



the Perry Park *Sentinel* MAY 2016

SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES



As I have said before, even after 35 years, Colorado's weather can still astound me. Where else can you have—two months in a row!—lovely spring days in the 70s followed immediately by freezing weather and two or more feet of snow?

How quickly we forget. Anyone remember the weekend of April 16-17, 2015? Yeah—this year was same song, second verse.

Snow in March...April... And now it's May. Friends in other parts of the country are enjoying flowering plants and shrubs. The forsythia has bloomed. The azaleas across the south have done their show. The rhododendrons on the Blue Ridge Parkway are in full flower. And people are already harvesting spinach in warmer climes.

And here?—well, now we're all ready for some bright flowers. We're itching to dig in the dirt and plant some new bloomers, maybe butterfly bushes and hummingbird mint...

But wait...**DO NOT CONSIDER PLANTING A SINGLE THING UNTIL AFTER MOTHER'S DAY!**

The conservative among us will say "until Memorial Day." And if you're new to this area, that's no joke. Do not plant yet! Give it a couple of weeks at the earliest. As proof

of my claim, I present exhibit A: a picture taken from my front porch in Perry Park on Mother's Day May 10, 2015. It was a doozy.

If you're still itching to plant after Mother's Day, try it. It'll still be chilly, but maybe no frosts and freezing temps after that. But better get it in quick—because by June 1 it'll be so hot you won't care whether you plant or not—and the fawns will eat anything you plant because they haven't learned yet what deer don't like. But try it—good things can always happen here. You just have to be ready to act immediately on that magic day when the weather finally says **SPRING!** Yeah, one day. Maybe three if we're lucky. Before summer arrives.

I do love Colorado
~KDale



The Larkspur Elementary School PTO Would Like to Thank Our Generous Sponsors for Supporting The 2016 Boot Scootin' Boogie!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DIANA & TOM WIENS FOR GRACIOUSLY HOSTING THE EVENT AT THEIR BEAUTIFUL RANCH! WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY & SUPPORT FOR ALL THESE YEARS!

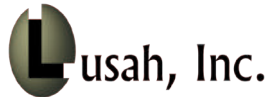
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WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENTS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE CREATION OF THIS EVENT. YOUR DONATIONS OF TIME, INSPIRATION, CREATIVITY & MUSCLE ARE SIMPLY PRICELESS TO US. THE COUNTLESS HOURS THAT YOU VOLUNTEERED IN PLANNING, DECORATING & ORGANIZING WERE INVALUABLE IN MAKING THIS EVENT COME TOGETHER!

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THESE COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY & DONATIONS: BROOKLYN VETERINARY CLINIC, BUBBLES LIQUOR WORLD, CASTLE ROCK FAMILY PHYSICIANS, CHICK FIL-A, IREA, THE LARKSPUR AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, RAMPART LANDSCAPE, SPRUCE MOUNTAIN WINE & SPIRITS, & LAST BUT NOT LEAST, TRI LAKES DISPOSAL FOR OUR DUMPSTER DONATION!



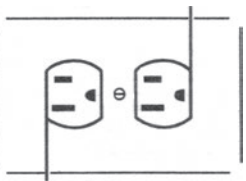
DEA MARIJUANA GROW HOUSE PRESENTATION, Tuesday May 3, 7- 9 p.m. at Larkspur Fire Station 161, 9414 South Spruce Mountain Road in Larkspur. This is an open-to-the-public presentation by the DEA

on the marijuana grow house problem in our neighborhoods. Please plan to attend if you did not make it to the other presentation opportunities. You will hear information on many aspects of the issue by those with first-hand experience.

SEVENTH ANNUAL TROLLEY TOUR IN CASTLE ROCK: Saturday, May 14. This year's focus will be "History in our Neighborhood" visiting areas outside of Downtown Castle Rock including Rhyolite Park and other quarries, the old towns of Douglas and New Memphis and other points of interest along the way. Meet at the Castle Rock Museum, 420 Elbert Street, to board the trolley. Tour times are at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. and are approximately 45 minutes long. Reservations recommended as seating is limited. Please call or email the museum to reserve your spot: 303-814-3164 or museum@castlerockhistoricalsociety.org.

PERRY PARK BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, May 17, 10 a.m. at the home of Shawn Jones, 6945 Perry Park Boulevard in Perry Park Ranch. The book for May is *The Boston Girl*, a novel by Anita Diamant about growing up Jewish in Boston in the first decade of the 20th century. For June, the group will read *The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah's novel about the French Resistance in WWII. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome. For additional information, see the book club website at <http://applelane.com/>.

VICTORIA'S TEA – BENEFITING THE CASTLE ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY will be held Saturday, May 21, at The Gathering Place, Christ's Episcopal Church, 615 4th Street in Castle Rock. Guests will enjoy tea, scones, music and great stories. Come as you are or wear your finest outfit or hat. Cups will be provided or bring your own to show off. Tickets: Adults \$18 / Child \$12 / Member \$10. Tickets are available for purchase at the Castle Rock Museum, 420 Elbert Street in Castle Rock.



electric

Pete Dunbar

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Cell 303-638-6762

TOWN OF LARKSPUR – APRIL 5, 2016 ELECTION RESULTS:

Office of Mayor (Four-Year Term): Gerry Been (Re-Elected). Town Council Members (Four-Year Term): Jennelle Van Gorder (Re-Elected); Heather Sanchez; Isaac Levy. All ballot measures passes. For details of the election and the ballot measure, see the town's website: <http://townoflarkspur.org/>.

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION EVENTS: Farm baby tours at CALF's Lowell Ranch (east I-25 feeder road south of Castle Rock) Saturdays in May. Tours begin at 10 a.m. Advanced reservations are required. Summer camp, Monday, June 6 through Friday, June 10, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Open to children entering 3rd - 7th Grade. \$275 per camper. SPACE IS LIMITED! A maximum of 60 campers will be accepted. For more information see <http://thecalf.org/@thecalf.org>.

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.

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 gwenpur@mac.com or 303-681-2125 or Cindy Hotaling at 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, contact Gwen or Cindy.

PICKLE BALL ALERT: Come join a group of friendly folks and play Pickle Ball. Starting Monday, May 9th, through the fall season, the Pickle Ball schedule is Monday and Wednesday, 9 - 11 a.m.; Thursday night, 5 p.m. till dark; Saturday 9 - noon, with a free learning/beginners clinic every Saturday from 9 - 10 a.m. Everything is furnished. Need weather to be at least 50 degrees F and not too windy. Come watch, learn rules and ask questions during any of the scheduled times. We have two courts at the Larkspur Town Park behind the baseball field. Any questions please call Al or Jan Jacques at 303-681-3077.

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WILDFIRE MITIGATION SEMINAR: Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m.-noon, Larkspur Fire Station 161, 9414 South Spruce Mountain Road. In preparation for the 2016 wildfire season, the Larkspur Fire Protection district will present information about local resources and procedures from Douglas County's Office of Emergency Management, Douglas County Dispatch, Keith Worley, forester and "Firewise Guy," Fire chief Stuart Mills and Fire Marshal Randy Johnson.

SPRING WITH THE LARKSPUR MOTHERS' GROUP

**Sarah Bretz,
Director...**



Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt was a success once again, despite the fact that the weather postponed it once and then kept us indoors! The Larkspur Moms' Group would like to extend a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped pull together our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We would especially like to thank the Perry Park Metro Board, Larkspur Fire Department, and all those who donated items to our raffle. We would also like to thank all of the Moms, Dads, and volunteers of Larkspur for stuffing, laying,

and cleaning up all 5,000 eggs! What an amazing community we have!



Check out all of the fun events the Larkspur Moms' Group has planned this month. For more information on our group visit us at www.larkspur moms.com or email us at 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 so much fun and are always looking for new moms to join our group!

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Just Listed!



7438 Cameron Drive
Sage Port ~ Larkspur
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Gorgeous 5,720 finished sq ft 2 story home in Sage Port! Featuring an open floor plan with a main floor master suite, great room with floor to ceiling windows and gourmet kitchen. Upper level includes 2 bedrooms and a loft. Finished walkout lower level features 2 bedrooms, full bath, rec room and custom bar.

www.DiscoverCastleRock.com

Just Listed!



4049 Cheyenne Drive
Perry Park ~ Larkspur
\$639,000

Walkout ranch in Perry Park with mountain views! Oversized great room with vaulted ceilings, fireplace and access to the enormous relaxing deck. Finished walkout lower level features 2 bedrooms, full bath, family room and wet bar.



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LARKSPUR MOMS Continued from page 4

Here is what we have coming up in May:

Play Group: Join us on Monday, May 9th and Wednesday, May 18th for in-home play groups!

Family Event: Memorial Day (Monday, May 30th): Picnic in the Park!

HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUNDUP FOR DC RESIDENTS

The Tri-County Health Department has three chemical roundups scheduled in Douglas County in 2016 — May 21 at 17801 East Plaza Drive in Parker, August 13 at 3270 Redstone Park Circle in Highlands Ranch and October 1 at 175 Kellogg Court in Castle Rock. All three events will take place from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

All roundup participants must show proof of residence in Douglas County and pay \$25 per vehicle load when dropping off chemicals.

Accepted items to drop off include house and garden chemicals, automotive fluids, fluorescent light bulbs, fuels, propane tanks between one and 20 pounds, vehicle and household batteries, items containing mercury, car and pickup truck tires off the rim, and oil-based paint and paint products. Proper disposal of these items helps prevent the contamination of people's homes, the local water supply, air and landfills.

Items that will not be accepted include business and commer-

cial waste, radioactive waste, electronic waste (computers, TVs, etc.), explosive waste, smoke detectors, waste containing asbestos, compressed gases other than propane, tractor tires, scrap metal and medical waste.

Attendees will also be able to stop by the free drop-and-swap area where they can take household cleaners, paint, car wax, antifreeze, fertilizer, and garden products still in their original containers.

For more information, or to volunteer to help, please visit www.tchd.org/250/Home-Chemical-Waste or call Ellen Kennedy at 720-200-1592.



SENTINEL SEEKING CONTRIBUTORS!

We welcome contributions from anyone in the Larkspur neighborhood with something to say or see. Articles, photographs — send them in. This is a community newsletter, but the number of writers has dropped off lately. Please send local news, photos, etc. to Sentineleditor10@msn.com. The more the merrier. However, we still reserve the right of rejection. A perk of all publishers! ~KDale

PICKS & PANS, ETC.

Michael Stone...

I am a HAPPY GUY. I got a "pick" from a *Sentinel* reader! No—not for me, but for a local business that has done a good job. This comes from a



resident of the Hidden Forest. "We just had our gutters cleaned by 'GUTTER GUY' Chris Huxhold (303-591-5596). He did a wonderful job. I would highly recommend him to all homeowners! Good job at a reasonable price. Kathy Peterson." Thank you, Kathy! It's the only response I've received this month.

Onward. I have a serious "pan" which may help other residents avoid trouble. Here's the story:

I had finished shopping at the grocery store and was loading the bags into the truck. Some guy drove up behind me and asked for directions to the airport. He had a very thick Italian accent. Thinking he meant DIA, I gave directions, even though I25 is readily visible from the King Soopers off of Founders Parkway. He was SO THANK-

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PICKS & PANS Continued from page 6

FUL, he wanted to give me an Armani jacket, and pulled out a plastic wrapped jacket with what looked like Armani tags. Then he said the jacket retails for \$6000 dollars.

HUH? For giving you directions to the airport? So I took the jacket. Then I got the sob story.

He needed some cash and he would take \$300 for a \$6000 jacket. BING, POW, WHAM, it sounds like a SCAM. But I fell for it and gave him 300 bucks for two coats. I got conned, and it can happen to anyone. Man, I really dislike these scam people. Why are they called "scam artists"? They are thieves, pure and simple. I still kick myself for falling for it. So be aware. There are some unscrupulous people out there that will take your money and not think twice about hurting someone.

If you would like to contribute input to the *Sentinel* regarding both good and bad experiences with local businesses, you can reach me at stoneman1951@msn.com.

TRAVELLING IN WARMER CLIMES

Linda Ross...

I got to do a bit of travelling over the last two months to Texas and Florida. After the almost three feet of snow we got over the weekend of April 15th, I have to say I am ready to go back to either one of those states!



My only other experience in Texas came when we moved from New Hampshire to Arizona. We had planned on driving our RV, two dogs and a cat through the middle part of the country, but a massive snowstorm re-routed us all the way down to Florida before we could eventually head west. We finally got onto I-10 only to be stopped by a freak ice storm just outside of New Orleans. The ice triggered a complete closure of all the causeways, so we spent an extra day at a beautiful state park campground. Tragically, that campground along with the surrounding area was all but wiped out by Hurricane Katrina eight months after we were there.

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We finally got back underway and made our way to Texas. What I didn't know was that our I-10 route was about the worst way you can take if you want to go through Texas. I believe it even holds the record for being the longest highway stretch through one state. It certainly is true when you hear someone say that everything is bigger in Texas. At one point, I remember asking my husband if this state will ever end! After two solid days of travel, we finally made it to the New Mexico border and onto Arizona. Our recent Texas trip was another road trip, but we stayed away from I-10!

The last time I was in Florida was for a surprise birthday trip. In July. My husband thought it would be cool to meet up with his recently retired parents and see a new state. It was a fun trip until I actually made my way outside. The nearly 100% humidity hit me like a wrecking ball (apologies to Miley Cyrus) and never let up. The good news was that I didn't need any hair products to style my now tightly-curled hair! And I got to hold a baby alligator at a refuge in the Everglades.

Our recent Florida trip did not involve alligators, but instead I tried to get the mouse off my back. Yes, I am referring to the one and only Mickey Mouse of Disney fame. In all my years on this small world, I had never been to any Disney resort, nor had really felt the desire to go. My nephew, who went a few months ago for his first time and proposed to my soon-to-be niece, told me that it was indeed the happiest place on Earth and that I just had to visit. Reluctantly, I plunked down the cost of admission and parking and we walked into Epcot. I must admit it was rather fun to eat a freshly baked croissant while sitting in a small cafe in "Paris." I got to order in French and had a nice chat with one of the pastry chefs. I am now being told that since I did not officially see Mickey (or Minnie for that matter), I will have to make another trip. I did see Goofy and several of the Disney princesses, but apparently, that does not count.

At least I have the memories (and selfies) from our recent warm-weather trips and can swipe through them on my phone while I watch the snow fall off the trees. Anyone up for a road trip?

COUNTY SLASH/MULCH SITE IN CASTLE ROCK OPEN

Due to the recent storm, Douglas County's slash-mulch site, at 1400 Caprice Drive in Castle Rock, is open for the intake of branches only. The site officially opens for the season May 7 and will remain open on Saturdays only from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. through October 29. The perfect place to dispose of branches and shrubbery, the site also gives residents the opportunity to go home with fresh mulch.

Douglas County's other slash-mulch site, at 7828 S. Colorado 67 (2.5 miles north of Deckers), is open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. year-round.

Acceptable items at both sites include tree branches and shrub-

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SLASH/MULCH Continued from page 7

bery with a maximum length of six feet and maximum diameter of 12 inches.

There will be a separate pile on site designated for the disposal of loose pine needles. Needles can be unloaded only in this area and must not contain limbs, branches, pinecones, weeds, grass, or trash. Needles in garbage bags must be emptied into the pile and residents are required to take empty bags with them from the site.

Items that will not be accepted at either site include appliances, dirt, grass, household trash, loose pine needles, lumber, railroad ties, roots, stumps and weeds.

In the event of inclement weather, please call 303-663-6274 to ensure that the site will be open as scheduled.



WALT'S WORDS

Walt Korinke...



It's so simple to be wise. Just think of something stupid to say and then don't say it.

Sam Levenson

CASTLE ROCK – They may be bankrupt, but the **Sports Authority** along with **T J Maxx** and other Promenade tenants at the top of the hill plan to be complete by mid summer when the Castle Rock Parkway ribbon cutting is scheduled. Permits are near ready to pull for the

large multi-family project to be built at the Promenade's north-west corner (12 months to build). The Outlet's free standing **Starbuck's / Qdoba** is looking at Mid-May to open. Waiting for the new brewery to break ground in the food parcel next to **Lowe's**, and another restaurant (unnamed) is in the rumor mill. **Sam's and King Soopers** have their building permits and are about 12 months away from completion. The 24 Hour Fitness Center and Les Schwab Tire Center are about to get underway



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Larkspur



SETTLER DAYS

SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

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Native American Pow Wow at 2pm & 4pm

Retired Flag Ceremony 5pm

Live Blue Grass Music by Kantankerous 6pm - 9pm

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WORDS Continued from page 8

adjacent to Christian Auto, and the access road to the Promenade is in the process of losing its landscaped median to provide an additional driving lane. Twelve tenants have opened their doors to date.

With the new I-25 exit planned to open by the end of the year, the state is already planning to expand its width to two lanes in the portion across the back of the Promenade. A wise \$2 million expenditure (\$81 million total cost) with the traffic that is expected to flow through there.



Just beyond the new, under-construction swimming and recreation center on the north side along the lower entrance on Meadows Parkway, ground has been scrapped for a start of another section of 50 single—family dwelling units. When you add this to all the building activity on the south side of the Parkway – the front of the Meadows is where the action is.



A 240 unit apartment project, **The Echelon**, is planned for the 14 acre site located west of Meadows Boulevard across from the hospital. Plans call for 25 buildings (including club house), lots of green space and pocket parks, a dog park and public paths.

Plans call for 25 buildings (including club house), lots of green space and pocket parks, a dog park and public paths.



It only took 10 years, but the colorful building overlooking I-25 on the Town's north CBD known as 695 Jerry Street finally got its Certificate of Occupancy that permits renting of the upper floors. With a history of financial woes almost from its beginning, the current ownership finished the space, leased most of the ground floor and can now address tenants for it's upper floors.

With a history of financial woes almost from its beginning, the current ownership finished the space, leased most of the ground floor and can now address tenants for it's upper floors.



And, if you have not been to the CBD's near northside lately, take a look at the nearly completed 50,000 square foot 'The Move' building that completely fills the old vacant parcel behind Augustine Restaurant at 6th and Jerry Street.



On the one-fourth acre parking lot parcel across from the Old Court House downtown and adjacent to the Old Stone Church Restaurant, construction has commenced on the

four-story (28,000 square feet, 55 feet tall) **MERCANTILE COMMONS** commercial and multi-family building that will bring mid-rise construction to the very center of town. Downtown living helps to bring a new vibrancy to the core and hopefully we will see some more join this start.

Continuing the midrise look, Dr. Morini's new dental building 'Mirage' at three stories changes the single level look of the Town's south side. It may be nestled behind the Taco Bell and Conoco, but you can't miss its towering appearance that helps to modernize the area.



LARKSPUR - Lots happening in Larkspur. Step one, the town's **WATER TANK** is finished; contract for \$1 million pipeline will go to Castle Rock developer, T Lowell Construction. Next comes a new filtration plant and the grand finale – **GOOD WATER**, a year or three from now. The **YOGI BEAR**

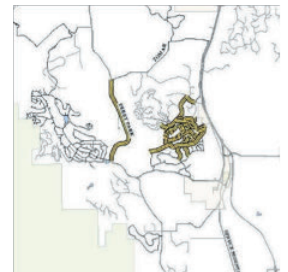


campgrounds are progressing with their expansion and new development program. A new **PET HOSPITAL** could break ground as early as May at the planned location near Larkspur Pizzeria and should open before year end. Plans are near completion for the **COUNTRY STORE** remodel and expansion. Soil test and some legal description clean up and they could pour the long overdue expansion foundation and start



the construction early this summer. There will be a public meeting April 21 at 5:30 for the Town to approve a liquor license for **CHARITO'S**, which then must go to the state for final approval. Initial development planning (and some dirt work) is underway, for a **TRUCK STOP** at the triangle parcel between the two I-25 accesses and Colorado DOT has started studies and initial planning for **widening of I-25 between** Monument and Castle Rock, but do not expect to see completion until the 2020's. A little history – The 1.56 square mile town of Larkspur was incorporated in 1979 and reports a population of 185 (92 families). My compliments to the Town Council that accomplishes a lot with a little.

Douglas County Engineering has put out notice of their planned area roadwork to commence shortly and includes efforts between Red Rock and Tomah Road, along with considerable activity in Perry Park East / Sage Port communities.



CASTLE PINES – April saw the closing of the old Library

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and the opening of the new two story - 13,000 square foot, state-of-the-art **Castle Pines Library** next door at 360 Village Square Lane. Many remarkable new features include media and

children's collections on the second floor, lounging areas with a fireplace, a drive-through book drop, storytime area, study room, public conference center, laptop vending – check out a pc or mac laptop and more. In addition to library services, **the City of Castle Pines** took up residency in the building and will conduct council meetings in the public room of the library.

COLORADO SPRINGS – **Ace Hardware** finally breaks ground adjacent to the new Sprouts at North Academy and Voyager, the second quarter of next year targeted for the opening. Across the way at the rear of the Bass Pro Complex, and adjacent to the new car wash, a new **Taco Bueno** is nearing completion for an early summer opening. The Dallas-based chain with four other Colorado Springs operations, which started operations in



the City last June. It's quick service menu includes burritos, quesadillas and more with a Tex-Mex flavor, prepared fresh daily. Coming soon adjacent to the Taco Bueno will be a new, to-be-built **Chick-fil-A**.



If you prefer a slower paced meal, the Denver-based **ViewHouse Eatery Bar & Rooftop** is in the early stages of planning a two-story, 19,500 square foot facility to be located at the on the northeast side of I-25 at Woodman Road, a busy commercial area that includes hotels and other restaurants. Preliminary plans call for a first floor with 7,500 square feet indoors and 5,000 square foot outdoors and another 5,000 square feet on the second floor. The 1.5 acre parcel is the site of the former ENT Federal Credit Union – completion is scheduled for March 2017.

It does not look like much now, but this 51 acre parcel on the corner of West Fillmore Street and Centennial Blvd is planned to become the City's next major health care hub with the construction of a new \$500 million **Penrose-St Francis hospital** which will be a "virtual connect-



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WORDS Continued from page 11

ed campus” with its main facility two miles down the road.

New apartments continue to pop-up on all sides of Colorado Springs – A couple of downtown projects include the five-story, 20 unit Park Manor East building planned just west of Monument St. and Mesa Road on the edge of Monument Valley Park. An-



other project, The **Bijou Street Lofts**, converts a 1920s building into 9 one-bedroom “lofts” by constructing a 2nd floor above the

original building. The 117-121 E. Bijou location presents a view of the Acacia Park at the end of the block. Two other ‘new’ builds at Colorado/Wahsach and Cascade/Rio Grande will bring another 353 units to the downtown market. A 46 unit apartment building to be developed on the west edge of Spruce Street, and the 33 unit Blue Dot Place opened this year on Nevada Ave. Downtown housing helps bring a more active vitality to downtown areas.

Spokane’s Inland Group has acquired a 13 acre parcel n/e of Black Forest and Woodmen Roads (subject to zoning change) with plans to build a 240 unit project to be known as **CopperRange Apartments**. Over the last couple of years they built two other projects in town totaling 366 units.



A couple of restaurants we have been following have just opened – **Bad Daddy’s Burger Bar** located at the Promenade at Briargate and the soup restaurant **Zoup** at the InterQuest Marketplace.

MONUMENT – The big news in Monument is the City’s year long legal battle with the Colonial Management group reached a \$900,000 settlement which will keep the **Methadone Clinic** out of town! Initial City approval followed by



F u l l C i r c l e P i l a t e s

“Patience and persistence are vital qualities in the ultimate successful accomplishment of any worthwhile endeavor.”
- Joseph Pilates

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a community uproar has ended for the “old town” building at 192 Front St. and now the search can commence for a tenant more appropriate for this prominent art district location.



Despite the winter-like snow scene near Dawson Butte, spring is here in the form of a buffalo calf.

~Photo by Wendy Franklin Slattery

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DOUGLAS COUNTY MOTORCYCLING

Michael Stone...

It's time to RIDE!

Spring is here, and it's time to ride motorcycles more regularly. Contrary to popular belief, riders in Colorado are able to ride 12 months a year. You just have to pick the right time during the winter months. I never put my ride into "winter mode," knowing that we get riding weather in the winter as long as a temperature of 30 degrees doesn't bother you.



The Colorado Top Gun Competition will take place this year on June 11 and 12. This competition is for law enforcement Motor Officers, and it's held at the Jefferson County Stadium parking lot. Officers demonstrate their riding skills by navigating a course defined by small traffic cones, and this year is the 27th annual competition. The Douglas County Motor Unit will be there, and if you want to see some expert riders doing their thing, you should go. More information is here: www.bluck-nights-colorado1.org/top-gun.html.

I've seen them ride before, and they are experts. Personally, if I ever made a turn where I scraped a floorboard, I'd probably freak out. Most recreational riders would agree, but these guys do it all the time. For them, the bike is a tool that gives them an increased ability to do their job. They routinely follow each other through obstacle courses at a distance of two-four inches, which I find amazing. If you go to the competition, the officers are very willing to talk to the public. It's a great way to connect with law enforcement and to realize that they are dedicated to protecting us by enforcing the law. So if you have time, mark the dates on your calendar.

STURGIS: the biggest motorcycle rally in the world. It takes place this year August 8-14. Have you ever gone to it? A lot of people believe that it's a huge drunken celebration of motorcycle culture, complete with women who like to parade around naked. To a certain degree, that's true, but it's also a myth. Most bikers go there for the brotherhood and to meet other people who share common interests. The Black Hills of South Dakota provide some great riding opportunities.

Make no mistake about Sturgis. Laws are strictly enforced. Every stop sign requires a full stop, with both feet on the ground, even on a freeway exit to a local street. Enforcement of the full stop is rigid. Any kind of "rolling stop" will get you a ticket. You can be stopped at any time for ANYTHING. I've seen it happen numerous times. If you are DUI, your bike could be impounded while you spend the night in jail. South Dakota does not have a helmet law, but if you wear one, it feels like the SDHP observes you as a cautious and law-abiding rider. People without helmets are observed with more intensity.

Every time I've been to the Black Hills, I've had a great time. I have three "never dos". Never ride at night, never ride without a helmet, and never drink alcohol when riding.

My favorite destination is the big vendor show in Rapid City. You can ride any new Harley as long as you have a valid driver's license with a motorcycle designation. They have free helmets and the course is an eight-mile ride. Even if you want to ride a CVO, you can. It's GREAT.



Patricia Ruth LeBlanc Sommer-Collins, age 76 of Hendersonville, North Carolina, died Friday, April 15, 2016, at her residence. She was born August 28, 1939, in Chicago, Illinois, a daughter of the late Richard Kenneth and Ann Von Stein LeBlanc. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Jeffery Phillip Sommer in 2007 and her aunt, Ruth "Aunt Sis" in 2002.

Patricia received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Elmhurst Community College. Patricia married her best friend, Peter Collins on April 28, 1988, and renewed their wedding vows in 2008. She owned and operated Sommer Consulting which specialized in management consulting to major Fortune 500 companies all over the United States, until her retirement in 1999. Prior to moving to Hendersonville, Patricia and Peter resided in Larkspur, Colorado, as well as Asheville.

She is survived by her loving husband and best friend of 30 years, Peter Collins; three daughters: Cynthia Susanne Ragan of Lander, Wyoming, Suzanne Hill and husband, Ronald of Tennessee, and Lisa Marie Reisner and husband, Ulrich of Moers, Germany, as well as five grandchildren: Sean Donovan, Michael and Christian Reisner, and Sarah and Jessica Hill.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Patricia's memory be directed to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 2278, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.



DOUGLAS-FIR TUSSOCK MOTH CONTROL COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

Keith Worley, Forester...

The following is a list of tree-spraying contractors interviewed by Keith Worley, Forester, to assist you with control of Douglas-fir (DF) Tussock Moth (TM) on your property. All claim an ability to apply the appropriate pesticide to trees ranging from 60-70 feet tall. Douglas-firs taller than 70 feet are rare in our area.

Spray equipment normally used for this type of application must be able to supply sufficient gallons-per-minute (GPM) and pressure (PSI) through appropriately sized hoses and nozzles. All listed operators are licensed by the Colorado Department of Agriculture as "Licensed Applicators."

A few important items:

- Obtain at least two bids if possible. Prices can vary depending on availability, and travel time. Most applicators will have a minimum charge.
- There were reports of price gouging last year by a few contractors who took advantage of residents' fear of tree loss. Be suspicious of door-to-door solicitations, and mass-mailings that play on your fears.

- Just say "No thanks" when offered tree care packages, or repeat applications later in the growing season. Spray applications touted as "preventative" or "just in case" demonstrate the contractor's lack of knowledge of TM, or an attempt to provide something you don't need.

- Tussock moths typically feed most aggressively in tree tops and work their way down the tree. Primary food is Douglas-fir needles. TM will begin feeding on Ponderosa pines in the immediate vicinity once their DF food source is depleted.

- Residents in Ponderosa pine forests do not need to spray their

Continued on page 17



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BEAR DANCE



Men's Wednesday Night Golf League at *Bear Dance*

The time is approaching for our 12th season of Wednesday night golf fun.

League play begins May 4th and concludes September 21st.

ONLY a \$100 annual membership fee* with 100% going back to the League Members!!

- Membership Fee covers
- End of season prime rib dinner on Sept. 21
- Up to \$3,000 in raffle prizes during season ending dinner

Greens Fees are \$45 for 9 holes with \$15 going back to members that win that weeks contests.

- Ie. Best six holes, lowest gross or net, lowest net-4 man blind draw, CTP, etc.

Signing up for the Wednesday Night Men's League is easy, just call the golf shop at (303.681.4653 x 4) or stop by in person.

Any questions or suggestions regarding the league are welcome. Just call the golf shop or contact one of the league officials via E-Mail; Dave Bennett, dbspartan@msn.com, Craig Jossi, crookedtrellc@aol.com, Steve Beck, senbeck@aol.com

*The Men's Leagues at Bear Dance uses the GolfNet system to track member handicaps. It's a nominal additional fee of \$10/player for League Members that are not Annual Members at Bear Dance. This system follows USGA handicap guidelines and allows GolfNet members to load and track their individual handicap at all courses played during the calendar year.

APPLICATORS Continued from page 15

pinus. However, Blue Spruce, DF and White Fir are susceptible in these areas. See the item above about saying "No thanks".

Interviewed Applicators

Company	Phone
Knothead Tree and Lawn Care	303-885-3800
C Lazy T Spraying Services	303-660-9662
Tall Timbers Tree and Shrub Service	719-528-8141
Spray Tech	720-248-0000

Note: This information is provided as a courtesy and is not an endorsement of any one company. The list is not all-inclusive, and other companies are also available. Neither the Perry Park Metropolitan District nor Keith Worley guarantee or warranty these companies, nor do they specifically recommend anyone on this list. Please contact the individual companies directly for pricing, bonding or insurance, licensing, references and referrals, and professional qualifications.

Any claim of endorsement by PPMD or Keith Worley, included in any company's marketing material, should be reported to Keith at 303-681-2492.

WHAT'S UP AT THE METRO BOARD?

Walt Korinke ...



All board members with the exception of Jim Cassidy were present for the April 7, 2016 Metro District Meeting.

VISITORS – There were six visitors. Resident Derek Meredith presented a request for an encroachment permit on a District Easement for several solar towers erroneously placed. The request was reviewed and approved with the District maintaining the right to require removal of the towers if the need arises.

MINUTES – The minutes for the March 3rd district meeting were reviewed and approved as written. They are available on the website www.perrypark.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financials – April 6, 2016



Receipts	\$ 51,028
Disbursements	\$ 15,457
Cash Account	\$436,901

There were 21 expense items: the majors included \$2,091 for the slash burn and two prepaid expenses for the July 4th activities - \$1,500 Denver Concert Band and \$8,650 J&M Displays for the fireworks.



RESIDENT GRANT PROGRAM – The 2016 Resident Grant Program is underway and signups are taking place on the District website and **WILL REMAIN**

OPEN UNTIL AUGUST 15th FOR ADDITIONAL SIGN-UPS. The maximum signup is for a total of 50 applications – and provides for District participation in contractor mitigation efforts. See the website for full details.



FALL SLASH BURN – Thanks to a good winter storm, we were able to fully dispose of last year's slash pick-up with a safe burn administered by the Larkspur Fire District. Burning is substantially less expensive than mulching. Our thanks to Randy Johnson and his crew from Larkspur Fire.



TRAIL AND BUFFER PROJECT – The majority of the proposed trail routes were staked this month in preparation for getting bids to determine the cost, trail choices, and obtaining of bids.

Once costs are obtained, we can determine the best options to improve the district, obtain public input, and schedule an implementation schedule in line with the budget.

GATEWAY RENOVATION – Randy Johnson plans to present his preliminary sketches for the Gateway renovation at the May meeting.

TECH ISSUES – We have just begun requesting that residents enroll their e-mail addresses with the Metro District in order to receive important Perry Park messages. Within two weeks, we have 450 residents registered out of a total of +/- 750 homes. Please sign up, and get your neighbors to register too. We will not be doing costly mailers anymore, but will put notices in the *Sentinel* (now digital) and email info about resident grants, events i.e. July 4th, slash pick-ups, Tussock moth news, etc. to all who register. E-mail addresses will not be made available to other parties.



It is important that you REGISTER YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS with the District.

Please go to the District website – www.perrypark.org

SLASH PICK UP – It is time to get started with your scrub oak and other trimming – The Spring **SLASH PICK UP** com-

Continued on page 18



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mences June 1st. Visit the Metro District site – www.perrypark.org for information on the process, how to stack your trimmings, and the scheduled pick-up for your area.



JUNK DUMP – Last year we had a major and very successful Junk Dump. We are going to have a **downsized** Junk Dump this May. Last year’s collection cleared out a lot of major household junk but, its

overall collection brought it to the attention of Douglas County who advised that we can continue to do junk collection at the gravel pit, but it must be limited to using the large steel containers rather than creating large deposits on the ground and then trucking it to the Sedilia dump. We are fortunate that M R Hauling now has some of the containers and can provide 4 on Junk Dump Day for community use. We plan to hold our downsized event (**NO complete porches or developer drops, NO refrigerators, NO electronics, NO chemicals or paint and NO tires**) - Bring everything else as follows:



JUNK bin DUMP
@ the Perry Park Gravel Pit
Saturday – May 28th
8:00 am to Noon
Resident I.D. Required

OTHER BUSINESS – The District received the annual report from the CDOF Mine Inspection (our gravel pit) and we passed with no negative comments or objections. The mining permit remains in place however it is doubtful we will ever need to mine for road gravel again. Our primary use of the site is for mitigation slash storage and disposal.

Metro Board Members:

President	Walt Korinke
Vice President	Karen Dale
Vice President	Randy Johnson
Secretary	Jim Cassidy
Treasurer	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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SPRING SLASH PICK-UP



When: Starts JUNE 1



About 1 section per week

Place slash in a Single Pile near street - away from utilities

Pile HIGH - not long



SLASH only - No Pine Needles, Rocks Metal, etc.



For full slash pickup details - GO TO WWW.PERRY PARK.ORG

JUNK DUMP mini



Bring Proof of Residence!

When: SATURDY - May 28th
8:00 am to Noon
(or dumpsters are full)

Where: PERRY PARK GRAVEL PIT

What: General junk



- NOT:
- NO - **Large Contractor disposals**
 - NO - **Tires**
 - NO - **Electronics**
 - NO - **Refrigerators**
 - NO - **Concrete**
 - NO - **Chemicals or Paint**



4 Large Dumpsters - When they are FULL the Dump is over

Resident Grants



Resident Grant Applications will be accepted until **AUGUST 15th** (or when the program is full)

The Perry Park Metro District provides matching grants to residents using contract mitigators.



Reduce fire risks - MITIGATE!!!



For full Resident Grant details - GO TO WWW.PERRY PARK.ORG

Register - PPM D



The District is going digital !!

- No more Mailers -

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register your e-mail @

www.perrypark.org



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



The April meeting of the Perry Park Water and Sanitation District (PPW&SD) was held on April 20 with all directors present. The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the March 16 regular meeting, and that approval was unanimous. Disbursements totaling \$119,868.97 were then also unanimously approved.

Next on the agenda was the final review and adoption of the proposed 2016 Comprehensive Master Plan for the physical development, maintenance and operation of water and sewer services within the District's service area. At the 2016 January board meeting, Bill Goetz of TST Infrastructure LLC led the Board through the major considerations of the Draft 2016 Water and Sewer Master Plan. Two subsequent work sessions involving the Board, TST, Semocor, and the District Management were held on February 3 and April. The resulting 2016 Water and Sewer Master Plan dated April 2016 was unanimously approved.

The present Chatfield Water Authority Intergovernmental Agreement and its Bylaws are undergoing revisions, and the final versions were presented to the Board. The District has long been a member of the Authority, and the Board unanimously agreed to continue that membership.

The District Systems Report for March submitted by Semocor was then reviewed and discussed. Operations were best described as normal, but worthy of note was the 43 percent versus 30 percent usage of renewable water improvement over last year. The Monthly Staff Report submitted by the District Manager was also reviewed.

There was no additional audience participation, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. As always, further information is available on the District website, www.ppwsd.org.

**METRO DISTRICT PRESENTS
FIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM**

On Saturday, April 23, the Metro District Board presented a program on local fire mitigation activities to a full house at the Perry Park Country Club. Because 30+ inches of snow had postponed the meeting from the previous week, most of the scheduled presenters were unavailable, but Keith Worley, forester and Perry Park's own "Firewise Guy," did an admirable job of presenting an entire program.

Also available was County Commissioner Roger Partridge who explained the various partnerships and preparations Douglas County has made to address wildfire threats to the county. Among other things, he explained the importance of air support

in our county and outlined the several helicopters and larger aircraft the county can call upon in fire emergencies.

Topics addressed in the morning program were an update on the Perry Park Firewise grant program and an explanation of the coming development of the Perry Park trail system. Using trails easements throughout the Park that have been in place since the original plats, Worley said he sees each leg of the trail system as a fire break as well as a recreational trail. The easements have been mapped, and surveying is currently underway. Maps of the easements will soon be available on the Metro District website, <http://www.perrypark.org/>.

Worley also addressed the problems caused by the Tussock Moth invasion of last year of local Douglas firs. The Metro Board contracted spraying of trees on its borders last year and will be spraying again this year. The spray is a biological preparation rather than a chemical pesticide and should not have ill effects on people or animals in the area. Worley has prepared a short article on contractors who have the equipment for spraying large firs from the top. That article can be found on page 15 of this *Sentinel* issue.

He also stated that the fire hazard has actually decreased (for the short term) because of the invasion because needles are no longer available fire fuel. The fire danger because of the invasion will occur a number of years out, depending on how many trees survive and other conditions. He also stated that it will be at least another year before the percentage of surviving trees can be determined.

Both Partridge and Metro Board chairman, Walt Korinke, discussed the several slash/mulch programs. The country pickup point in Castle Rock is now open (see FYI), and pickup in Perry Park Ranch will be in June and October of this years as usual. Korinke also explained that the excess slash (which cannot be made into mulch for residents) is now being burned, but under very strict guidelines: by professionals during a snowstorm!

For additional information on the Metro District's Firewise Grant Program and the slash-pickup process, check the Metro District web site at <http://www.perrypark.org/>.

~KDale





BEAR WISE

Greetings, neighbors. Beary Bear here. April showers bring May bear prowlers so be extra alert as you enjoy our wonderful great Colorado outdoors season.

I haven't received any local bear activity news to date. However there are telltale signs that we are up and about such as a fresh paw

print here and there and of course the always incriminating black bear calling card – scat. Watch where you step!

Talk to Yourself

Help make us aware of your presence when you are outside by speaking out loud in an assertive voice, singing, clapping your hands, or making other noises. I realize that some of you display these behaviors all year round, but now is the time for everyone to make deliberate sounds so we bears know we are not alone when we visit your neck of the woods.

Bear Wise Encounter Tutorial

• If a bear enters your den (home), don't try to force him/her to leave. Like your distant relatives who show up uninvited, we need to be shown the door. If safely possible, provide us with an obvious escape route by propping doors open. Chances are good we will take the hint, grab whatever we found in the cupboard/ fridge "to go" and leave on our own. If we don't vacate immediately, call 911 and seek a safe place to wait for help to arrive. While you wait, repeat ten times slowly: "I'll never leave the door/window open again."

• Avoid direct eye contact. In nature this is perceived as a challenge not an opportunity to bond more deeply as you humans believe.

• Never run from or toward a bear. Instead, slowly back away. Although we ourselves can be unpredictable, we appreciate slow, predictable movements on your behalf.

• The best way to scare us away is to make loud noises by yelling, banging pots and pans or using an air horn. Your neighbors may think its party time and come over to join in the fun. If they do, stand close together with your hands up over your heads. Make yourself look as big as possible by waving your arms up high. Do the Macarena dance if the spirit moves you. That always scares the heck out of me.

• We sometimes utter a series of huffs, make popping jaw sounds by snapping our jaws and swat the ground. You may have dated someone like this in high school. Just like then, these are warning signs that you are too close. Slowly back away, avoid direct eye contact and do not run.

• Black bears will sometimes "bluff charge" (not an attempt to use your credit card) when cornered, threatened or attempting to steal share food. Stand your ground, avoid direct eye contact, and then slowly back away. Once again, save your running for the treadmill unless the bear is in your workout room with

you.

• Unlike scenes from Hollywood movies, when we stand up on our hind legs it is usually not a threatening behavior. We are trying to get a better view or detect interesting scents in the air. Like being at a Bob Marley concert.

• Families with cub kids should have a "Bear Plan" including whistles, air horns and an escape route. Sounds like a fun party!



Remember Colorado black bears are very different from our cousins – grizzly bears who don't reside in Colorado. We are mostly interested in your food not you as food. Black bear attacks are extremely rare. If a black bear does attack, don't play dead, fight back!

Please send your pictures, stories and comments to wisebeary@gmail.com for future publications.

Until next time, I'll keep hanging on.

Your friend,

Beary

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Susan Peters...

Way too Much Fun...Bird Feeding Revisited...Short Takes

Springtime on the Palmer Divide

Every year it seems the highs that send us into spring euphoria get slammed by the lows of freezing temperatures and snowfall. But this year seemed to outdo itself. The blizzard. The snow two days later. The major snow dump of mid-April. Plus all the in-between snow flurries that were measured in feet. Bird feeding became very creative. Since getting to the feeders on the various decks would mean using a pogo stick, we resorted to flinging seed to any surface including mammoth snow drifts.



Continued on page 23



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Larkspur

1000 Longbow Pl. \$329,950

BEAR DANCE 8th FAIRWAY

2.36 Acres
Larkspur

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The bears are indeed up and moving, but thus far no sightings of the whole bear to the Sentinel. Has anyone seen one?

~Photo from Margaret Chan-

The snow storms are the best opportunity to do your own birdie roll call and bird count. With the comings and goings of migratory birds, the spring offers the best viewing. The year-around finches, juncos, doves, nuthatches, chickadees, woodpeckers, redwing blackbirds, towhees, and the dang crows are joined by the Evening Grosbeaks and bluebirds in splendid attire. Yes, the bluebirds have been combing the feeders looking for the occasional succulent insect.

During the blizzard hundreds of juncos crowded into the branches of a mountain ash. Any port in a storm.

And watch out for Mother's Day...two years in a row have meant this mama crawling out of bed at first light to feed the masses.

A Primer to Bird Feeding

Five years too fast in fleeting have passed since this topic has been discussed. By now we have many new residents who might be interested in enticing the many bird species in for a closer look or to snap a photo. Putting out bird seed will have the undesirable side effect of attracting bears, deer, skunks, raccoons, and the ubiquitous nemesis of all dogs, the squirrels. Trust me, that there is NO bird feeder made that a wily squirrel cannot conquer.

Bird feeding provides some of the best and most satisfying

past-time activities--whoops, another bird crashed into our window--make that two, no, three--the fledglings have arrived!

In response to readers new to bird feeding, this month I simply propose obtaining a few helpful tools to kick things off. There is a plethora of books written on the topic, but unfortunately they do not include the bears to change the equation.

But you still need a good reference book such as the Peterson Western Birds field guide to know what you are looking at – identifying birds is easier using detailed drawings that delineate bird features much better than books of photographs.

Very important: You MUST remember that if you feed birds regularly in the summer, they will depend on you when the snow is five feet deep and the bird feeders are not conveniently located near your house. Or like us, your decks can have drifts the size of Mt. Everest. Otherwise, the birds die with no food source. So are those snow shoes ready to go?

Secondly, in wild bear country, positioning your feeders is critical – yeah, you can get great photo shots of a bear mangling your bird feeder, and then, next thing you know, the bear is sleeping on your couch. The alternative is to bring in your bird feeders every night and put them back out the next morning. Positioning of birdfeeders is also important, in that birds like cover. So having feeders near a tree or something that will provide them security, will help, particularly with the bird snatching hawks.

I suggest starting out with a few basics. The seed eating birds like black oil sunflower seed, and a mixture locally called Wild-bird (at Rampart Feed and Grain in Castle Rock) or similar names at other feed and grain stores. NO red millet – this is like feeding your kids cardboard.

And then, there are types of feeders that accommodate different types of birds who like different kinds of food. Oh, and don't forget the squirrels and chipmunks who will want more than their share – and, if you have a dog, the fun is just beginning!

Starting out simple is good – try this:

Purchase a tube feeder and a platform feeder or use just a plant tray. Put black oil sunflower in the tube feeder, and a mixed songbird feed (no red millet – got it?) in the platform feeder. Set out a shallow dish of water, such as a large plant watering tray. Stand back and see what happens. It will take a few weeks for the birds to find and use your offerings. But again, make sure the feeders are placed in areas where the bears and wind won't take them out.

Now here is the tricky part – putting them where you can see the action at the same time! Otherwise, what is the point?

An inexpensive woodpecker seed block (yes, Wal-Mart has these) hung in sight will not only attract woodpeckers, namely Downy and Hairy, but also nuthatches – the pygmy nuthatches

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WILD SIDE Continued from page 23

are my favorite with their cropped tails.

If you are successful with this experiment, then you can determine if you want to branch out, ahem.

Bonus time! You can put out hummingbird feeders and these dots with wings do not stick around after the first cool breezes in late August. Having these little guys in your life reduces your stress level, makes your kids, grandkids, and guests awed – sort of a conversation piece.

AND, if you really think this hobby is for you – and 1/5th of our North American population are bird watchers by definition and spend approximately \$40B a year, I also suggest some basic equipment such as a book on attracting birds, such as [Attracting Birds to Your Backyard: 536 Ways to Create a Haven for Your Favorite Birds \(Rodale Organic Gardening Books\)](#) by [Sally Roth](#) (February 8, 2003), \$14.95 at Amazon. And throw in a pair of binoculars, so you can better view and identify your avian population.

One of the great joys of bird feeding is seeing the previous year's brood remember the feeders and their locations, expecting them to be there and filled with their favorite goodies. And what is really fun is to witness a ma or pa bird feeding their fledglings at the feeder as the impatient babies frantically flap their wings and do rapid chirping, begging for more food – not too different than our own babies.

But I can't emphasize enough that a nice bird bath, preferably heated for winter, will attract ALL birds – the seed eaters, the insect eaters, and the true carnivores. They all need water. And they bathe even when ice crusts the sides of the birdbath. My visiting daughter-in-law stood fixated at our kitchen window witnessing the huge variety of birds congregated at our two birdbaths – robins, all the types of jays, chickadees, grosbeaks, nuthatches, bluebirds, flickers, finches, doves, pine siskins, blackbirds, and, oh yeah, the stinkin' starlings.

Short Takes

In early April reports started coming in of hummingbirds arriving in Larkspur. A month early. Obviously these are migratory birds just passing through, as there is NO food, meaning no flower nectar from blooming flowers. I dismissed all the excitement. And, then, wha lah! The harbinger of arriving hummers popped out in proliferation – the toad flax – on April 12th, weeks before it usually does. Yes, a noxious wildflower that seems to be on the same clock as the hummers. Yes, AMAZING, Paul Giamati. "Go back, go back, Little Birdies!!! It's going to snow and bury the flowers."

That's all, folks, for this month. Gotta run – houseflies have invaded our abode, and I must take appropriate action.

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.

A GLIMPSE IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR...

Larkspur Historical Society...



They were simply called "Buffalo Guns" by those in the West who knew these rifles. They were the rifles that the thousands of buffalo hunters took to the buffalo fields and prairies from the mid-1860s to the late 1880s. To the buffalo hunter, the rifle was the number one tool of his trade and represented his dearest possession on earth. In most cases, the buffalo hunter had an almost spiritual relationship with his rifle, and he recognized that relationship with a special name or term of endearment. "I can replace my horse and mules, but 'Martha' cannot be replaced. I'll shoot any man who tries to take her."

The buffalo rifles were big caliber guns that were black-powder powered in the 1860s. By the 1880s, most rifles were firing fast-burning smokeless powder, increasing both their already respected firing range and their lethal impact. These rifles were heavy, varying in weight from eleven to twenty-plus pounds. A lot of the rifle's weight variance was due to buffalo hunters adding weight for rifle balance and adding of distinctive features into the rifle's stock and forearm for personalized fit. The individual buffalo rifle became an integral part and extension of the buffalo hunter's body. The majority of the buffalo rifles were equipped with a Vernier/peep sight and were generally fired from a prone position.

During the twenty years of the enormous taking of buffalo in the West, there were three rifles that constituted the majority of the legendary buffalo guns: The Springfield *Trapdoor*, the Sharps *Big Fifty* and the Remington No. 1, the latter becoming quickly recognized by its magazine and breech system known as the *Rolling Block*.

The Springfield *Trapdoor* was originally designed by Erskine S. Allin of the United States Armory at Springfield in 1865. Allin adapted a Civil War muzzle-loader with his trapdoor receiver and the first .45 caliber *Trapdoor* rifle became a reality. Springfield continued to modify the trapdoor rifle over the next twenty-five years, varying calibers and powder load sizes for impact performance and distance accuracy. The Springfield *Trapdoor* was the primary buffalo rifle found in the nineteenth century buffalo fields, generally milled in either .45-70 or .50 calibers.

Although the Springfield *Trapdoor* rifle was the most prevalent in the buffalo fields, the most desired rifle by the buffalo hunters was the Sharps *Big Fifty*. Gunsmith Christian Sharps designed

Continued on page 25

Thank you all for supporting us over the last 30 years. Publication costs forced us to the decision of publishing an on line newsletter only. After our first edition online in April the positive response was overwhelming. The ads and articles can now be interactive, in color and always accessible on the web site. For the latest Issue visit www.perryparksentinel.com

Due to these changes I am happy to report that our ad rates also were able to be adjusted to the new format. Attached you will find a much more affordable rate for a much better quality publication . Please make sure that your art is interactive when submitted so you will benefit from the on line experience.

Again thank you all for your support. Without you there would be no Sentinel!

GLIMPSE Continued from page 24

his breech-loading Sharps rifle in 1848, receiving a patent for the design in September of the same year. The Sharps *Big Fifty* continued to be manufactured in various calibers for thirty-three years after its introduction. The most popular caliber in the buffalo fields was the .50 caliber firing a three and a quarter inch, straight taper cartridge that incorporated a 550 grain bullet. Buffalo hunters likened the Sharps' three and a quarter inch round to a stick of dynamite, "...it'll knock down the animal in front of the rifle and the hunter behind the rifle ...darn near the same time!"

The Remington No. 1 was designed in the mid-1860s for use with smokeless powder. Its unique *Rolling Block* action became an overnight sensation because of its ability to handle heavy powder loads with ease. It was less prevalent in the buffalo field than either the Springfield or the Sharps, but, buffalo hunters found both its .45-70 and .50-70 cartridges very effective in the buffalo fields at 150 yard distances.

Larkspur Historical Society meets the second Friday of each month at the Larkspur Fire Station, starting at 10 a.m. Want to learn more about southern Douglas County history? Attend one of our monthly meetings or go to <http://www.larkspurhistoricalsociety.org>.



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

Associate Editor: Linda Ross 720-431-1260 rosslaw@yahoo.com

Advertising/ Diane Jauch 303-663-1867

Business Mgr.: email - 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.

Helping People Buy and Sell Larkspur Homes Since 1991

This Month's Featured Listing

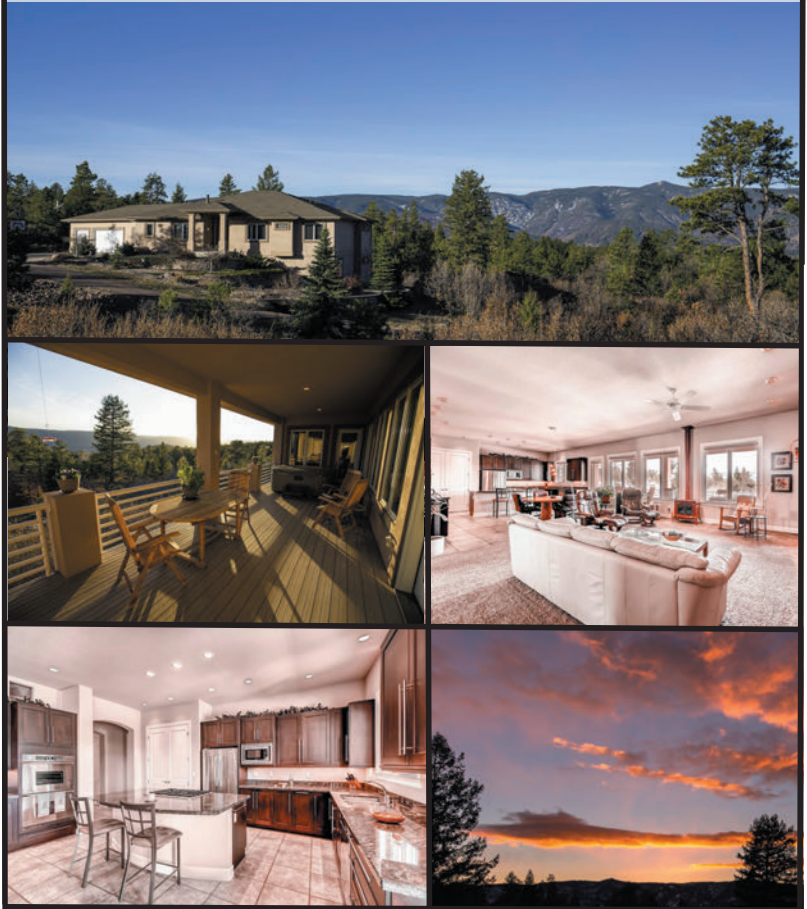
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Enjoy this contemporary fully-custom 5-bedroom/6-bath Ranch-Style home featuring a passive solar design with top-quality finishes and attention to detail everywhere you look. Located in the popular community of Sterling Pointe and close to the Bear Dance Golf Course. Great room adjoins the sprawling kitchen complete with Dacor brand Stainless Steel appliances, Brookhaven cherry cabinets, and gas cook top in the kitchen island. This home has 2,630 square feet on the main floor PLUS another 2,630 square feet in the finished walkout level, perfectly situated to take in a breathtaking mountain view. This is possibly the best location in the community for views! This home takes full advantage of the soaring Ponderosa Pines and Douglas Firs to maintain a very private lifestyle. Relax and enjoy beautiful sunsets on the Timber Tech deck that never needs refinishing. You can also see Pikes Peak in the distance! Looking for a workspace or plenty of garage space? Enjoy the heated and ventilated 1,000 square foot garage/shop with oversize doors and two service doors.

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CARETAKER POSITION WANTED- Retired remodel carpenter looking for caretaker position with housing. Home repair-maintenance,housework,yardwork,animal care.References available Contact Michael West 303.681.2508 or 720.965.0668



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 (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

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 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 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.

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