



# the Perry Park

## Sentinel

JUNE 2016

### THE WONDROUS, WONDROUS PERRY PARK

There's a place in the middle of nowhere,  
With a rustic country flair,  
Where a bear may give you a scare.

A place with spark,  
A place to embark,  
Is the wondrous, wondrous, Perry Park.

When everyone comes together,  
And the farms are better than ever,  
Despite the ever-changing weather,  
Is the wondrous, wondrous Perry Park.

Some come to see the rocks,  
That are as red as the wings of a hawk.  
You may see a cat, a deer or a fox.  
At the wondrous, wondrous Perry Park.

Everyone is close to one another,  
You treat everyone like a brother,  
But you know one from the other,  
At the wondrous, wondrous Perry Park.

You give and get a helping hand,  
There is plenty of land,  
To make it be grand,  
At the wondrous, wondrous Perry Park.

Stop by for the people, for they are sweet,  
Stop by for the scenery, it can't be beat.  
Stop by to hear the precious birds tweet,  
At the wondrous, wondrous Perry Park.

No one knows where this place is located or  
found,  
No one will know, if you ask around.  
If you come, there's no city sound.  
Why, it's the wondrous, wondrous Perry  
Park.

**By Carissa O'Donnell, Age 13**  
She just finished the 7th grade at Lewis  
Palmer Middle School.



**THE FRIENDS OF HORSES RESCUE AND ADOPTION BARN** is hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Friends of Horses Rescue and Adoption Barn, 6351 South Peoria in Centennial. There

will be family activities including pony and hay rides, feeding the animals, a magician, food and a lot of other fun games. This is an affordable event, where each activity is 1-2 tickets and tickets are \$1. The organization runs this event on almost a zero dollar budget, but with the generous support of the community, this is a great success.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY GARDEN CLUB** - for those who love gardening - meets the first Tuesday of each month 1 – 3 p.m., primarily at the Philip S. Miller library in Castle Rock. Meetings include speakers on a variety of horticulture topics for all levels of gardening interest and knowledge. Visitors are welcome! For date and meeting location changes, and additional club information, visit [www.douglascountygardenclub.org](http://www.douglascountygardenclub.org) or email Carol at [carolynjgrant@msn.com](mailto:carolynjgrant@msn.com).

**PERRY PARK BOOK CLUB** will meet on Tuesday, June 21, 10 a.m. at the home of Carrie Murdoch, 6619 Wauconda Drive in Perry Park Ranch. The book for discussion is Kristin Hannah’s novel *The Nightingale* about simple French women who worked in the resistance against the Nazi occupation dur-

ing WWII. In July, the group will discuss Ann Patchett novel, *Bel Canto*. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome. For addition information see the club’s website at [http://applelane.com/Perry\\_Park\\_Book\\_Club.php](http://applelane.com/Perry_Park_Book_Club.php).

**FAMILY PARK CONCERTS IN MONUMENT:** From 7-9 p.m. in Limbach Park (take Second Street west; park is on the left before the railroad tracks). The 2016 schedule is as follows: June 8 - Collective Groove; June 15 - Indigo Way; June 22 - Buddy Whittington & the Atomic Fireballs; June 29 – Hammerstadt; July 6 – Dotsero; July 13 - R-V-Zoo & the Sugar Spun Elephant Band; July 20 - Wirewood Station; July 27 - The Inman Brothers Band.

**SAVE THE DATE - June 11– 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Horseback Miracles’ Sixth Annual “Horses for Hope” Hoedown** to benefit “at risk” youth is coming to Perry Park Ranch, 5655 W. Red Rock Drive! Mark your calendar now so you don’t forget! Dust off your cowboy boots and cowboy hat and get ready to kick up some fun. Enjoy our signature “howdylicious” pig roast and all the “fix’ns” prepared by award winning chef Joe Rivera. Enjoy a grand performance from The Elizabeth Drill Team – Blazing Saddles, and let the kids ride our Miracle horse, Bingo. Enjoy our DJ party and dance the night away. Shop Bingo’s Boutique and then find items you can’t live without in our silent and live auctions.

Continued on page 4

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## FYI Continued from page 2

**JOIN THE PERRY PARK BLANKET BRIGADE** in making comforting blankets that are given to children and adults who have suffered medical, emotional or traumatic situations and need a BIG HUG. If you are aware of someone who could use some comforting, please let us know. We have also joined forces with Operation Heartstrings to sew, knit and crochet items for the nursery at Castle Rock Adventist Hospital. Meetings are on the third Wednesday each month (April 20) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perry Park Country Club (you do not need to be a member of PPCC to join our group). If you are interested in joining us, please contact Gwen Underwood at [gwenspur@mac.com](mailto:gwenspur@mac.com) or 303-681-2125 or Cindy Hotaling at [cjaspsjr@yahoo.com](mailto:cjaspsjr@yahoo.com) or 303-681-0374. Most of the materials used for our projects are donated. If you have fabric remnants, blanket batting or yarn to donate, please contact Gwen or Cindy.

**DON'T FORGET LARKSPUR SETTLER DAYS:** Saturday, June 4, Larkspur Community Park, 1-9 p.m. Fun, food, frolic—and friends. Oh, and Tony's Bake-off.

## CELEBRATE SUMMER WITH THE LARKSPUR MOMS' GROUP!

**Sarah Bretz, Director of Larkspur Moms' Group...**



The Larkspur Moms' Group has been a long-standing tradition in Larkspur. We are a place to meet new moms, kids, and families in this wonderful community we live in. For more information on our group visit us at [www.larkspur moms.com](http://www.larkspur moms.com) or email us at [larkspur moms@gmail.com](mailto:larkspur moms@gmail.com). We are open to all moms in the Larkspur community and host monthly play groups, moms' night-out events, and family events. We have fun and are always looking for new moms to join our group!

Here is what we have coming up in June:

**Play Group:** Join us in Larkspur Park on Wednesday, June 1,

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for our third annual Spray Dayz in the Park! The Larkspur Fire Department will be on hand to spray down our kiddos and keep them cool on those hot summer days. Everyone is welcome!

**Moms' Night Out:** Mark your calendars for an evening of shopping and dinner. Join us on Saturday, June 25, as we hit the town and even enjoy some cheesecake! Check out our Facebook page for more details.

## THE 2016 BOOT: THANK YOU AGAIN!

**Kathleen Williams, PTO president (until June30)...**

We did it! The volunteers at Larkspur Elementary have out done themselves. What a party!! There was higher attendance, more sponsors and way more fun than last year (and last year was a good party)

We raised about \$43,000 at the 2016 Boot Scootin' Boogie, but, this could not happen without the support of our community. By coming together we have made it possible for our school to do even better. Some of the funds raised will go toward a new Literacy program that the teachers have worked hard on and are very proud of and excited to use. New Chrome books will be purchased for the classrooms and other electronics and miscellaneous items the teachers request directly. Please see the school web site in the fall for details on where the money was spent.

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**2016 BOOT Continued from page 4**

This is my last year at Larkspur Elementary and as I finish up my term as the PTO president I have to thank all of the parents who have helped me and the PTO board with all of their hard work at this year's Boot.

Becky Voth, Jennifer Martin, Angela and Kevin Smith, Wende and Matt Temme, Chad Boakes, Melissa and Dwayne Keathley, Elizabeth and Theodore Obenchain, Grace Keeler, Erin Bennet, Darryn Rose, Katey Murphy, Doreen and Mark McCabe, The Ulrich and Doonan Family, Erin Feinner, Jay and Beverly O'Donnell, Ken Williams, Aubrey Kennedy, Jennifer Wilson and of course, Nicole and Phil Tahmindjis. I apologize in advance if I missed anyone. Please know that any help anyone provided is much appreciated and you are a part of the success of this event.

On a side note: I feel it is important to mention that Phil and Nicole are new to Larkspur and their children don't go to Larkspur Elementary yet, but they stepped up and are a huge reason why this event was so successful. Phil was our Master of Ceremonies with Tom Wiens, and Nicole organized and headed up the bar. Both were absolutely fantastic and I am so glad to have them with us. In addition to their important contributions, Darryn Rose, a community member without kids at our school, stepped up and organized the casino, which was also huge hit! He has already committed to doing it again next year! Thank you to these amazing people who jumped right in to help!

Becky Voth is responsible for the décor again this year. You really made it great, Becky! Jennifer Martin is our treasurer and deserves much credit for keeping this event going. She organizes and keeps track of so many things. Please send a "thank you" to Jennifer as she really does so much behind the scenes.

A sincere, heartfelt thank you to Tom and Diana Wiens and the rest of the Wiens family. Travis is always such a good help during set up and patient. Hannah, you have a lovely voice and we are blessed to have you sing the National Anthem at this event for the last two years. Tom, we love that you get excited for our event and want to give us ideas. You were "on fire" that night and really made the night fun. Diana, your calm, laid back, peaceful manner makes set up a little easier. (At least for me it does.) I hope I run into you from time to time. I enjoy talking to you.

Without the help of the Wiens and Paradise families, we would not be able to pull off such unique events like the Fall Festival and the Boot Scootin Boogie. I hope that these two traditions live on and continue to bring the community together. I look forward to ENJOYING many Fall Festivals and Boots to come.



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# July 4th



# Independence Day

## Big 'D' Parade

11:00 AM

Hot Dogs

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Awards - "Best --"



## FIREWORKS & CONCERT

Denver Concert Band 7 - 9:00 pm

Fireworks (dusk) +/- 9:00pm

The Perry Park Country Club will provide festive food for the public served outdoors - tables on the former pool.

EVERYONE INVITED - \$\$\$

Hot Dawg Wagon



Float - ATV

Pet

Classic Car

Walker

Bike - Cycle

porta potties



# Free MULCH

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(through September)

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# SLASH



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# PINE NEEDLES



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## WALT'S WORDS

Walt Korinke...

*The surest sign that there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe, is that it has never contacted us. Anonymous*



**CASTLE PINES** – A small overlooked parcel abutting the sound wall at the n/w corner of the I-25 south exit at the Castle Pines Parkway entrance to the town should have been included in the city's boundaries originally, and is now being considered for annexation. Currently zoned for three residences, when annexed, it will undoubtedly be rezoned commercial and with its prime gateway spot across from the Conoco Service Station, the Sage Village Parcels should experience a quick development.



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**CASTLE ROCK – BREAKFAST IS COMING SOON** at the Castle Rock **Black Eyed Pea**.

The Dallas-based (1975) family restaurant chain filed chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings last December with financial problems led by a large debt burden and expensive leases. As they fight to survive, the once 150 chain operation has reduced the number of operating stores, raised new capital investment and agreed to a federal installment program to repay federal withholding taxes. They still offer a great family menu topped by their famous Chicken Fried Chicken smothered in gravy and they are looking for ways to increase sales with the latest effort being their "Open for Breakfast" addition that commenced mid-May in Castle Rock at the Outlets.



Ground has been broken and construction is underway for the **SECOND MEDICAL BUILDING** at the **Castle Rock Adventist Health Campus**. The 41,486 square foot, two story structure is located on your left as you enter the complex from the Park

Meadows entrance. It should be complete by the start of the new year.

Two months ago, The **BEST BUDDIES BAKERY AND CAFÉ** opened in The Emporium building (200 E. Perry St.), providing a casual beverage and food service to help you extend your visit to the collection of 40 antique, fashion and furniture shopettes with fun names like Chickadee's, Persnicketea and Alice's Cottage. The Bakery/Café's ownership (Wellspring



Community), was founded by a group of four young women who came together four years ago and overcame their developmental disabilities by baking cookies for sale at local churches. They expanded into wholesaling their goodies to The Castle Rock Hospital, Tony's Market and the Regis Jesuit High School, and they now run the Best Buddies Bakery and Café. They serve, bake and run this very pleasant treat for Emporium visitors with thanks to the Emporium ownership, the Bowmans, who charge them \$1 rent per year.

**Happenings at or around the Promenade** – Another Promenade tenant, **MATTRESS FIRM** is preparing to open its store, taking one half of the building just west of Kneader's Bakery. Started 28 years ago, Mattress Firm, with over 2,000 stores nationwide, is the largest specialty mattress retailer. They carry a large selection of brand name beds and bedding and offer "Red Carpet" same day delivery.




Across Meadows Parkway, between the Arby's and the new Holiday Inn Express, one of my favorite family restaurants, **CULVER'S**, is coming soon. The 4,207 square foot store is located at the north end and a second 4,740 square foot retail building is planned on the south end of the site. Craig Culver open the first Culvers in 1984 in Sauk City, Wisconsin, serving their signature ButterBurgers® and Fresh Frozen Custard. They have since grown to over 4,300 franchises in the U.S. and Canada and expanded their menu to include chicken, fish and a variety of tasty sandwiches. Don't have to go down to the Academy Avenue store anymore in order to enjoy their diverse menu.



If, this comes to fruition, it will be a dramatic change for the core CBD of Castle Rock. What really makes a community tick, is residents living downtown, and currently under Planning Staff

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**Pete Dunbar**

1341 Quartz Mountain Drive  
Larkspur, Colorado 80118  
303-681-3809  
Cell 303-638-6762

**WORDS Continued from page 7**

review is the project that can make it happen. **The Riverwalk North and Riverwalk South Development** would abut Sellars



Gulch on both sides where it flows under the Wilcox bridge at 2nd Street. The two buildings, a five-story and a six-story commercial and multi-family buildings would replace the old two story Town Center Plaza on the south side, and the Blue Nectar Mexican restaurant on the north side of the bridge. The five-story North building would have 5,505 of ground floor retail space and 121 apartments on the upper levels. The six-story South building will have 1,380 square feet of ground floor retail space, 24,188 square feet of office on the second floor and 118 apartments above. On-site parking will be provided for 370 cars. Development will take place in two phases. If this goes through, the rapidly growing community will be able to maintain the importance of its central core while tons of new activity will surround the outer edges of the “Big-Little City.”



And that’s not all – adja-

cent to this project, the corner building -201 Wilcox – is planned to be demolished and replaced with a new four-story structure to include first floor retail and restaurant, two floors of office and a fourth floor residential component. The town has already approved a Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) agreement. The project is being done by Niebur Development.

Behind the Niebur project and adjacent to the Old Stone Church Restaurant, the Mercantile Building is already under construction with the four-story elevator tower in place.

Festival Park is scheduled to start its two-year expansion development in November which will carry it under Wilcox and between the new Riverwalk complex. When all is done, it will bring a new center core to Castle Rock, and, I might add, a very classy one at that.

**LARKSPUR –** The proposed (and partially built) motorsports facility on #105 just north of Tomah Road caused quite an uproar from area residents and prompted Douglas County to



review and establish current guidelines for their permit approval.

“Motorsport Facility, Private: A Motorsports Facility for personal use that requires the movement of

**Continued on page 9**

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## WORDS Continued from page 7

a cumulative 50 cubic yards of dirt or other material for such use, **WHEN a principal residence has been established on the property.** *This is only allowed on 35+ acres and requires a stringent USR (Use By Special Review) process. (amended 4/26/16)*

“**A grandfathered use** is one that was legally established prior to a change in regulations. Motorsports facilities that were legally established prior to the date of the temporary regulations (as an accessory use to an **existing principal residence** on the property, with all other permits and requirements having been met), can continue to be used. The expansion of said grandfathered facility would only be allowed through a new USR application.”

The 105 property did not qualify as a residence because it was not in place prior to the efforts to establish the motorsport facility. If they want to proceed, they must both build a home and then go through the new extensive USR process to be considered for issuance of a permit. “After August 24th, 2016, the answer will be **“such accessory use may be allowed by permit only.”** The county’s goal is NOT to completely take that privilege away. It is simply regulating Motorsport Activities to prevent intense land use, nuisance calls to the sheriff, to protect property values, control erosion and environmental impacts. The county is trying to encourage “good neighbor practices” while giving all motorsports enthusiasts a chance to be a good neighbor, any abuses to this privilege will likely result in a loss of their permit.”

**MONUMENT** – A senior care study completed by the Bethesda Senior Living Group supports the need for a planned \$13.5 million **SENIOR LIVING AND MEMORY CARE** facility to be built on a 3.16 acre parcel at Lincoln Avenue and Beacon Lite Road. The 12-month build-out will commence this summer with a grand opening scheduled for the fall of 2017. Marketing for the units will commence later this year for the 47 assisted-living apartments and 13 memory care units which include studios, 1 and 2 bedroom units. This type of moderate-sized development is designed to fulfill local community needs.

Bethesda Senior Living Communities is a national faith-based, not-for-profit organization headquartered in Colorado Springs founded in 1959 by Rev. Charles Turner. The operation was sold in 1988 opening the door to new and creative ways to generate revenue and serve older adults. Five new corporate divisions were established: Bethesda Ministries, Bethesda Associates, Bethesda Foundation, Bethesda Christian Broadcasting and Bethesda Real Estate Company. Soon after, One Child Matters became a part of Bethesda Ministries, becoming the primary benevolence arm through which Bethesda was able to reach out to children in need around the world. Today, the company operates 16 senior communities—independent living, as-

sisted living and memory care—throughout six states includes 5 facilities in Colorado.

**COLORADO SPRINGS** – For indoor go-kart fun, the Memorial Day opening of the \$6.5 million, 34,000 square foot **OVER-DRIVE RACEWAY** at Polaris Pointe (Bass Pro Center) adds to the growing complex of various sporting activities. There are carts and tracks designed for both adults and kids – different



size carts and available speeds. The raceway plans to add several special go-karts with hand controls designed for disabled drivers. Lots of fun and no neighborhood disturbance.

The 2013 \$1.2 billion merger of the two office supply giants Office Depot and Office Max moves to combine and reduce the number of stores by about 400 nationwide. They closed 165 stores in 2014 and another 182 last year. Now it is Colorado Springs’ turn with two of the city’s five Office Depots to close. The closures are the **OFFICE DEPOTS** located in the **Marketplace at Austin Bluffs Plaza** and the one in the **Broadmoor Towne Center**. Three stores remain to serve the community.



**DENVER** – The city’s south side will get two new office buildings. Corum Real Estate plans to start construction this fall on a **12-story, 187,000 square foot office building** in the Denver Tech Center at 5050 S. Syracuse Street. The lower six floors will house the parking providing the upper 30,000 square foot floors a great view of the mountains. Tenants as small as 2,500 square feet can be accommodated.



The John Madden Company plans a six-story, 40,000 square foot small tenant building in the Fidler’s Green Circle complex. The **FIDDLER’S VIEW** will also be a space over garage complex, with two levels of office above four floors of parking. It will be the area’s first Net Zero Energy Building with 100 percent of the building’s energy needs met by on-site renewable energy.



**C-470 EXPANSION** - I remember when County Line Road was south Denver’s only way from I-25 west (and it was slow). Then came C-470, which really opened up westward travel. Today over 100,000 cars traverse this east-west expressway daily and it is time again to respond to the need that growth fuels.

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The Colorado Dept of Transportation (DOT) is responding with a three-year, \$215 million expansion commencing this summer which will add two “tolled” west bound express lanes and one east bound. The existing lanes will remain toll free. Ramps, bridges, noise barriers and other improvements will be included. The other corridor, which

is way behind the times, is the I-25 section between Monument and Castle Rock which crawls with traffic – looks more like a parking lot than a highway. The initial studies are underway, and we await the announcement of future plans for this very needy transportation core.

## HIKING TRAILS & TIPS Q & A

Lisa Warteman...

Hiking season is finally upon us. For those like me who love Colorado for all the outdoor trails it has to offer, I thought I would share a few local hiking trails, how to find them and some trail tips for those who may just be starting out. TH=Trail Head



Palmer Lake Reservoir

--Photo by Lisa Warteman



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## WHAT ARE SOME NEARBY LOCAL TRAILS?

There are several local hikes around this area if you are pressed for time. Spruce Mountain, Palmer Lake Reservoir, Dawson Butte and Devil’s Head Firetower are the closest and get some of the highest use. If you plan on hiking anywhere on a weekend, arrive early for the best parking as the lots get crowded.

## HOW TO I FIND TRAIL MAPS FOR THIS AREA?

If you are looking for hikes in the Rampart Range/Pikes Peak area, a really good resource is Pocket Pals Trail Maps (waterproof). There are many trails on these maps that I have not been able to find anywhere else (including online). You can get them at Covered Treasures in Monument or order them online at <http://www.pptrailmaps.com>. Delivery only takes 1-2 days.

## HOW DO I FIND OTHER TRAILS AND PARKS?

**Websites:** For Colorado Springs Trails: [cospringstrails.com](http://cospringstrails.com)  
Near Denver: <http://www.dayhikesneardenver.com> (you can search by drive time, difficulty, length, etc.)  
One of my fave sites for multiple activities: Outdoor Rec. Info Center-CO: <http://www.oriconline.org>

**Mobile Apps:** I like Everytrail and Alltrails phone apps. They give you everything you need to know including directions, trail maps and reviews. You can save ones you have completed and keep a list of those on the “to be hiked” list.

## CAN I BRING MY DOG?

Many trails allow dogs, but only “on leash.” Please be respectful of this law as it is for your dog’s safety, and it is respecting other people’s rights to hike without being jumped on by a dog. The dog could run after a small animal or, worse, be prey for a

Continued on page 12

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Perry Park

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## HIKING Continued from page 10

larger one. Please check to see if the park or trail you are visiting allows dogs. Rocky Mountain National Park does not allow dogs; neither does Roxborough Park.

### WHO CAN USE THE TRAIL? WHO HAS THE RIGHT OF WAY?

Each trail will say who can use it: i.e. hikers, cyclists, horses. Etiquette: Everyone yields to horses; cyclists yield to hikers/runners and usually downhill yields to uphill. Not everyone will agree in every case on the uphill/downhill rule. Be courteous and use your best judgment.

### CAN I WEAR ANY OLD SHOES?

Please wear shoes that are appropriate for hiking the type of trail you choose. In this area, many trails have tons of loose scree. You must have good treads on your shoes or you will be slipping and sliding. They can be trail runners or hiking shoes, but they need good, deep treads. I have seen people barefoot and in flip flops.

### DO I NEED WATER?

YES, YES, YES. Even if you are going for a short hike, you need water. Water increases the efficiency of red blood cells in collecting oxygen in the lungs. We need it to breathe. Your hike will be much more enjoyable if you bring water.

### I HAVE NEVER HIKED THIS TRAIL. DO I REALLY NEED A MAP OR CAN I USE THE GPS/MAP ON MY PHONE?

Again, if this is a new trail, PLEASE look at a map before you set out. Carrying one with you is even better (preferably paper). If there is a map on a sign at the trail head, take a clear photo with your phone and carry it with you. This sounds like common sense, but I have met numerous people on the trail asking me the distance and difficulty (while carrying no water and wearing improper footwear). Even if you have a cell signal at the trail head, you may not have one at all along the trail. Using the GPS on your phone drains your battery as does the phone trying to find a signal and going from roaming to 4G. This is why paper maps are always the best option!

### SHOULD I CARRY BEAR SPRAY?

In active bear months, I ALWAYS carry a can in my side hip-

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pack holster ready to go. Even if walking in the neighborhood, I carry it. We turned a blind corner walking our dogs one day and Mama was in the tree huffing and a cub was on the ground. We were able to back away slowly without incident. While spray can get quite pricey, I found it at Walmart for \$35, which is a good deal.

### ARE FIREARMS ALLOWED ON TRAILS?

Firearms and hunting (during season) are allowed in the Pike National Forest, home to so many great hiking trails. There are many people who go there for shooting practice too. Just keep your eyes and ears open. Not everyone shooting exercises proper gun safety (this I have witnessed) so proceed with caution.

### LAST BUT NOT LEAST:

Take Only Pictures and Leave Nothing But Footprints. Now, get out there and have fun! If you have any questions about hiking trails or information, please email me:

[rockymtnhighker@gmail.com](mailto:rockymtnhighker@gmail.com).

### HIKING SAFETY

People out hiking or climbing are encouraged to:

- Always hike with a partner (if possible)
- Let someone know where they are going and when they will return
- Bring the minimum essentials, including snacks, water, sunscreen and equipment for what they are doing
- Not exceed their physical limits
- Be aware of the potential for falling rocks and wildlife



### RHUBARB DUMP CAKE?

#### A SUMMER TREAT!

Linda Ross...

Ah, the smells of spring are in the air. And that means fresh fruits and veggies abound at your local grocery store.

As a child growing up in rural New Hampshire, I enjoyed newly picked fruit, along with the fresh air of the great outdoors. We had all the berries on our property--strawberry, raspberry, blueberry and blackberry--and I spent many a spring and summer day berry eating and picking. I am pretty sure that my sister and I ate more than we picked. In addition to the berries, my mother had the most amazing "strawberry rhubarb" plant.

Continued on page 13



## SUMMER TREAT Continued from page 12

It was there when she purchased the house back in the mid-1960s. The pitiful plant was just about dead and only had a few scrawny stalks, but she fertilized it and brought it back from extinction. The next year, it doubled in size, and throughout the years, it would produce dozens and dozens of thick, red stalks. My nephew now owns the house and tells me the plant is still quite prolific!

My mother would harvest this amazing vegetable several times during the spring and early summer months. After the leaves were removed and the stalks peeled and diced, most of them would end up in the freezer, to be used to bring a bit of spring back during those long, cold winter months.

One of the first recipes my mother gave me to bake was her Rhubarb Dump Cake. This one is really simple and was published in one of her well-worn Kraft recipe books. This cake made its rounds at many a church supper, and I truly believe what made it stand out from others was our rhubarb. If you don't have your own plant, you can find fresh rhubarb in the produce aisle of your favorite grocery store. My 8 year-old great-niece is coming for a visit in June, so she and I are going to carry on the family tradition and make this one together.

### Mom's Rhubarb Dump Cake

Will make 12-16 servings, depending on how you cut the

squares

You will need:

- 1 lb. fresh rhubarb, chopped/diced (should have about 4 cups)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 pkg. (3 oz.) JELL-O Strawberry Flavour Gelatin
- 1 pkg. (2-layer size) white cake mix (yellow works as well)
- 1 cup water
- 1/3 cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Place diced rhubarb in a 13x9-inch baking dish (I use a glass pan); sprinkle with sugar and then the dry gelatin mix.

Combine the cake mix, water and butter with a whisk until blended; pour over rhubarb. Spread to completely cover the diced rhubarb.

Bake for 45 minutes or until golden brown. Serve with a dollop of whipped topping or a scoop of vanilla ice cream.



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## DOUGLAS COUNTY MOTORCYCLING

Michael Stone...

### A Bold Social Experiment: Calling all cyclists!

When the warmer weather starts, motorcycle enthusiasts get on the road. With the great riding roads that we have in this area, you'll see lots of two and three wheeled vehicles with riders enjoying the scenery and fresh air. There are so many choices now, with bikes and trikes being manufactured all over the world.



So here's the experiment. Let me know what you ride, and the reasons behind choosing what you chose. We'd be just as interested in input from bicyclists since all of us have a common bond to get out there and ride. Please send replies to [stoneman1951@msn.com](mailto:stoneman1951@msn.com). I'll compile the results and present them in next month's *Perry Park Sentinel*.

I got interested in this subject when I stopped at a little local grocery store, and two bicyclists with three-wheeled recumbent bikes remarked favorably about my motorcycle. One of them said that a race was probably out of the question. I looked at his sprocket and told him he probably had more gears than I did. For the record, my motorcycle has six gears. He replied that his recumbent has 31 forward gears!

Are you kidding me? Bicycles have come a long way from the three-speed Schwinn that I had as a kid.

Similar advancements have been made in the motorcycle world, where engine sizes have increased, styling has changed, transmissions improved, and frames have been beefed up. Just what was it that was a deciding factor in your choice to get an alternate form of transport?

Some reasons could be country of origin, brand, appearance, price, or any number of other factors. Let's hear from some riders. This could be very interesting and fun. I certainly hope so!

Suggestions for column ideas and any comments can be sent to me at [stoneman1951@msn.com](mailto:stoneman1951@msn.com).

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## LES-PTO PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2015-2016

Kathleen Williams...



This has been a great year for our school, which makes it a great year to end my term as president. The Fall Festival was a success as a community event and raised more money than the previous year. The Boot was also a success as an adult community event that raised more money than the previous two years. However, the best thing about this year and what has been proven by these two events, is that we at Larkspur Elementary have come together as a community to make things great for the kids and teachers of our school.

Of course, it didn't hurt that we have a fantastic new principal who brought new life to our school and teachers. I believe all teachers are saints, and it is truly amazing what they can accomplish with the right leadership. Jen Oldham brings that leadership, and it has made all the difference. It was an absolute pleasure to work with you this year. And, if nothing else, I have gained a new friend.

I want to say thank you to The PTO board members. Becky Voth was our Communications Vice President and did an amazing job getting our message out there. She's not only a talented artist, but someone who brings brightness to our meetings--funny, smart and insightful. You have given me great advice over the past two years, and I am blessed to have you as a friend and confidant.

Jessica Hamilton started off with a bang as the PTO Secretary, but ultimately had to step down. I was thinking hard on how to replace Jessica, someone who had done such a great job in the short time she filled the role. Who better than Aubrey Kennedy? You are calm and listen to everything before you add input. This is truly a gift in world where people think that what they have to say is the most important. I enjoy your sense of humor and your total peaceful attitude toward everything. You have been awesome as our secretary and I love that I can call you my friend.

Chad Milan stepped in as the Vice President a few months into the school year. Chad is a busy man but always willing to help. You are funny and goofy and you say what is on your mind, which is a welcome change, most days. Thank you for being our Vice President; you always gave the time you could and were a great help when you did.

Jennifer Martin is the PTO treasurer. Although everyone on the board brings something unique, Jennifer brings her "A" game 100 percent of the time. Jennifer does so many things that so many are not aware of. She is the grease that keeps this machine running smoothly. All good relationships have their ups and downs but over the years we have been able to communicate openly. When it got tense, we were able to overcome the pettiness, fix the problem, apologize for being "snippy," still get

**Continued on page 15**



## REPORT Continued from page 14

the job done, then laugh about the snipping later. You are amazing and anyone will be lucky to work with you!.

I have some advice or suggestions for next year.

There are no emergencies in PTO. This is a volunteer organization that is just trying to raise money for the school and help the teachers. There are real problems and then there are the annoying inconveniences that come up in life. When there are issues that come up in the PTO, those are inconveniences. When an illness or life changing event happens in one's personal life, those are real problems.

Some people are reluctant to step into a bigger role in a volunteer organization for whatever reason, and I understand that. So take on some smaller roles like-

- Help with the Book Fair. Carol Katona always seems to have enough help with set up, but never enough for break down. This is something that would take an hour out of a person's morning on those days. The Book Fair only happens twice a year. This same idea goes for the Fall Festival and the Boot. If many people put in an hour after the event to help break it down, then many people have only put in an hour instead of a few people putting in many hours.

- I would like to suggest that the new Board maintain the relationship with the town of Larkspur, the Chamber of Commerce and the Larkspur Volunteer Fire Association or LVFA. This is something I am really proud of and hope it continues. Our community becomes stronger when we help each other. LES is not an island; it has a direct effect on the town of Larkspur and vice versa. By working with each entity, in even small ways, we build relationships that only strengthen our resolve. I have made new friends and learned a lot by working with each of these groups. The PTO president wouldn't have to go to all the meetings, but set up a rotating schedule so that the PTO is represented at a town meeting, a chamber meeting and an LVFA meeting.

- I would like to suggest that teachers be a part of the conversation more when it comes to the PTO. We are here for you, to try to make things a little easier. So if something is happening that you don't feel comfortable with, please speak up. I think many times parents have good intentions, but then they don't ask if their intentions are actually helpful. By teachers speaking up, we avoid many unnecessary "discussions" at meetings.

- Finally I would like to suggest to everyone to "go to the source." If there is something new happening at the school or something you don't understand, go ask the principal or go to the source of the idea. Do not get on social media and ask a question or go to another parent who may or may not have been a part of the original discussion. One phone call to the school will not only save you time and grief, but you will get the right answer.

I am so grateful for this experience. Most days it has been fun, and I have made new friends, and learned a lot. I feel that I have surrounded myself with beautiful, competent, women, (and a few men) who are smarter than me. Your help and guidance has made us a good team and it has been a pleasure working with you.

## WHAT'S UP AT THE METRO BOARD?

Walt Korinke...



Karen Dale was honored as she ended her service as a Perry Park Metro District Board Member. Her contributions to the Metro District will be missed. Next meeting Derek Meredith joins the Board, and Walt Korinke commences his second term.

**VISITORS** – Soon to be new resident, Jim Safran presented preliminary data relative to his potential need for an encroachment agreement on the District's trail easement at the rear of his property which is under construction on Lot 25 – Delaware Drive.



Continued on page 16

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## PPMD Continued from page 16

The deep slope behind his house necessitates a retaining wall to sustain the hillside. After discussion, the Board indicated the probability of approval once the final plans are in order for review.

**MINUTES** – The minutes for the April 7 District meeting were reviewed and approved as written. They are available on the website [www.perrypark.org](http://www.perrypark.org).

**FIREWISE EVENT** – The May Firewise Event, though delayed one week due to weather, had about 100 resident attendees.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Financials – May 4, 2016



Receipts	\$ 10,922
Disbursements	\$ 3,127
Cash Account	\$444,696

There were 15 expense items. There were no major expenditures this month.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY REFERRAL** – The District reviewed and approved an amendment to the Inca Ridge Filing No. 2, the ten-lot development on Mohawk Drive. One of the lots was determined undevelopable due to the rock structure that dominates the site, and is being split into two 1/2 acre lots and being added to the two adjoining lots. In addition, the six-acre single lot at the east end of the development is being split into two three-acre lots. The total number of developable lots remains the same at 10 lots.



**TUSSOCK MOTH** – The Tussock Moth is still with us, and the District will do an aerial spray along the Park boundaries in mid to late May once the moth is in the larvae stage.

**TRAIL AND BUFFER PROJECT** – Keith Worley completed additional trail-boundary markers, and the design/bid process should commence by this summer. Once costs are established, the trail priorities can be determined for this multi-year development.

**GATEWAY RENOVATION** – Keith Worley, Chris and Walt Korinke cleared the slash blocking the Gateway spillway allowing increased flows and a modest reduction in the lake level that was threatening to encroach on the northern shore of the lake.

The board approved the acquisition of an Aquatic Vegetation Groomer and sled at an estimated cost of \$1,400. The manually operated equipment will permit us to enter the water and begin to tackle the



reed problem. If successful, the District will plan for a resident participation day to take a major effort and removing the reeds.

**TECH ISSUES** – All District registrations, i.e. resident grants, upper Cheyenne keys, etc., can now be completed and submitted on line.

The Speed sign at the west end of Red Rock is out for repair.

**SLASH PICK-UP** – Commences June 1 and should complete one of the four zones each week. See web site for instructions.

**FREE MULCH** – Free Mulch and the quarry (end of Perry Park Boulevard) will be available the first **Saturday of the month** through September – **8 a.m. to noon** – free loading dependent upon the availability of M.R. Hauling.

Slash and PINE NEEDLES may be dropped off at the Gravel Pit during Free Mulch Days. Pine needles must be de-bagged at drop off.

**JUNK DUMP** – Scheduled for May 28th.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY** – Don't miss the July 4th activities including the Big "D" parade at 11 a.m. and the Fireworks Display that kicks off with the Denver Concert Band at 7 p.m. with fireworks at 9 pm. The Country Club will be providing outside food service to the public and the hot dog cart will be back again. Porta-potties available in the PPCC parking lot.



**SERVICE PLAN** – Preliminary discussion was held on the need to update the District's Service Plan to accommodate the many governmental changes over the past 15 years since the last update. All agreed with the need for the update and further discussion will be held on the new inclusions needed.

**It is important that you REGISTER YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS with the District. Please go to the District website – [www.perrypark.org](http://www.perrypark.org)**

#### Metro Board Members:

<b>President</b>	Walt Korinke
<b>Vice President</b>	Derek Meredith
<b>Vice President</b>	Randy Johnson
<b>Secretary</b>	Jim Cassidy
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chris Korinke

*Metro Board meetings are held at the Perry Park County Club the first Thursday of each month and will commence at 5 p.m. sharp.*



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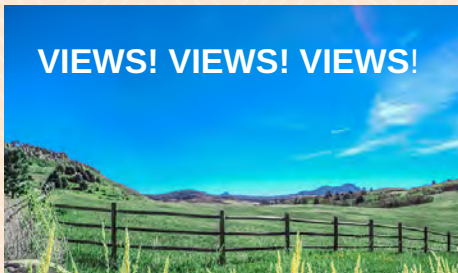
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**MAY NEWS FROM  
THE WATER DISTRICT**  
Jim Matchett...



The May 2016 regular meeting of the Perry Park Water & Sanitation District was held on the 18th with all four directors present. Board Vice President Johnston called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The first order of business was the taking of oaths of office by the directors who ran unopposed in the recent election. Accordingly, Directors LaCrosse and Matchett took their oaths.

The unanimous approval of the minutes of the April 20 regular meeting followed. Disbursements totaling \$111,469.63 were next unanimously approved. Eric Barnes of Wagner Barnes & Griggs, PC, was in attendance to discuss their 2015 audit of the District. He advised the Board there were no adjustments to the District's financial statements.

Gary Peterson was ineligible to run for election to the Board again because of term limits. However, as no other District resident ran for election, other than existing eligible directors, and there was a resulting vacant Director position, the Board appointed Mr. Peterson as a Director for a two year term. Directors were then nominated and voted to the various Board positions: Craig Johnston to President, Jim Matchett to Vice President,

Judy LaCrosse to Secretary and Andy Morris to Treasurer. Next, the Board approved unanimously the execution of the Chatfield Watershed Authority Intergovernmental Agreement.

The District Systems Report for April submitted by Semocor was then reviewed and discussed. Operations were normal and it was noted water usage down roughly 12 percent. The report also indicated, not surprisingly, that the 2016 Water Year-to-date precipitation stands at almost 19 inches or three times higher than the same period in 2015. The Monthly Staff Report submitted by the District Manager was then reviewed. There was no audience participation and the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. As always, additional information can be found on the District website, [www.ppwsd.org](http://www.ppwsd.org)

**THE LATEST ON LOCAL  
MARIJUANA "GROW HOUSES"**  
Linda Ross...

A group of about 100 concerned citizens gathered at the Larkspur Fire Department on May 3 to attend the presentation of a local DEA agent and Colorado Springs police officer regarding the proliferation of marijuana "grow" houses in the area.



Continued on page 19

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# INSURANCE

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## GROW HOUSES Continued from page 18

Walter Korinke, our local “if he doesn’t know, no one does” guy, posted the following information on our Larkspur Facebook Neighbor to Neighbor Page:

DOUGLAS COUNTY MARIJUANA HOME GROW ORDINANCE – The Douglas County Commissioners held their first work session today (May 9, 2016) to review a proposed County Ordinance to bring safe practices to the rapid expansion of Marijuana Home Grow activity. Members of the Perry Park Metro District and local HOAs were in attendance and offered input and support for the ordinance. Due to the many dangers involved with excessive plant growth in residential properties ranging from fires, excessive electrical loads, odor, chemicals, criminal activity, and the risks to First Responders, County regulations and enforcement is very much needed to prevent this problem growing in the area. It plans to provide for proper authorized medical and recreational use, while tackling the current excesses taking place by questionable grows. Several additional sessions are planned in order to quickly bring the Ordinance to formal approval and hopefully in place by late summer. No comment at this time on the specifics of this first draft other than to say it vastly expands the process to maintain order including building code violations, odor and sound nuisance, vastly lowered plant count per household, etc. Great and timely start by our Commissioners. We will continue to keep you informed with the process which is not the total solution to the problem. We all still need to be active at the State level – time to set the overall regulation right!

The link to the Commissioners’ work session material is <http://www.douglas.co.us/documents/may-17-marijuana-grow-work-session.pdf>.

The fire in Perry Park that destroyed a grow house earlier this year has sparked quite a bit of interest and, frankly, in some cases, outrage that this is even allowed. Unfortunately, as long as the occupants of a “grow house” have the proper medical documentation (red card), there is not much law enforcement can do. Medical marijuana patients are protected by HIPAA laws, and law enforcement can only contact the medical marijuana registry to verify that a patient holds a valid “red card.”

The two law enforcement officers put out some compelling and downright scary statistics at the May 3rd meeting. While I’m all about words and not necessarily numbers, some of these numbers made me sit up and take notice:

- Senate Bill 15-014 states that “... A PATIENT SHALL NOT CULTIVATE MORE THAN NINETY-NINE PLANTS.” Note that this just for ONE patient.
- As of February 2016, there were 108,675 medical marijuana patients in Colorado. This number appears to be growing by about 500 to 1,000 new patients a month.
- There are 20 physicians writing about 95 percent of the “prescriptions” authorizing up to 99 plants. Ninety percent of these authorizations are to address alleged symptoms of chronic pain.

The law enforcement officers said these physicians charge \$500 for an office visit. And this isn’t billed to your insurance company. One of these physicians is an OB/GYN. During a recent visit to this particular doctor, it was noted that the waiting room was filled with men.

- One marijuana plant grown indoors can reach heights of over eight feet. 99 plants (or more, depending on the number of medical marijuana patients living in a home) can be equated to being in a dense jungle.
- One plant can produce a harvest of one to three pounds per year. Plants can yield this harvest three to four times a year.
- One pound of marijuana illegally sells for \$4,000 to \$9,000. Using an average of \$6,500 per pound, someone who grows and harvests 99 plants four times a year could expect to make \$2.5 MILLION a year.
- Only a medical marijuana business licensed and properly authorized pursuant to Article 43.3 of Title 12, C.R.S., may cultivate more than ninety-nine plants and sell to a red-card holding patient. It is illegal for anyone else to sell without a license.
- 99 plants can yield 190,080 joints a year. The average “heavy” medical marijuana user consumes, on average, three joints a day. That works out to 1,095 joints a year.
- The average homeowner uses between 500 to 800 kilowatt hours (electricity) per month. A grow house can use 10,000 to 25,000 or more kilowatt-hours per month. Utility companies are not required to report these sudden usage increases.
- “DIY” electrical upgrades (for grow lights and commercial-grade air conditioning units) are the biggest cause of fires. These upgrades are generally being done without any kind of permitting or inspection process.
- In addition to the potential fire hazard caused by faulty electrical issues, chemicals used to enhance the growing process are not being stored properly. Many of these chemicals are highly flammable and even toxic. In recent cases, several of the pesticides discovered are not approved for use in the U.S. Growers routinely dump these chemicals into our local municipal water systems.
- Rental properties are being used as grow houses. Landlords are being offered two to three times the going rental rate, paid in cash, a year in advance. The law enforcement agents reported encountering landlords becoming the victims of unscrupulous rental agents, who rent homes out, give the landlord the “going” rate and pocket the rest of the money.
- Landlords are left with homes that have substantial damage due to DIY ventilation, black mold caused by excessive moisture and warped siding. Homeowners insurance may not cover the damages.
- Neighbors are left to contend with the smells emanating from these grow houses, increased traffic coming and going in normally quiet, residential neighborhoods and the real possibility of being caught in a gunfight.
- Growers are protecting their plants with high-tech security systems and guns. The law enforcement officers showed our group home video footage of three people attempting to rob a grow house. The video shows the thieves shooting a barking dog, and one hears the sounds of the dog whimpering in pain before a final shot is fired. Gunfire erupts between the home occupants and the thieves. Surprisingly, no one is injured. The

Continued on page 20

## GROW HOUSES Continued from page 19

attempted theft was not reported to police by the home occupants.

- There are 38 paid pro-marijuana lobbyists that actively work in Colorado. There are two (2) anti-marijuana lobbyists.
- There is one (1) police officer assigned by the Colorado Springs Police Department to investigate grow houses in three counties. One.
- First responders, fire and police officers are not equipped to respond to these types of situations. Another fire like the one in Perry Park during the “dry” summer months could result in the loss of entire neighborhoods.

The law enforcement officers made quite clear that if you suspect what may be an illegal grow house, to observe and report. **Do not engage the occupants of the house as it is likely they may be well armed.** If you notice a lot of traffic coming and going from the house, keep track of dates, times and license plate numbers. Shortly after the fire in Perry Park, a local television news reporter knocked on the door of a suspected grow house in the same vicinity. The occupants of the house moved out two days later. After attending this meeting, I’ve decided that this particular reporter was extremely lucky not to be shot.

The officers also told us that in many cases, they may not be able to comment due to ongoing investigations, but they want to hear from you. We will continue to report on the progress being made by our Douglas County Commissioners.

## BEAR WISE



Howdy, Neighbors! Beary Bear here. I hope you enjoyed the Memorial weekend holiday as much as we black bear did. So many barbecues... so little time. The smell of brats cooking on the grill makes my mouth water just thinking about it. The only thing that could make it better are brats cooking on the grill unattended if only for a few minutes.

That’s what a local Perry Parkian homeowner did over the past holiday weekend.

After loading the grill with six brats and leaving the deck to retrieve plates from the kitchen, the chef returned to the grill to find only three brats remaining. It seems in the span of a few minutes a “barbecue bear bandit” grabbed the dogs and was last seen licking his chops in the forest behind the home.

I think this bear was very considerate. I mean after all, he only took half the stash. No doubt he would have returned for the remaining dogs if the owner had delayed much longer. Would it be too much to ask that next time you leave a can of beer by the unattended grill? We have been known to polish off a six pack taken from unguarded camping coolers. There’s nothing like brats and beer to toast in the beginning of summer. Totally bearlicious!

Continued on page 22



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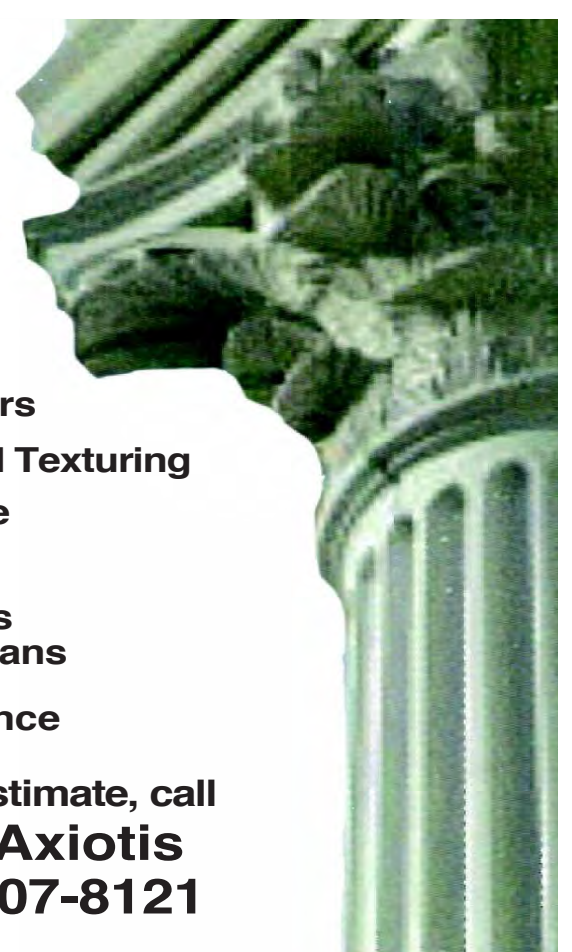
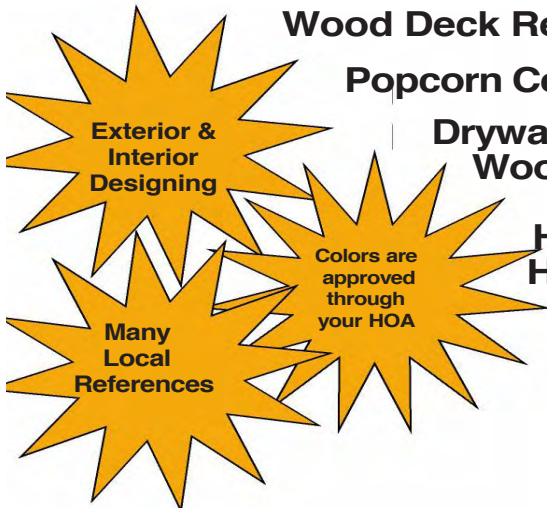
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**John Axiotis**  
**(303) 507-8121**







## What are your neighbors saying about Wolfe Realty Group?

### Feedback received from Art & Beth Zabinski Regarding the purchase of their home

“Ben was excellent in all aspects. He knows the area very well and personally reviewed the MLS and picked homes to show us based on our taste and never tired in showing us over 60 homes until we finally found the perfect home. His honesty was beyond reproach. He negotiated price and inspection provisions always with our interest in mind. He set up the closing and helped review all documents pre-closing and during closing. We always knew Ben had our best interest at heart and would highly recommend Ben.”

### Feedback received from Guy & Wendy Weisenburger Regarding the purchase of their home

“We have moved many times and Ben was, by far, the best realtor experience that we have had. He is extremely conscientious, knowledgeable, patient and worked very hard for us. He went above and beyond on several occasions and was a great help in finding the perfect house for us and getting through the many hurdles involved in buying a house. You can't go wrong with Ben!”



**Ben Wolfe**  
Managing Broker & Owner  
Larkspur Resident

### Wolfe Realty Group, Inc.

Office: 303-681-3553 • Cell: 303-667-7995

Fax: 303-681-0678 • Home: 303-681-0679

[Ben@DiscoverLarkspur.com](mailto:Ben@DiscoverLarkspur.com)

If you have any real estate needs call Ben Wolfe,  
*Your Larkspur Real Estate Expert!*

**[www.DiscoverLarkspur.com](http://www.DiscoverLarkspur.com)**

## BEAR WISE Continued from page 20

I recently received this letter and thought you might enjoy:  
In my next life, I'd like to come back as a bear. When you're a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months. I could deal with that. Before you hibernate, you're supposed to eat yourself stupid. I could deal with that too.

When you're a girl bear, you birth your children (who are the size of walnuts) while you are sleeping and wake to partially grown, cute, cuddly cubs. I could definitely deal with that.

If you're a mama bear, everyone knows you mean business. You swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you swat them too. I could deal with that.

If you're a bear, your mate EXPECTS you to wake up growling. He EXPECTS that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.

Yep, I'm gonna be a bear!

Source: Author unknown



Be careful what you wish for. Your meals are on the table with-in easy reach. Ours are often hanging in the air.

Please send your bear stories, photos, questions and comments to: wisebeary@gmail.com

Until next time, remember: Enjoy us from a good safe distance and always be "bear wise."

Your friend in nature and refuse,

**Beary**

## A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE...

Susan Peters...

*Tanager Tango...Packrats?...*

*Short Takes*

*Those Glorious Western Tanagers*



The Western Tanager, drop-dead gorgeous feathered summer residents seldom show themselves...usually once or twice a season to amble up to the bird bath bar, as they spend their time mainly in the pine forest canopy foraging for yummy insects. This year they discovered the suet cakes we put out next to the woodpecker seed blocks and are addicted. They queue up. Clearly at least five distinct males have been seen gorging themselves, along with at least one drab-looking female at the suet cakes.



Photo by Susan and David

The males with their bright yellow bodies, black-striped wings, and red-orange heads show slight differences to be able to distinguish them easier. Some have more of a skull cap of red-orange. Others don more of a hood.

With the two types of seed being adjacent to one another, a plethora of colorful birds can swamp the feast – black-headed grosbeaks, woody and hairy woodpeckers, nuthatches, chickadees, goldfinches, house finches, and all in their spring finery.

The particular type of suet is nut and berry, ordered in mass from Amazon.

**Very important:** If you are going to try attracting them, be sure the suet feeder is placed well away from the reach of bears. They can't read the packaging to know who the cakes belong to.

I was once told by one of our Douglas County Commissioners, Roger Partridge, that the tanagers were literally flocking to his hummingbird feeders. Now that I have not seen. The finches sip the sweet sugar-water mix, and once a Bullock's oriole indulged.

And listening for them can be tough. A good birdwatcher will be able to distinguish the songs of the tanager, robin, and black-headed grosbeak.

**Now Who Is the Packrat?**

**ME, ME, ME.** And, if truth be told, was recently deceased Morley Safer, for those who have seen pictures of his office. Basically a pack rat is anyone, rodent or human, who stores anything they acquire and will discard none of it. But one must distinguish between a packrat and a hoarder, the latter being a person who has a compulsive disorder. Uh, maybe NOT me.

The rodent form is a "cuter" version of the usual caricature of

**Continued on page 23**



## WILD SIDE Continued from page 22

rats with the long, twitchy noses replete with whiskers that Andy Rooney would have been proud to sport to go with his unruly eyebrows. Also known as the woodrat, the packrat has a long tail, large ears, and dark eyes and are larger than many species of rat and mice. And they love to collect things, particularly shiny things.

We once saw a very busy one in a shallow hole behind town-houses in Winter Park. What a collection in that nest! Along with the usual sticks and rocks, it had string, wire, and bottle caps among its treasurers. And if they are carrying their latest object of interest back to the nest, they will readily drop it in favor of grabbing another item, like when we play "trade" with our dog to get something away from him. An old story tells of a man robbed of a dime by a packrat, but two nickels replaced it.

I was recently reminded of the packrat existence during a class on stories from pioneer women of the west, when Harriet Fish Backus reported in her memoir, *Tomboy Bride*, that a packrat had robbed her blind of her silverware. But this very clever rat was said to have laid the utensils in a row, crossing one over top of the other as if setting a table for all its friends.

Their habitat can be desert or higher altitudes. They build nests in anything from a cactus to an old, discarded washing machine. They eat the usual green stuff including mesquite legumes and cactus, if in the desert.

The packrat nests with all their goodies are called middens, which supply critical data to scientists studying climate-vegetation changes. These middens can last up to 50,000 years as the rats will urinate in them, binding together materials when the urine crystalizes. Also nests in protected areas last longer.

So, if you find a midden, consider it to be your own foray into amateur and elementary paleontology.

### Short Takes

In spring the mountain lions start showing off their kits and make more appearances beyond their stealth comfort. Sightings are occurring now in Perry Park East near the school. Keeping dogs on leashes and do not leave them in an uncovered dog run or fence from which they have no escape. A Colorado ranger once told our HOA that if a mountain lion can haul a 1200-pound elk up a tree, it will have no problem with your 200-pound Fido.

That's all, folks, for this month. Gotta run – the tanagers have wiped out the latest seed cake put up this morning – good grief, this could get expensive.

**HowtoContactMe:** Email is best at [susan@larskpurconsulting.com](mailto:susan@larskpurconsulting.com). Alternatively, call my cell phone at (303) 725-6868.

## 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

VISIT FOR THE LATEST PUBLICATION

[www.perryparksentinel.com](http://www.perryparksentinel.com)

### DEADLINES

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

Classified Ads - due the 20th of each month.

Email art to [ppsentinel@comcast.net](mailto:ppsentinel@comcast.net)

Mail payment to PP Sentinel, PO Box 3784, Parker CO 80134

**PAYMENT IS DUE AT TIME OF RESERVATION**

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

### THE PERRY PARK SENTINEL

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

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**Classified Ads - due the 20th of the month.**

**Editor:** Karen Dale 303-681-2504  
email - [sentineleditor10@msn.com](mailto:sentineleditor10@msn.com)

**Associate Editor:** Linda Ross 720-431-1260 [rosslaw@yahoo.com](mailto:rosslaw@yahoo.com)

**Advertising/** Diane Jauch 303-663-1867

**Business Mgr.:** email - [ppsentinel@comcast.net](mailto:ppsentinel@comcast.net)

*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.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## HOUSE CLEANING

No energy to clean? Let Larry & Sue at **FRENCH TOUCH CLEANING** help. Reasonable rates since '98! 303-681-2795 Leave Message

## LANDSCAPE, TREE & MITIGATION

**RAMPART LANDSCAPE & ARBOR SVC** - Fire Mitigation, tree pruning/removals, mistletoe management, Susan Rule 303-681-2085

**AFFORDABLE TREE CARE:** tree removal, pruning, fire mitigation, scrub oak removal & pruning, preventive beetle spraying, Douglas-fir tussock moth control, deep root watering, noxious weed control. 303.681.2092 <http://www.edthetreeguy.com/>

## SERVICES

**Crystal Clear Window Washing** Windows so clean...you'll think they're open!!! <http://CrystalClearWindowWashing.com>

**CALL ME** - for yard work, gutter cleaning, house/pet sitting, airport trips, dump runs, moving or any odd jobs - Nicholas 303-681-2105.

**CALL REVE** 303-681-0193 For Gutter Cleaning; Power Washing; decks, houses and driveways;

## TUTORING AND LESSONS

**TUTORING** High school and college composition and literature. Retired college professor can probably teach you all you need to know in three or four sessions. Post-session feedback, editing by email included in fee. \$25 hour. Karen Dale, 303-681-2504.

### Small Stuff Home Repair and Maintenance

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for South Douglas County

2267 Coach House Loop  
Castle Rock, CO 80109

(720) 504-7747  
doyle@smallstuffhomerepair.com  
smallstuffhomerepair.com



## CLASSIFIED AD SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

E mail ads to [ppsentinel@comcast.net](mailto:ppsentinel@comcast.net) (you will receive an acceptance receipt.) Charges and submission instructions will be advised via e mail after typesetting.

OR

Mail to PO Box 3784, Parker, CO 80134. Charges and submission instruction will be advised via telephone after typesetting.

Please include physical billing address.  
We reserve the right to edit or refuse any submitted advertising.

**CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE IS THE 20TH OF THE MONTH**

## TEEN FOR HIRE

Hil 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 (303)660-5231.

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](mailto: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](mailto:kateandkylie910@gmail.com) or call 720- 877-1998.

My name is Trace. I am 16, PP Res, and am homeschooled so available frequently. I cut grass, clean gutters, house sit for plants and pets, help with fire mitigation, etc. For local ref contact Sandy Divan at 303-681-0132. Please call me at 720-420-9767. He has a brother to help with the bigger jobs and is available during the day.

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](mailto: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 [obevey@aol.com](mailto:obevey@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](mailto:clayton.saunders19@gmail.com)



*View from Devil's Head*

--Photo by Lisa Warteman

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