



The Perry Park

Sentinel

JULY 2018

**CELEBRATE THE FOURTH!
WITH YOUR LARKSPUR NEIGHBORS**



Join friends and family in Perry Park Ranch for a full day's jubilee to celebrate the United States of America.

- 11 a.m. Parade: the Big D in Perry Park Ranch
- 11:30 a.m. Free ice cream after the parade!
- 11:45 a.m. Lawn games and competitions
- 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Arts and craft vendors (south end of club parking lot)
- 6 p.m. Kids activities and hot dogs at the Perry Park Country Club
- 6:30-7 p.m. Concert at PPCC
- 9 p.m. or dusk Fireworks at PPCC





THE KIDS (AGES 5-16) OBSTACLE CHALLENGE on Saturday, July 7th and Sunday, July 8th will be held at Philip S. Miller Park in Castle Rock. Participants can traverse rock walls, army crawl through mud pits,

rope swing over water, scale up rugged cargo nets, dodge floating cannonballs, and more. Give your kids the chance to release their inner beast and push themselves, all while getting covered in mud together as a family! Prepare to Brave Your Adventure and have some family fun! Register your child and yourself - parents/legal guardians - participate for FREE! It's like getting 3 for the price of 1. For registration and additional information see <https://www.kidsobstaclechallenge.com/denver>.

JULY MUSIC NIGHTS IN LARKSPUR PARK: The town of Larkspur and the Larkspur Chamber of Commerce present an evening of free entertainment, Friday, July 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Music from the Country Music Project, food from a variety of vendors. Bring your camping chairs and join your neighbors. On Friday, July 27, come back to the park, 6:30-8:30, for a concert by Rascal Martinez, playing a wide array of classic rock as well as his original material.

STARLIGHT SUMMER MOVIE: Saturday, July 14, Coco being shown in Festival Park, 300 Second Street, Castle Rock. Street fair starts at 6 p.m. Movie starts at dusk. Free.

PERRY PARK BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, July 17, 10 a.m. at the home of Carrie Murdoch 6619 Wauconda Drive in Perry Park Ranch. The book for discussion is *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict, a fictional portrayal of Albert Einstein's first wife, Mileva Mari, a physicist in her own right. The book for August is *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio, a novel about a ten-year old boy's struggle to be "ordinary." Both books are part of the DC library's Book Club Express program, so copies are available locally. New members and visitors are always welcome. For addition information, see the group's website: http://applelane.com/Perry_Park_Book_Club.html.

ART HOP IN DOWNTOWN MONUMENT: July 19, 2018, 5-8 p.m. in downtown Monument. On the 3rd Thursdays, May through September, galleries, restaurants and unique shops within the historic downtown Monument stay open until 8 p.m. Enjoy special events such as book signings, demonstrations, art displays, live music and great food specials.

PERRY PARK RANCH COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE, Saturday July 21 and Sunday July 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day. See additional information in this issue on page 5.

CASTLE ROCK FARMERS' MARKET: SATURDAYS through September, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Douglas County High School on Front Street. For additional information and a Colorado crop calendar (what is available when!) see <https://www.facebook.com/castlerockfarmersmarket/>.

TOWN OF MONUMENT CONCERTS IN THE PARK: The annual concerts in Limbach Park are held in Monument 7-9 p.m. every Wednesday in July. A different band plays each week and there are food trucks if you're hungry. Bring some cash to toss in the hats we pass. This series depends on the generosity of those who attend and of our sponsors. Take Monument exit 161 and head west on Highway 105 which becomes Second Street. Continue straight on Second Street to Front Street. Limbach Park will be on your left before you reach the railroad tracks.

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.

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FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES



New for Fourth of July 2018, we'll have some fun old-fashioned lawn games held in the Big D for adults and kids! Stick around immediately after the parade and sign up the kids for sack races, a water balloon toss, hula hoop contest and three-legged races. All ages can participate, and we will have ribbons for first, second, and third place in several age groups. Also the little ones can go fishing behind the sheet for prizes.

Also new this year, the entire family can spend time together playing volleyball, badminton, croquet and bocce ball, bean bag toss, kick ball, water balloons throwing. While we won't keep score for these, feel free to show up with your competitive spirit! Challenge your neighbors to a game.

Anyone willing to spend an hour or two volunteering to help run the games, help set up the concert, help with traffic during the parade and before and after the fireworks, please contact Debbie Vincent-stessmers@gmail.com, Kat King-kat@kingproduction.com, or Craig Van Doorn-assistantvp@perryark.org to help out.

- 10:30 a.m. Set up of the parade-east side of the Big D
- 11 a.m. Parade
- 11:30 a.m. End of Parade-west end of the Big D-ice cream and water available
- 11:45 a.m. Begin lawn games and competitions-these run until whenever
- 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Arts and craft vendors (south end of club parking lot)
- 6 p.m. Country club activities face painting, skeet ball, etc.) and hot dogs
- 6:30-7 p.m. Concert
- 9 p.m. or dusk Fireworks

Entry and exit along Red Rocks will be closed during the parade activities so people need to plan accordingly. We are asking all drivers that are parking cars to follow all signage and traffic instructions including facing your car out towards the front entrance when parking. We hope to facilitate the easy exiting from the park after the fireworks show.

[Editor's note: Although the 4th activities are planned by the Perry Park Metro Board, they are open to the entire Larkspur community. Come one, come all. Join the parade!]



A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is reaching out with a special request for your help. Over the last few weeks there has been an increase in bear activity in your neighborhood. At least two young black bears (one black in color and one blonde in color) have been making visits to trash cans, bird feeders, BBQ grills and other food-based items. These animals are showing an increasing tolerance of humans and an increasing desire to seek out human-based food sources. Bears are driven by their desire to eat and the behavior of these two particular bears is steadily deteriorating away from their natural habits. This deteriorating behavioral pattern increases the proximity, conflict and potential risk to people. *Please help break this cycle before animals have to be euthanized.* Bears are a fact of life in the Larkspur area, so for your safety and the preservation of your local wildlife please consider the following suggestions that will help minimize conflicts in your area:

TRASH:

- Store trash containers inside closed buildings.
- Wash out trash containers 1-2 times a month. Pour a small amount of ammonia in the cans to reduce food smells.
- Only place trash containers outside the DAY OF trash pickup, not the night before.

BIRD FEEDERS:

- PLEASE remove bird feeders. Bringing feeders inside at night only partially addresses the problem.

BBQ GRILLS:

- Place grills inside a locked building.
- Clean grills immediately after use.

PETS / OUTSIDE ANIMALS:

- Feed pets and store their food inside a lockable building.
- Monitor small pets when they are outside and not in an enclosure.
- Any outdoor animals such as rabbits or fowl should be inside an enclosed pen (with a top) at all times and placed in a lockable coup at night. Consider electric fencing to deter bears from testing the fence construction.

AROUND THE HOME:

- Close and lock ground floor windows at night.
- Close all doors into garages at all times.
- Do not keep any edible or scented items in any car parked outside a garage.

HAZE THEM TO SAVE THEM:

- When you see a bear take a quick picture if you like but then run them off before they learn humans will tolerate them getting into things they shouldn't. Yell, wave your arms, rattle a can of pennies, use an air horn, a car horn... go crazy! These are smart animals; they will know whether or not they are welcome to

Continued on page 7

Home • Auto • Farm • Equine • Commercial • Workers Comp

INSURANCE

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Independence Day

in

Perry Park



Big D - Parade

11:00 am

Participants arrive @ 10:30am

*Participate
or
Watch*

*Bikes - Walkers - Pets
Floats - Tractors - ATV's
Classic Cars - Fire Engines.*



**Fireworks
& Concert**



**The Denver Concert Band -
7 to 9PM -
on the PPCC fairway**

Fireworks start @ Dusk

**Outdoor food in
the Perry Park
CC parking lot
EVERYONE'S
INVITED**



PET TALK Continued from page 6

rattlesnake), and the Massasauga rattlesnake. The prairie rattler is found in just about every habitat less than 9000 feet, the western rattler is found mostly at the CO/UT line, and the Massasauga in the sandy southwest.



Bull snakes mimic rattlers by shaking their tails in the grass but will not injure you or your dog. Please do not injure these creatures just because they are there.



Rattlers are native to CO and should be respected, but not despised. They serve a valuable service in keeping the rodent population under control. There are several precautions that should be taken to keep ourselves and our dogs safe:

1) Stay on the trail and keep your dog

on a short leash.

2) Avoid rocky terrain, dense brush, and areas filled with tall grass. Watch where you put your hands and feet as rattlers like to hide.

3) Wear hiking boots, thick socks, and long pants to protect yourself.

4) If you meet a snake, don't harass it. Calmly back away and leave. Rattlesnakes attack when they feel threatened.

5) If you or your dog is bitten, limit activity as best as possible. Walk or carry (be carried) to your car and seek immediate medical help. Antivenin may be recommended.

6) Keep your veterinarian's phone number and address with you. Identify a source for 24-hour care in case your veterinarian is not available.

7) Vaccinate your dog for rattlesnake venom.

The rattlesnake vaccine is available at Larkspur Pet Hospital. Initially, the vaccine needs to be administered, then given again four weeks later. If the dog is under 25 pounds or over 100 pounds, a third dose should be administered. An annual vaccine should then be done about 30 days prior to onset of snake season, early April in this environment. Larkspur Pet Hospital also carries antivenin should your dog need it.

Please call your local Larkspur Pet Hospital at 303-681-3980 with any questions.

WALT'S WORDS

Walt Korinke...



No other date on the calendar more potently symbolizes all that our nation stands for than the Fourth of July.



Mac Thornberry

CASTLE ROCK – Another BIG CHANGE is coming to Castle Rock's downtown skyline and the growing interest in living in the downtown core of town. Just two blocks



south of the RiverGate rental multi-family project which is near topping out the first phase of construction, a major condominium project is now on the drawing board. The area across the street from Granelli's and The Union, the block currently occupied by Castle Rock Liquors, Rocky Mountain Oil, and

Meineke Car Care, along with the rear parcel currently used by the Town Hall for parking is designated to become a \$72 million, 93-125 unit condominium project, **Festival Park Commons**. The project will include 22,000 square feet of first floor retail and 17,500 square feet of office space. The added parking is a real bonus for this tight location with 125 condo parking spaces, 59 commercial spaces, and an impressive 300 public parking spaces. The developer, Castle Brae Development, is working with the the Downtown Development Authority to address the ear shattering train whistle blasts that announce a passing train at the back of the parcel with a \$900,000 contribution towards instating a "railroad quiet zone," which will benefit the neighborhood as a whole. The two-acre site plan has an 'H' shape 410,000 sq. ft. building design with an open garden and open courtyard. One-bedroom units are 900 square feet, one + one units are 1,100 square feet, two-bedroom units range in size from 1,200 to 1,600 square feet and there will be a 3,600 square foot club house with a pool in the courtyard.

You will no longer have to go to University Avenue in Greenwood Village to shop at the **Sierra Trading Post** which is in the process of fitting



out the former, never occupied, Sports Authority space in the

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middle of the **Promenade shops** at the top of the hill in Castle Rock. Operating as both a catalog retailer and a brick and mortar store chain operated by the TJX Companies, the 32-year old STP markets items from over 3,000 name brand manufactures featuring outdoor clothing, boots, cooking and camping gear.



It is really happening – the Arapahoe Community College joint operation with Colorado State University and the Douglas County School District *broke ground* on the new \$50 million “**Collaboration**

Campus.” The site is on the 14 acres on Limelight Avenue, just behind the Castle Rock Adventist Hospital. The first phase of the two-building project is pegged to be in operation by the Fall of 2019. Initial offerings will be in the areas of Business & Entrepreneurship, Health Care, Information Technology/Programming, General Education and Workforce Training. CSU will lease space on the campus where students will be able to perform research, get internship opportunities and complete hands-on project work. The Town of Castle Rock is also participating in the development of the Campus with an in-kind \$3 million investment via reimbursement of permits/fees/and some site improvements i.e. utilities, grading and parking.

PERRY PARK – Douglas County has completed plans for the roadway changes to the entrance and will be working with the Metro District to commence their construction later this summer (hopefully). This also permits the Metro District to start forming plans for the front area which have been stalled for the past couple of years pending the county’s final resolution. The Park is also scheduled for a total paving overlay this year, similar to what was done last year in Perry Park East. The Metro Board is at full staffing with the appointment of new Cheyenne Drive resident, Sean King, and the new resident committees formed and being formed by the District are bringing more active resident participation in the various activities and duties of the District – join up!



LARKSPUR – At the suggestion of Captain Jim Jensen of the Douglas County Sheriff’s Department, the Larkspur Town Council will be researching a variety of options to the **excessive speeds** along Spruce Mountain Road, especially during I-25 accidents that shift highway traf-



fic through the Town. Vehicles have been clocked passing the fire station at 60 to 70 miles per hour. Under consideration are speed bumps or speed depressions (fire station and mobile home park), stop signs, rumble strips, etc. Perhaps a town marshal for ticketing i.e. Palmer Lake where the policing operation is pretty much funded by speeders, while effecting a strong effort to traffic control.

MONUMENT – With nary a peep from town residents, the Pilot Truck Stop races to completion at the s/w/c of Baptist Road and I-25. It is quite an upgrade from the old truck stop located directly across the street. Among its amenities is an Arby’s Restaurant, and Pilot has applied to the Town for a 3.2 beer permit. Pumps are in and I would expect an opening within the next 90 days. Meanwhile, Monument continues its political battle with a replacement mayor, and a Town Council where half the members are failing to attend meetings, lacking a quorum and no meetings are being held. Isn’t politics fun?



COLORADO SPRINGS – Joining the long list of tenants (Costco, Kohl’s, Lowes, Stein Mart, etc.) at the University Village Shopping Center located at Nevada Avenue just north of Garden of the Gods, is the **Duluth Trading Company**. Opened at the end of April, adjacent Stein Mart, this is Colorado’s second Duluth store; their first opened in Thornton last year. They are open 7 days a week 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (11-5 Sundays) with a large collection of casual and work clothing for men and women including their “*Longtail T-shirt with 3 extra inches to cover a ‘plumber’s but.’*” The company was founded in 1989 in Duluth, Minnesota, as a catalog-only retailer and later moved its headquarters and distribution to scenic Belleville, Wisconsin. The founders were two brothers working in the construction industry who saw a need and started their retail exposure with a “Bucket Boss,” a canvas tool organizer that fit over a drywall bucket. This was followed by an eight-page catalog along the same line and grew into today’s Duluth Trading Company.



The first building to complete and open at the **Academy Gateway development** at the corner of Struthers and North-Gate is a very modern **Starbucks**. You can buy your favorite coffee from 5 a.m. to

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8 p.m. six days a week and starting a lazy Sunday at 9:00 a.m. The development will include several office buildings which are in the early stages, a **My Hotel** which is also nearly ready to open up. And capping off the southeast corner of the site, in front of the Starbucks will be a **Seven-11 convenience store** with gas pumps.



Burlington Coat Factory will add a third Colorado Springs location with a new 38,000 lease at Powers Point Shopping Point (Powers at Barnes Road), with a planned opening towards the end of the year. The 600-store chain also has Springs locations at the Chapel Hills and Citadel malls. They are known as a “national off-price retailer offering style for less” selling men’s, women’s and children’s clothing, shoes, furniture, baby accessories, and home décor items. This corner is one of the Spring’s hottest retail sectors with nearby major retailers including Costco, Ross, TJ Maxx, and Walmart. If shopping makes you hungry, there are numerous restaurants in the area as well, i.e. Texas Roadhouse, Red Lobster, Jose Muldoons, and Zoe’s Kitchen.

Another block east at Barnes and Tutt Blvd, Missouri-based donut chain, **Hurts Donuts**, opened its first Colorado store at the



Shoppes at the Ball Park last month. The five-year old, 18-store chain offers over 70 varieties of oversized donuts along with coffee, soft drinks, and a doughnut milk shake. If you get that 2 a.m. craving for a donut, they are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Their donuts are priced from \$1.20 to \$2.50 (\$10 to \$16.50/dozen) and are freshly baked. The 3,250 square foot store can seat 65 people.

If you need quick treatment for a fracture, sprain or other bone or joint injury, *and at costs well below the typical ER facility*, the newly opened, **walk-in, Express Bone & Joint Injury Care Center** located at 4110 Briargate Parkway is just what you need. It is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, no appointment is necessary, and being “ortho specific,” does not expose you to other contagious illnesses as a regular ER center does.



An under-construction addition to the city’s 24-hour downtown effort is a new luxury apartment complex at the northwest cor-

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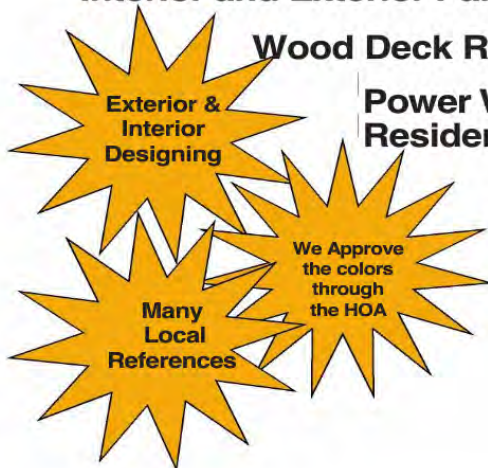
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ner of Rio Grande and South Cascade occupying a half block, to be known as the **Cascades**. The upscale 184 unit project will include such “top of the class” elements as bike lockers, pet wash station,

a salt water pool, concierge services, classes and communal gathering spaces and of course access to the neighborhoods many restaurants and bars, entertainment and art galleries.

The corner of Voyager and Interquest Parkway is the apex of major development of retail and multi-family projects. It is the center of a 10-mile radius which includes 134,945 households, a 362,489 population, and an average HH income of \$83,472. One block north on Voyager directly behind the New Life Church, the Cameron-Butcher development team has broken ground on a new retail/multi-family project which completes the 4th quadrant of development activity underway at this location.



Unnamed at present, the Voyager frontage will have both lease space ranging from 1,400 sf to 20,000 sf, and 1 to 3.7 acre pads available for sale at \$16/sf. The commercial spaces define usage as retail, restaurant, medical and automotive. The remainder of the site, which is 3 1/2 times the front parcel, is also under the initial stage of development as a luxury apartment project.



The run down corner of Platte and Circle is about to get a refresh with the renovation of the long-closed 19-year old 13,200 square foot building originally occupied by Rite Aid Drug

for two years, followed by the Salvation Army Thrift Store and finally a long term as a vacant eye sore. One of today’s hottest retailers, Dollar Tree, will make this their 17th Colorado Springs location under a new lease once the renovation is completed. The surrounding Knob Hill area is one of the older parts of town and is home to various used car lots, bars, old motels and pawnshops. With the recent CVS Drug purchase of the old Tower Plaza at this same intersection, it may be the beginning of a renewal era for the location.



DENVER – RIDGEGATE It has been 15 years since RidgeGate commenced the development of its large parcel on the west side of I-25 and Denver’s southern boundary with the



Sky Ridge Hospital complex, the large 650,000 square foot Charles Schwab office campus, Target and other retail, and tons of single and multi-family housing units. As this

phase continues, RidgeGate has announced plans for an additional 2,200 acres



on the east side of I-25. Plans call for a mixed use development, about 10,000 residential units and 10 million square feet of commercial space supporting 50,000 new jobs. Building heights of 10 to 12 stories are in the plans and the new FasTracks Station planned to open next year will provide easy access to downtown Denver. Designed to be The City Center for the south side of Denver, the 400-acre “Lone Tree City Center” will provide a walkable and bikeable “urban center.” Over the next couple of decades, the “East Village” will build out nearly 10,000 homes in three distinct neighborhoods. Extensive parks and open space will abound and additional FasTracks stations will be added. Combined, both sides of I-25, the total complex encompasses 3,500 acres.



The East side of Denver also has growth plans. The second to the last stop on the FasTracks run to DIA is currently a large dirt parcel, but that is about to change. Designated as **Pena**

Station, the 400 acre parcel is going to be developed in phases by Panasonic and its partners into a walkable, mixed-use transit community and is pegged to become



the center of the overall area growth plans for “Airport City.” Another five minutes on FasTracks will have you at the airport, 10 miles away. The inspiration comes from the Panasonic Smart City development in Fujisawa, Japan, a new “future city” run by solar energy. The kick-off piece d’resistance will be a 226 room **Hyatt Place Hotel** with all its amenities, which will commence construction shortly for a 2019 opening. As the city continues to grow, we can expect to see more and more new development of communities that attempt to provide a total live/work/play environment relieving some of the pressure on the downtown hub.

"I am a Larkspur resident and have been specializing in selling Larkspur real estate for the past 14 years. I am the managing broker and owner of Wolfe Realty Group, an independent residential real estate brokerage firm. By choosing to specialize in the Larkspur and Perry Park real 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"



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CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



Ben has represented us in multiple real estate searches and transactions over the past several years. He is extremely knowledgeable about the market as well as

the technical and legal requirements necessary for a smooth and successful result. Ben addresses unexpected issues calmly and creatively. He and his assistant, Debbie, are patient, professional and accessible. They consistently exceed expectations which is why we will continue to recommend Wolfe Realty Group to potential buyers and sellers in Douglas County.

Jack & Susan Baker

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funding will not allow for competitive wages and benefits.

* Staffing will decrease to such a level that around-the-clock staffing will no longer be available at both Station 161 in the Town of Larkspur, and Station 162 located at 5680 Red Rock Drive.

* Reliability of fire apparatus and equipment will decrease due to lack of funding for maintenance, repair and purchasing.

* Safety and efficiency of fixed facilities will decrease due to lack of funding for maintenance and repair.

* Recruiting, training, and retaining volunteer firefighters, who currently represent 53 percent of our total staff, will become increasingly difficult with fewer paid personnel to administer a well-organized training program.

The LFPD Board would greatly appreciate your participation in one of our upcoming community outreach meetings to be held at Station 161 located at 9414 S. Spruce Mountain Road in Larkspur:

Saturday, July 7, 2018 at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 14, 2018 at 9 a.m.

Nothing is set in stone at this time. A final decision on placing a measure on this fall's ballot will not be made until August of 2018, providing time for additional public input. Thank you in advance for your thoughts and recommendations.

4th of July Celebration

The 4th of July is just around the corner, and Larkspur Fire Protection District would like everyone to have a safe and enjoyable holiday. With fireworks as the centerpiece of many celebrations, the LFPD encourages you to attend one of the many public displays offered around the area. These displays are free to the viewing public and seem to get better every year! Perry Park Metro District sponsors a great display at the Perry Park Country Club site. Castle Rock, Littleton and Englewood have public fireworks displays as well many other communities in the Denver and Colorado Springs areas.

Please refer to this website for up to date fire restrictions:

<http://www.dcsheriff.net/sheriffs-office/divisions/emergency-management/fire-restrictions>

Every year around the country there are always horrible accidents and fires started by folks playing with fire works. Let's not cause injuries, burn up any homes or set the forest and/or your neighborhood on fire because you just had to have your own fireworks. Please watch your children, as they are particularly susceptible to the dangers that fireworks present. Our fire danger is high this year, so do not ruin your life or destroy your community by playing with fireworks. Celebrate our Independence Day with pride and responsibility

Calls for Service Summary

May 2018 Call Review:

Fires: Total of 3 calls:

1. Structure Fires: One (mutual-aid)
2. Vehicle fires: One (in-district)
3. Brush/Grass Fires: One (mutual-aid)

EMS: Total of 32 calls

1. Medicals: Twenty-four (22 in-district and 2 mutual-aid)
2. MVA's: Eight (6 in-district and 2 mutual-aid)

Alarms: Total of 5 calls: Fire alarm system malfunction: Five (all in-district)

Other: Total of 40 calls (39 in-district and 1 mutual aid)

On behalf of the entire Larkspur Fire Protection District, we thank you for your continued support. Our next scheduled board meeting is Thursday July 12, 2018, 7 p.m. at Station 161.

THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THE GALLAGHER ACT AND THE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

Mike Grill...

OUT OF SERVICE. That's what fire districts throughout Colorado face as they confront catastrophic losses of operating revenues from a major source of funding: property taxes.



"What?" you ask. "How can this be?", knowing your property value has likely increased in Douglas County.

A brief history lesson is in order here.

In 1982, Colorado adopted the Gallagher amendment, designed to prevent residential property owners from paying more than their fair share of property tax dollars. That year the non-residential (commercial) contribution to state property taxes represented 55 percent of total property taxes paid to the state, with non-residential making up the remaining 45 percent. So, lawmakers decided that ratio – 55/45 – should become a permanent part of the amendment.

To maintain the non-residential/residential balance, commercial property was assessed at a fixed rate of 29 per cent, while the residential rate was purposely designed to be flexible in order to adjust downward in periods when residential property increased in valuation.

During the early years of Gallagher, the 55/45 split wasn't an issue. In fact, in the early years, the residential assessed rate (RAR) was 21 percent, with the non-residential rate at 29 percent. However, as Colorado's population exploded – especially along the Front Range – residential building soon overtook commercial growth, causing an inequity in the 55/45 balances. In order to maintain the formula, the RAR had to decrease and – by 2003 – it had, dropping from 21 percent to just 7.96 percent.

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JUNE NEWS FROM THE WATER DISTRICT

Jim Matchett...

The June regular board meeting of the Perry Park Water & Sanitation District was held on the 20th with all directors present. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m., and the first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the May 16th Regular Board Meeting, which was unanimous. Next, Eric Barnes of Fiscal Focus Partners, LLC, was in attendance to review their 2017 audit of the district. He advised the board there were no adjustments to the district's financial statements.



The district manager, Diana Miller, then requested the board authorize the purchase of a 2018 Jeep Cherokee to replace the district's present 1999 Jeep Cherokee as due to its age and mileage of 145,000, there are concerns of reliability and safety. The board unanimously approved \$23,000 for this purchase. Disbursements totaling \$194,471.64 were then unanimously approved.

The district has long had the standard of K Copper for use in service lines. Recent developments and requests from residents building their new homes has prompted consideration of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) piping material as an alternative to the K Copper. After a thorough technical review with the district's engineering consultants, the district will now approve the use of HDPE piping meeting the specifications now included in the district's standards for HDPE service lines. Next, the board unanimously ratified an Easement Agreement and Deed with Sun Jelly-Larkspur CO RV LLC for manhole and sewer main pipe near the Sage Port Waste Water Treatment Plant.

A district customer had advised the district manager by letter of operational issues with a shared sewer tap. After discussion, the board requested the manager respond to the customer with two options to correct the problems. The District Systems Report for May, as submitted by Semocor, was then reviewed. Operations were noted as normal. The Monthly Staff Report as submitted by District Manager Miller was then reviewed. The Bannock Road Lift Station Bid Tabulation report was discussed as the bids received were considerably higher than the engineering estimates. Fourteen permits have now been issued year-to-date, compared to ten at this time last year. Finally, work has started on the Sageport Waste Water Treatment Plant and Country Club Loop projects, and commencement of work on the Bannock Lift Station will begin shortly.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM. As always, further information is available on the district website, www.ppwsd.org.

NEWS FROM THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**Cindy Applegate,
Secretary-Board of Directors...**

The Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD) Board of Directors and staff are extremely grateful to our local taxpayers for their continued support. LFPD has worked hard to be frugal and effective in allocating the local funding that we receive.



In November of 2015 seventy-one percent of you voted in favor of a 3.95 mill levy increase to address LFPD's operating needs. This increase in funding has helped tremendously in increasing and maintaining the level of service we are able to provide for you. Unfortunately, due to the synergistic effects of two previously enacted modifications of the Colorado Constitution, the Gallagher and TABOR amendments, the revenue received from the mill levy increase you voted for is in jeopardy.

If a solution to the negative effects of these two amendments is not achieved at state or local levels, special fire districts throughout Colorado will be unable to provide adequate levels of service.

The LFPD Board of Directors is NOT considering pursuing a mill levy increase ballot measure. Instead, the proposal being considered is an effort to stabilize the District's future funding.

The primary benefits of the proposed voter-approved measure would include:

- * Continuing to deliver service to all residents, businesses, and visitors in the LFPD by providing an evolving and adaptable level of coverage with around-the-clock on-duty resources.
- * Attracting and retaining paid employees who are seasoned emergency responders and avoiding vacant emergency responder positions.
- * Maintaining emergency response apparatus and equipment and replacing outdated and unreliable apparatus and equipment to better protect both residents and emergency responders.
- * Extending the life and safety of LFPD's fire stations and reducing the need for emergency repairs by continuing the District's current scheduled maintenance program.
- * Protecting LFPD's volunteer firefighter recruiting capabilities and training program, ensuring that the District is able to continue its successful efforts to attract the highest quality candidates.

If nothing is done, an imminent funding shortfall resulting from the effects of Gallagher and TABOR will create many challenges including:

- * Existing employees of the Fire District will actively pursue other career options. The district will struggle to attract experienced firefighters, paramedics and EMT's because decreased

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OUT OF SERVICE Continued from page 15

In 2017, the RAR declined further – to 7.2 percent - in response to the ever-increasing number of new homes being built, mainly along the Front Range. In 2019 the RAR is projected to decline further to 6.1 percent.

This imbalance is highlighted by a simple fact: the 55/45 ratio is set statewide, regardless of local market conditions. Because most people in Colorado live on the Front Range, property values there are setting the formula for the entire state — but taxing districts in rural areas are also paying the price because they rely more on property taxes than on sales tax.

Confused yet? Well, let me muddy the waters further by throwing in TABOR requirements. In effect, TABOR does not allow the RAR – once lowered – to be increased *without a vote from the citizens of Colorado*. In essence, Gallagher forces the RAR downward when housing prices go up – but can't bring the RAR back up when housing prices go down.

The impact on fire districts? Dramatic decreases in revenues will cripple delivery of emergency services. Unless state legislators fix Gallagher's unintended consequences, fire districts have limited options on how to continue to provide quality services.

Here are just a few.

1. Mill Levy Increase

Property tax increases are never popular – especially if you've recently asked your community for more operating revenue. Furthermore, fire districts that have recently been successful in passing an increase in their mill levy have seen those additional revenues wiped out due to the lowering of the RAR required by the Gallagher 55/45 ratio.

2. De-Gallagherization Initiative

De-Gallagherization is a proposal asking voters to allow their governing boards to approve a sliding mill-levy, increasing the levy amount in years the RAR drops below the current rate of 7.2 percent. The goal would be to match current revenues a 7.2 percent RAR *would have* produced had the RAR not been decreased due to the requirements of the Gallagher amendment.

3. Creation of a Fire Authority through Consolidation/Unification with Neighboring Departments

Consolidation or combining neighboring fire districts to create a fire authority leverages the power of economies of scale with a goal to provide high levels of service while reducing redundancy of operations. Emergency and non-emergency responses, dispatching, training, and administrative staff are just some examples of how unification of departments can reduce inefficient redundancies, thereby lowering costs. Examples in Colorado

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OUT OF SERVICE Continued from page 16

include Cunningham Fire Protection District merging with the South Metro Fire Rescue Authority and the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District consolidating with the Basalt and Rural Fire Protection Districts. (<http://www.swfpd.com/district-unification/>)

4. Researching the Legality of Gallagher Due to Disparate Impact

Disparate impact typically refers to practices adversely impacting one group of people of a protected characteristic over another. Specific to Gallagher, the argument would be that the unbalanced 55/45 commercial to residential ratio is driven primarily by Front Range properties, thus having a *disparate impact* on rural districts throughout the rest of Colorado.

“I think disparate impact could be grounds to look at Gallagher and say ‘this could be unconstitutional,’” stated Bruce Evans, Fire Chief of the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District in Bayfield, Colorado.

More research needs to occur to determine if disparate impact could be used to offset the impacts of the Gallagher Amendment on the smaller rural fire protection districts in Colorado.

Regardless of which path a fire protection district chooses, one thing remains clear: doing nothing is *not an alternative*.

“Somebody needs to fix Gallagher,” stated Gypsum (Colorado) Fire Protection District Fire Chief Kirkland, quoted in the April 18, 2018, edition of the *Vail Daily Weekly*. “We made promises to our citizens when we did our mill levy question, but now the money is going away.”

And along with it the quality of fire protection services.

[Mike Grill has been involved in fire and emergency services since 1986 and has authored numerous articles for Fire and EMS trade journals. He is the co-author of two books: *Fire Service First Responder* and *First Responder Resiliency*.]

REPORT FROM THE METRO DISTRICT BOARD

Sean King, Secretary, PPMD...

JUNE BOARD MEETING:

On June 14th the Perry Park Metro District board met at the Perry Park Country Club for our monthly meeting. In attendance were:

Directors:

Randy Johnson – President
Craig VanDoorn – Vice President
Vanessa Dao – Treasurer



Sean King – Secretary

Also, in attendance:

Kurt Schlegel; Special District Solutions, LLC
Keith Worley
Tony Perconti
Sherri Perconti
Steve Rea

The full meeting minutes are available on <http://perrypark.org/metro-district/meetings/>

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Firewise Committee:

Section 2 of slash pickup program is underway. Slash piles that remain in Section 1 are either contaminated or located where the slash cannot be moved easily. For more information on the slash pickup schedule and rules, please reference <http://perrypark.org/resident-information/slash-pickup-free-mulch/>

The Metro District has received 16 applications so far for resident mitigation grants, and all have been approved. There are still 14 grants available for 2018. If you are interested, please go to <http://perrypark.org/resident-information/resident-mitigation-grants/> to find the application.

For those that may have missed it, Channel 4 in Denver ran a story on Perry Park being one of the first Firewise communities in the country. You can watch the story on the Channel 4 website at <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/perry-park-residents-mitigating-wildfire-danger>

New evacuation route signage is coming soon as the current signage is too small and inconspicuous for residents not familiar with the route(s). PPMD will be sponsoring an evacuation route tour this summer in cooperation with Douglas County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management. For a preview, you can find the evacuation route at <http://perrypark.org/safety/emergency-evacuation/>

Parks and Recreation Committee:

The Parks and Recreation committee is getting close to creating a survey to gather feedback from Perry Park Metro residents as to their views on which projects would be most valuable to the community. Look for the survey in your inbox early in August.

Social Committee:

The Social Committee met on Monday, June 11th. At the meeting they continued to plan July 4 as a full day of fun activities for the whole family. The volunteer support and collaboration with the Perry Park Country Club continues to be fantastic. Be on the lookout for an email and flyer with all of the details for the holiday event.

There is still a threat to the fireworks display on the 4th due to

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WILDLIFE Continued from page 5

continue what they are doing based on a consistent community response.

CONTACT INFO:

- Emergency (i.e. Bear in your home) 911 or DCSO (303) 660-7500

- Nonemergency conflict, Questions or information Colorado Parks and Wildlife (303) 291-7227

Casey Westbrook
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

[Editor's Note: The two bears Casey mentions are in the Sage Port/Sterling Pointe area, but there are bears in every neighborhood this year. Please help them stay out of trouble!]

DOUGLAS COUNTY RECEIVES GOCO GRANT TO DEVELOP SANDSTONE RANCH OPEN SPACE

The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Board has awarded a \$3.5 million grant to Douglas County to help the county recoup costs for acquiring the Sandstone Ranch Open Space.



Sandstone Ranch is a 2,038-acre property that has long been on the county's wish list for a new public open space area. This recently acquired Douglas County Open Space property borders the Pike National Forest, has water rights dating back to the 1860s, and provides sweeping views of red rock formations, sloping meadows, and pine forests.

The county competed with developers and affluent private buyers eyeing the ranch for homesites, jumping at the chance to buy Sandstone to protect it for the public. The county had to act quickly at the beginning of 2018 to do this, using its entire open space acquisition budget and borrowing from the county's general fund with the approval from the Board of Douglas County Commissioners. Now that Sandstone's future is secure, the GOCO grant will allow Douglas County to replenish its funds for future conservation work.

"We recognize that the Sandstone Ranch acquisition is so much more than just the preservation of 2,038 acres," said Roger Partridge, on behalf of the Board of Douglas County Commissioners. "It is the preservation of the County's history, heritage, wildlife habitat, as well as other cultural and natural resources—a quality of life investment for present and future generations."

A public engagement process to determine the best uses of the

ranch will now get underway, with public access opening in 2019 anticipated to provide much needed relief for other open space properties in the area. Public usage of county open space trails has increased by 98 percent in the last five years, with more than 568,000 people hiking, biking, or riding horses on existing trails in 2017.

"Sandstone Ranch offers the perfect opportunity to thoughtfully create new ways for the people of Douglas County and the surrounding areas to access the great outdoors," said Michele Frishman, manager of program operations at GOCO.

The public outreach process will consider how to balance recreation with wildlife habitat protection, as the ranch is home to a number of species that use the property as a migration route between Pike National Forest and protected land to the east. The project will also honor the Sandstone Ranch's rich agricultural history by continuing ranching operations on the property with a herd of Red Angus cattle.

The \$3.5 million grant is part of GOCO's Protect Initiative, a special initiative focused on once-in-a-lifetime projects to conserve large landscapes of land.

To date, GOCO has invested \$41.5 million in projects in Douglas County and has conserved more than 36,000 acres of land there. GOCO funding has supported the East West Regional Trail, Phillip S. Miller Park, and the East Plum Creek Trail, among other projects.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a Constitutional Amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,000 projects in urban and rural areas in all 64 counties without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

PET TALK WITH PILAR Pilar Starman, DVD...

Avoiding those that slither

It has been a hot and dry season so far. There have been more reported rattlesnake sightings so far this year than I recall in years past. Animal Emergency and Specialty Center in Parker has already treated at least 12 dogs that have been bitten by rattlesnakes, already meeting their typical number of envenomations for the entire year.

There are about 30 species of snake that live in Colorado, but only three pose a risk. These are the prairie rattlesnake (by far the most common), the Western rattlesnake (aka midget-faced



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PPMD Continued from pge 17

fire restrictions. Randy Johnson, Metro Board President and Larkspur Fire Marshal, is coordinating with Douglas County and will provide direction as soon as the decision is made. Be on the lookout in NextDoor and Larkspur Neighbor to Neighbor for up to date information as we get closer to the 4th.

Important Questions from Residents:

There have been lots of reports of clicking in the trees within the Metro District, with some concern over what the cause may be. Keith Worley, our resident forester, has reported that the clicking most likely comes from cicadas. In his words: "It's amore"! The love song of a recent hatch."

Additionally, Keith reports that the Tussock Moth is no longer active in Perry Park thanks to mitigation efforts made two years ago.

Because of the voting season, there have been questions about the many candidate signs posted at the entrance to Perry Park. These signs have been, and will continue to be, removed as they are not allowed per Metro District by-laws.

Next Meeting

The next Perry Park Metro District Board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 12th at the Perry Park Country Club. Residents are always welcome to attend and participate.



BEAR WISE



Happy 4th of July! Bear activity in the Perry Park area is sizzling. Please use extra care when roaming around your property as we are roaming too. If you haven't purchased your bear proof trash container(s) yet, now would be a great time to do so.

The Heat is On
You think you feel hot? Trying walking around all day in a full body fur coat.



And, imagine doing so with no ability to perspire as a means to cool off during the summer hot months. As the daytime heat rises we tend to conserve our energy and become more active during the cooler night time hours. If you too are a night time party animal – "Party On"!



A Day at the Pond: Using neighborhood pools and ponds is a great way for us bear to take a break from the mid-day heat. Here I am with my young nephews Ben and Jerry taking a dip in a local swimming hole. We are actually really good swimmers – no lessons necessary as we know how to swim instinctively.



Be Bear Aware

There is a mom bear accompanied by her two young cubs roving our streets and yards. Mom is inadvertently teaching her cubs

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electric

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PERRY PARK RANCH COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

**Saturday July 21 and
Sunday July 22
9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day**

TO PARTICIPATE AS A SELLER:

To Register: Phone or Text
Craig Van Doorn at 918-697-
9751.

We have to prepare a map or
listing of each location and

prepare signs for main intersections to get people directed to the streets that have sales. Each individual garage sale will have to supply ITS own yard sign to get potential customers. Dave Gardner has approximately 25 signs that can work in the yards, but they are not directional. To pay for the additional signs and cost of printing the maps or listings, we are asking for a \$5 registration fee. We had the T-shirt signs made last year but we never had anyone donate wood or labor to build the signs, so that is something we are asking for again this year. Donations of wood and labor will be accepted immediately. Some of the local realtors and businesses are willing to become sponsors again this year, and some real estate open houses will occur during the sale to bring more people into the area. Also, it was suggested that the community garage sale happen on one of the weekends of the Renaissance Festival because of higher traffic counts.

The Metro Board has stated that all signs need to be picked up as soon as the sales are over on Sunday. Because of advertising deadlines, **each garage sale will have to be registered by July 8, 2018.**

Again, to register call or text Craig at 918-697-9751. Hopefully, we can have another year of good attendance with no water main breaks on Wauconda

ENCOUNTERING YOUNG WILDLIFE

If you discover a young animal you think needs help, **DO NOT CALL THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE!** Instead, go to the Animal Help Now website and let them direct you to a solution. Bookmark the website. Consult it if you have any concerns about a local animal or bird.

<https://www.facebook.com/AnimalHelpNow/>

It is particularly important that you understand DOW policy is to not interfere with nature. They will not help you with a wounded fawn. They may simply put it down. They also will not help you with a fawn or other animal baby you think is lost.

There are also local rehabbers who may be able to help you.

Sarah Heckathorn and Kathy Meyer are both local. Sarah only handles small mammals, especially squirrels, raccoons and foxes. Her number is 719-440-4476. Kathy only takes bunnies. She can be reached at 303-726-7897. A little farther away, Linda Cope in Black Forest is a great resource for deer and ungulates but she will only take in fawns for rehab, no adult deer. Her number is 719-495-4477. Heather Brown in Parker (303-840-7194) is a good contact for birds.

There is a complete list of 2017 rehabbers in the files of the Larkspur Wildlife page at Facebook. It will be updated when the 2018 list is released.

The “lost” babies you will likely encounter this time of year are fawns. You may come across them all alone, seemingly “abandoned” by Mom. **LEAVE THE FAWN ALONE!** Mom parks the kid in a safe place and plans to return. Do not disturb the fawns unless you are sure a fawn is in distress. Here’s the test: “Ears are straight, fawn is great. Ears are curled, fawn alone in the world.” Look at the ears before picking up a fawn. It takes a few days of not eating for the ears to curl.



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BEAR WISE Continued from page 19



to enter open garages and unlocked vehicles – not a good thing. PLEASE help this young bear family stay out of harm’s way by closing all garage, shed and outbuilding doors even when you are home. Doing so can prevent an accidental bear/human encounter that may result in this mom and both cubs being destroyed if they become labeled “problem” bears.

Amazing Feat

These two cubs have been spotted climbing to the very tops of tall mature Ponderosa Pine trees in less than a minute. Bears are born with a natural instinct to climb most anything as soon as they can walk. Climbing trees is the primary way we bear escape danger. Never try to escape us by climbing a tree, we may pass you up on the way to the top!

Other local bear sightings include a young adult bear sporting unusual blonde fur named “Dude.” Please let me know if you spot him – he owes me money.



Parting Shot

Nowhere in the world can residents experience the amazing

wildlife that lives abundantly in and around Perry Park. Please help protect this sacred experience by always being bear wise. By doing so, we will continue to reward you with views like this.

Email your pictures, questions and stories to: wisebeary@gmail.com

Your friend in the hood,

Beary

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Susan Peters...

Summer at the Ponderosa...The Methuselah of Spiders...Short Takes



Wildlife Mecca



With our many bushes and flowers in bloom, the bees and butterflies have been very busy gathering and spreading the pollen. This year our yard has been thick with beautiful butterflies. Along with the Painted Ladies, we have been graced with Tiger Swallowtails and White Admirals, among others.



This year we have not one but TWO bird baths which are almost

Continued on page 22

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7185 FOX COURT | \$1,975,000

8 Bedrooms | 8 Bathrooms | 9,196 Finished Square Feet | 3 Acre Lot | 7185FoxCourt.com

A classic masterpiece with 360 degree views spanning from north to south and backs to the Pike National Forest. This architectural stunner has been completely renovated inside. It is an absolute must see!



5133 ECHO VALLEY ROAD | \$1,775,000

5 Bedrooms | 6 Bathrooms | 6,381 Finished Square Feet | 10 Acre Lot | 5133EchoValleyRd.com

A custom hillside estate with birds-eye views over looking the Perry Park County Club & Golf Course. The sunsets are enchanting and can be enjoyed from every interior room as well as multiple outdoor living areas surrounding the property.



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~A. Schroeder

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CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE IS THE 20TH OF THE MONTH

TEEN FOR HIRE

Hi! I'm Dawson Dwernychuk, I am 17 years old looking to do any job you need. I can provide yard work, watch/feed your animals or plants, shovel snow, or anything you need. Contact me at 720-288-9607.

Experienced and responsible 17 year old available to pet sit and babysit. To reach Mallory Meeks, please text or call (832)363-7933 with any questions.

Dependable and trustworthy 14 year old looking to pet sit and babysit. CPR and first aid training completed. Please call or text Jacqueline Meeks at (832)600-8014.

Hey! I'm Chance Cotham, I'm 15 years old and a sophomore at castle view high school. I can take care of plants, dogs, yard work, and any other thing you'd need! Please contact me @ 720-775-8345 or chancecotham17@gmail.com

A trust worthy sixth grader looking for hire for pet sitting. Anywhere in the Larkspur/ Perry park area. To contact Kylie email kateandkylie910@gmail.com or call 720- 877-1998.

My name is Trace, I am 18 and a PP res. I am available for jobs that include yard work, pet walking / sitting, snow shoveling, fire mitigation and more. Sandy Divan can be contacted for reference at 303-681-0132. I also have a 16 y/o brother that can help with big jobs, so call me at 720-420-9767 today!

An experienced and trustworthy 12 year old looking for hire to pet sit in the Perry Park area. I am qualified for all your pet sitting needs. To contact Kylie email kateandkylie910@gmail.com or call 720-412-1567.

I am available for babysitting! I am twelve years old (almost 13), CPR/AED First Aid certified .I enjoy spending time with little kids. Please contact me Carissa O'Donnell 303-578-2323 or obevy@aol.com.

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)-369-6941 or clayton.saunders19@gmail.com

My name is Delaney Liebke, 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 dgliebke@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 highschool 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 teartodd@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.

My name is London. I am 16 yrs old, a junior at CVHS and live in the Sageport area. I am available for pet or baby sitting. Please call 303.250.8125

THE PERRY PARK SENTINEL

DEADLINES: All articles are due the 20th of each month.

Display Ads - the 15th of each month with art and payment due by the 20th.

Classified Ads - due the 20th of the month.

Editor: Karen Dale 303-681-2504
email - sentineleditor10@msn.com

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Proofreaders: Thanks to Terry Brownfied for carefully proofreading!

The Perry Park Sentinel staff reserves the right to refuse any article or advertising submission.

The Sentinel invites your letters, comments and ideas for columns. Deadline for advertising is the 15th of each month, and editorial copy is the 20th of each month. 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 Sentinel will correct all errors occurring in the paper. If you find a problem with a story - an error of fact, or a point requiring clarification, please call a member of the Editorial Staff. The opinions expressed in the Sentinel are not necessarily the opinions of the staff or its advertisers.

ADVERTISING RATES effective May 2016

PRICING IS FOR "CAMERA READY" ART

Classified *	\$ 5 / line (min \$10)
Business Card (scan only)	\$40.00
Quarter Page (3 1/2"x 5")	\$50.00
Half Page (7 1/2"x 5")	\$62.50
Full Page (7 1/2"x 10")	\$87.50

Typesetting is available for a nominal charge.

Ads sizes are Width x Height

Odd size ads are subject to a 20% charge

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DEADLINES

Display Ads - the 15th of each month with art and payment to be received no later than the 20th

Classified Ads - due the 20th of each month.

Email art to ppsntinel@comcast.net

Mail payments to 10230 Prairie Meadow Circle #101, Parker, CO 80134

PAYMENT IS DUE AT TIME OF RESERVATION

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

WILD SIDE Continued from page 19

in constant use. The overhead weeping willow gives the birds a perch to stage their grand entry. See the robin shaking off the water from its bath? They seem unfazed by our bench just six feet away where we can watch and photograph the activity while keeping an eye on the pond with the stunning koi, and, yes, the myriad of garter snakes that hang out waiting for their next fish fry. This pond is deep enough and has enough hiding places that the fish have been able to duck safely for cover from the snakes and a visiting raccoon.

One night, the raccoon climbed up to our bedroom deck. The dogs heard it and right away went into guard mode. At one point the raccoon was riding one dog, then the other, cowboy style. Whoopee ti yi yo!!!! Finally, hubby Dave was able to push the raccoon off the deck, but it climbed right back up. One more shove, and it high-tailed it.

You must have seen the female raccoon in St. Paul, Minnesota, that climbed 35 stories to the roof of a building. She was met by a cage with a can of cat food in it. Yum. Wildlife officials released her safely into the wild. When frightened, raccoons climb. When crowds started forming, this lady kept climbing for safety. Her long claws allowed her to grip the uneven surface.

It took them awhile, but the bruins started showing up here. First it was a big black guy that attracted the attention of the dogs on the deck. All the barking must have hurt his ears as he quickly exited to quieter realms.

Then one day Dave was working on our trailer and he saw something in his peripheral vision. He looked up to see a cinnamon yearling bear that stopped to look at him quizzically. Shortly the bear just ambled off as if to say, "Yuk. That dude would have tasted bad, anyway." Dave just froze not knowing what to do in the moment. No broom was handy to scoot the bear along.

Long Live the Spiders!



A recent *Washington Post* article covered the amazing "trapdoor spider" of western Australia. A zoologist studied and catalogued the spiders in the area before she passed

the duties onto a colleague. The trapdoor spiders, or *Gaius villosus*, lay their eggs deep in a burrow lined with their silk under an acacia tree in a wheat belt. She makes a trap door at the entrance of the burrow out of silk to keep her and her young safe.

The young spiders remain in the burrow for six months in darkness. Then mom spider opens the trap door for them to escape and make their own burrows. But many of them perished before this could happen from predators such as lizards or the

hot sun. Number 16, as she was labeled, successfully dug and dwelled in her own tunnel. She arranged small twigs in a perfect spiral while covering the entrance with silk, as her mother had done. When she felt the silk strands trembling she would quickly emerge and grab the prey before returning to her deep tunnel.

Every few years she would allow a mate near her to propagate. The males just wander around and dyed young – no burrow for protection. What? No child support?

One day, the latter zoologist found the entrance of twigs to the burrow quite disheveled and a small hole in the trapdoor. She dropped down an endoscope and confirmed that Number 16 was no more. When it was determined that she was no longer in her tunnel and the trap door was gone, most likely because she was victim to a parasitic wasp that laid her eggs in the spider, 43 years had elapsed! Wow! Before then the longest lived known spider was a tarantula of 28 years.

Short Takes

OK, folks. Here we go again! Fasten your seatbelts! Mid July means the return of the raucous Rufous hummingbirds who take over the feeders in very rude fashion. That means putting out more feeders. By then the young of the black-chin and broadtail hummers are also shoving their way for a space at the feeders. Definitely time to put out more feeders.

The bird activity this year has been wild. All of the feeders have to be frequently refilled, and now the fledglings are joining the fray, usually with mom or dad, while they do their fluttering and peeping, begging to be fed. Their ruffled appearances make them look comical. One day we were fortunate to see a mom, dad, and baby lesser goldfinch at one of the platform feeders. Awe. A family outing to the ice cream store.

You, too, can have a backdoor nature paradise. Both the Audubon Society and the National Wildlife Society give you suggestions on how to achieve an envious habitat that attracts a great variety of insects and birds. You can even get a certification. Hot damn! But the real reward is seeing all the visitors to your backyard.

That's all, folks, for this month. Gotta run. The string algae in the pond needs some taming.

HowtoContactMe: 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.

New Mailing Address Effective July 3, 2018

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