larger than the natives.

So where did this original finch come from and what was he? He became lost after venturing 60 miles from a nearby island. He is a cactus finch. If anyone has studied Darwin's finches, all this sounds logical EXCEPT scientists were so surprised how fast a new species could form. And the name of the new spe-

cies? Get ready. Wait for it. BIG BIRD. What else?



And a snowy owl – have you seen the stories and pictures? – has made the Standley Lake area its winter home. A stunning

picture appeared on the front page of the Denver Post. See the picture here courtesy of Gerry Merrell. People have even seen it perched on roofs, looking for its next meal. This is another example of an irruption, when birds migrate a lot further away from their usual winter grounds in Canada. For snowy owls, it is cyclical as the lemming population fluctuates in the Alaska snowy owl breeding grounds. When the lemming population is high, food is plentiful, and more offspring result. When winter sets in, the young uns have to expand their reach to obtain enough food.

These owls have gone as far south as Florida. In Colorado, there have been several other snowy owl sightings this year. If you see one, please keep your distance. Contrary to other owls,

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WILD SIDE Continued from page 16

they are diurnal and need to hear prey beneath the snow, not your yapping.

A Very Sad Tale of a Whale

I am on my soapbox, again. This story is very difficult to process. Blue Planet II showed a video of a mama pilot carrying her dead baby on top of her for days. Clearly, she had emotionally bonded to her young one. Blue Planet claimed that a plastic bag – yup, like most of us haul home from stores every day – had been swallowed by the calf and had suffocated it. Other scientists called the cause of death “FAKE NEWS.” There. I said it. It was not known for sure if it was a plastic bag or chemical waste poisoning, but both are human caused.

I have been to remote beaches of places like Hawaii and Costa Rica only to see the water in inlets thick with plastic of all kinds, along with shoes, snorkeling equipment, beer cans...you name it. But what stands out the most are those plastic bags from stores. As many jurisdictions have done, it is time for Colorado to ban them. Furthermore, they are not biodegradable. The best thing to do is to recycle them, so that they can be made into – you guessed it – more plastic stuff and junk.

You can google the Internet to find the video of the whales. It is almost surreal. And sad.

Short Takes

Ah, February...the month that the bluebirds begin returning. The male goldfinches don their waist coats of brilliant yellow. The house finches drag out their babe-magnet red feathers.

Again, as in 2014, as I sit here typing this, it is January and 67 degrees! And it looks like the finches are trying on their spring duds even earlier. I have even heard redwing blackbirds rehearsing for the real mating deal. AND, our aspens are budding.

And guess who came for dinner? At the time we were fostering seven Golden Retriever mix puppies, and friends came to get their puppy fix and eat some chili. As we were opening the door to greet one couple, a Northern Shrike had obviously invited himself, too, but couldn't get through the door. Had he known that we weren't serving rodents, lizards, small birds, and snakes, he would have not tried so hard. This is our first sighting of these stunning birds, even with Colorado being part of their winter range.

Santa gave Hubby Dave a trail camera, activated by motion. His first score was a bunny! But then it got better with a bobcat captured in photos. Stay tuned, folks, for more exciting happenings.

That's all for this month. Gotta run. With all the warm weather, our pond is green. Algae. We can't see the fish. Aha! But neither can the snakes. J But time for some good ol' algacide.

HowtoContactMe: Email is bestatsusan@larskpurconsulting.com. Alternatively, call my cell phone at 303-725-6868 or send a short write-up to 2255 Quartz Mountain Drive.

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One of the largest and most historic properties in Colorado, located along the foothills between Denver and Colorado Springs, next to Perry Park Ranch, is now protected by Douglas County's December 2017 purchase of the property. The historic Ranch will be protected as an Open Space property for non-motorized, public recreation access.

Following the development, adoption and implementation of a Master Plan, Sandstone Ranch will be open to the public for non-motorized use only. The Master Plan is expected to examine: continuation of the ranching operations; development of a plan for compatible public recreation and educational opportunities; protection of identified cultural resources and maintenance of historic structures; a forest management plan, in conjunction with the Colorado State Forest Service; and the comprehensive interpretation of the natural resources, range management, history, as well as protection of the natural resources associated with the property.

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My name is Clayton Saunders I am a hard worker, boy scout, and high school athlete. I will work for all jobs and services you would need. Contact me at (720)-369-8941 or clayton.saunders19@gmail.com

My name is Delaney Llabbe, and I am 17 years old and am available for babysitting or pet sitting throughout the Larkspur area. I have had my licence for over a year now, so I can drive any place necessary. Please contact me at dgillebbe@gmail.com or 303-681-9091.

New! Super Summer Nanny/Sitter Available For Hire: Need a fun, dependable, affordable nanny to provide care for your kiddo(s) this summer? My name is Teaghan Todd; I am a freshman in high school and I absolutely love kids. I am responsible, CPR/AED certified, and have my babysitting certification. I would love to help give your kids a summer they can remember. Call or text me at (303) 726 7534 or email me at taartodd@gmail.com

My name is Kylie Cronin and I am 14 years old. I am great with children and animals and will always give them 100% of my attention. If you are looking for an experienced and dependable baby sitter, pet sitter, or someone to do household chores please contact me at kylie.queen21@gmail.com or 720-412-1567. I am looking for work in the Perry Park and Larkspur area.

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