



LARKSPUR SENTINEL

JULY 2025

Serving the 80118 community



RE/MAX Alliance

ELIZABETH OWENS

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



4456 MOHAWK DRIVE | PERRY PARK | UNDER CONTRACT! | OFFERED AT \$1,290,000



7597 MOLAS COURT | STERLING POINTE | UNDER CONTRACT! | OFFERED AT \$1,175,000



15958 SHADOW MOUNTAIN RANCH ROAD | LARKSPUR | 35 ACRES | OFFERED AT \$3,250,000



6301 PERRY PARK BLVD, #22 | ECHO HILLS | OFFERED AT \$510,000



6301 PERRY PARK BLVD, #13 | ECHO HILLS | OFFERED AT \$565,000



4502 ECHO CLIFF LANE | RETREAT IN PERRY PARK | UNDER CONTRACT! | OFFERED AT \$875,000

ELIZABETH OWENS has a reputation centered on residential, high-end and acreage properties in Larkspur, Castle Rock and throughout Douglas County. For the past 21+ years, Elizabeth and her team, the Elite Group, have been providing **Top-of-the-Line Service with Bottom-Line Results** to both Buyers and Sellers. Elizabeth Owens is a Master Certified Negotiation Expert, Certified Residential Specialist, Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist and is a graduate of the Realtor Institute. Elizabeth is a Larkspur resident and is Broker/Owner at REMAX Alliance in Castle Pines. View the virtual tours for these homes and all Elizabeth's listings at ElizabethOwens.net.

SCAN HERE FOR AN AUTOMATED HOME VALUATION! CALL FOR A MORE IN-DEPTH VALUATION! →



A note from the Editors

Larkspur Sentinel

It's summertime in Larkspur, and what a glorious place to spend it! From the talent gracing the Town stage for Music in the Park to the charming allure of the Renaissance Faire to the delightful Fourth of July fireworks and festivities held in Perry Park, home doesn't get much better than it does in our 80118.

The *Larkspur Sentinel* is experiencing an exciting time of growth and will soon have a more widely distributed print copy in addition to the online format. The *Sentinel* greatly values opportunities to expand its knowledge base and increase its reach during this exciting period of change. Please join us in welcoming two new team members, Shannon Garvin and Wendy Spurlin, whose unique backgrounds will no doubt continue to enrich our publication. Be sure to check out their bios on the next page!

Larkspur Sentinel Team and Contributors

Co-editors-in-chief

Kim Carlsen and Nicole Wegg

Marketing & Advertising Director

Shannon Garvin

Layout Editor

Wendy Spurlin,
ArmLin House Productions

Bookkeeper

Jennifer Martin,
Jenuine Bookkeeping Services

Publisher

Stephanie Y. Deininger

Writers

Brian Arthurs, Julius Doelle, Richard Bangs, Jim Godley, Paula Hans, Chip Hunnings, Cameron McClellan, Wayne Moore, John Murgel, Susan Peters, Cecilia Sanders, Kaylin Sanford, Nicole Wegg, Sheryl West, Keith Worley, Town of Castle Rock

Intern

Ryley Lee



[LarkspurSentinel](#)



[Larkspur Sentinel](#)



LarkspurSentinel@gmail.com

In this issue, Nicole Wegg features the first-rate golf available in our community; learn about the local clubs' histories and gather some great game tips! The Douglas County Home Rule election decision is covered this month, along with information-packed updates from our amazing local agencies. You'll also see new lifesaving equipment available to our community through the Larkspur Fire Protection District and the Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary. And don't miss wildlife rehabber Cec Sanders' advice regarding a favorite wildlife topic, fawns!

Stay cool, stay safe, and have a sensational July!

Kim Carlsen

Kim Carlsen, Co-Editor

Nicole Wegg

Nicole Wegg, Co-Editor

Share your best Larkspur photos!

July 2025 Cover



Cover Picture By:
NICOLE WEGG

Submit your photo to larkspursentinel@gmail.com for a chance to see it on the front cover.

Rules/info on our website.

Subscribe here

larkspursentinel.org

New team members join *Larkspur Sentinel*

Larkspur Sentinel

Shannon Garvin

Shannon joined the *Larkspur Sentinel* as Director of Marketing & Advertising in June 2025. A Perry Park resident since 2020, she lives with her husband and two daughters, and is a Colorado Native. Shannon holds a B.A. in Writing & Rhetoric from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and will complete her M.B.A. in December 2025 from Colorado State University. She oversees marketing and advertising, and contributes to coverage that highlights local businesses and government, strengthening the *Sentinel's* connection with readers and partners throughout the community.



Shannon Garvin
Director of Marketing &
Advertising



Wendy Spurlin
Layout Editor

Wendy Spurlin

We're excited to welcome Wendy Spurlin to the team as our new layout editor! Wendy brings a rich and diverse background to the role, with over 30 years of experience in technology and communications. She's worn many hats throughout her career—including Air Force veteran, graphic designer, editor, video producer, and business marketing expert—and now she's bringing her skills to the heart of our community newspaper.

A longtime creative professional, Wendy has spent four decades helping others tell their stories through writing, editing, and publishing. She's also the owner of ArmLin House Productions, where she coaches authors, creates marketing media, and guides clients through the publishing process. As an artist, Wendy illustrates children's books and produces bold fiction and abstract art. Her passion for visual storytelling and precision makes her a natural fit for handling the layout and design of our publication.

When she's not fine-tuning pages or mentoring writers, Wendy enjoys hiking Colorado's trails, sipping wine, creating art, and watching cheesy horror films and documentaries. We're thrilled to have her creativity and experience on board—and we know you'll notice her touch in every issue.

What's going on?

JULY 2025

July 1: Larkspur Parks and Recreation Board Meeting 5-6 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

July 2: Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary 6 p.m. at LFPD Station 161 [INFO](#)

July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: Farmers Market 3-7 p.m. Wed. (through August) at Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

July 3: Fourth of July Fireworks at PPCC area

July 4: Fourth of July Parade 11 a.m. at Perry Park [INFO](#)

July 7, 14, 21 & 28: Food Truck Mondays 4-8 p.m. Mon. (through October) at Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

July 8: Larkspur Planning Commission Meeting 5-6:30 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

July 8: Larkspur Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer 5-7:30 p.m. at 8520 Spruce Mountain Road [INFO](#)

July 10: Larkspur Fire Protection District Board Meeting 6 p.m. at LFPD Station 161 [INFO](#)

July 10: Perry Park Metro District Meeting 6-9 p.m. at Perry Park Country Club [INFO](#)

July 11 & 25: Music in the Park 6-8:30 p.m. (2nd and 4th Fri. through August) at Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

July weekends: The Colorado Renaissance Festival 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun. through Aug. 3) [INFO](#)

July 15: Larkspur Water and Sewer Board Meeting 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

July 16: Perry Park Water and Sanitation District Meeting 2 p.m. at 5676 Red Rock Drive [INFO](#)

July 17: Larkspur Town Council Meeting 6-8 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

August 9: Hot Rods in the Park Car Show sponsored by The Vintage Car Club 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

Sept. 20-21: Larkspur Autumn Craft Festival at Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

Dec. 6: Holiday Magic Happens Tree Lights in Larkspur Community Park

All dates are 2025 unless otherwise noted

Interested in adding your upcoming Larkspur event?

Email larkspursentinel@gmail.com with the subject "LARKSPUR EVENT" All events must be open to the public and community-focused.



Town of Larkspur July highlights

Sherilyn West, Mayor
Town of Larkspur



Colorado Renaissance Festival

The Town is excited to once again welcome the Colorado Renaissance Festival! With its influx of vendors, performers and event coordinators, Larkspur is bustling with the excitement the Festival brings each year. Without this annual tax revenue, Larkspur would likely not be a town and would still be under Douglas County. With these funds, we maintain the Larkspur Community Park for all in the area to enjoy and keep water and sewer rates reasonable for our residents.

We will be monitoring traffic after each weekend with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office and Public Works to see if changes are needed to the traffic plan. Please be patient!

Fox Farm Road annexation

The annexation of 40 acres on Fox Farm Road is still in the early stages of development. No other large development is currently on the horizon.

New adventures for former long-time Santa and Mrs. Claus

David Fesing and Kathleen White met in Greeley over 25 years ago when David was working with the Mill Rights Union. In 2000, when David was working at NORAD, Kat moved to Larkspur to be with him. David purchased a one-bedroom home from his parents that had previously been used by the railroad as a bunkhouse for shift changes of engineers and to add water to the steam engines.

Dreams of building a log home to live in slowly became a reality over eight years. During this time, he and Kat saved and paid for each step of construction as they went, as to never be in debt. As the home was being built, they lived on their property in a teepee, an RV and a mobile home. Friends and family helped at various times with the construction with only one rule: No drinking until done! Afterwards they would enjoy barbecue and beer together.



David Fesing and Kathleen White as Santa and Mrs. Claus. Photo credit: Town of Larkspur

During and after constructing their home and working, they still found time to serve their community and the Town. David served on the Water & Sewer Board, the Parks & Recreation Board, and ran for mayor. Kat served on the Planning Commission for three years and the Parks & Rec Board twice, as well as working for the Town as Deputy Town Clerk and Parks & Rec Coordinator. They both have helped with events in Larkspur over the years and are best remembered as Mr. and Mrs. Claus at the annual tree lighting. Some of their fondest memories are spreading Christmas cheer to the children for over 25 years.

David and Kat have seen many changes over the years in the Town of Larkspur and surrounding areas. They'll start their next chapter in Arkansas this summer, where they found a beautiful ranch home just a hop and a skip away from their own boat dock on a lake. Thank you, David and Kat, for your dedication to the Town, your amazing stories and your enormous hearts. We cannot wait to hear all about your new adventures in Arkansas!

Results of Home Rule vote

Nicole Wegg, Editor
Larkspur Sentinel



The preliminary, unofficial results of the June 24th Home Rule vote for Douglas County are in. Voters overwhelmingly voted “no” to Douglas County becoming a home rule county-- 71.16% “no” to 28.84% “yes”. There were a total of 94477 ballots cast, making up about 30% of the county’s voters.

County Commissioner George Teal was unphased since it is apparently rare for campaigns for home rule to succeed the first time around.

To see the results and read more about this vote please visit:

<https://www.denver7.com/news/politics/douglas-county-voters-appear-to-reject-home-rule-efforts-preliminary-results-show>
<https://www.douglas.co.us/elections/>

Results are not considered final until July 8 with the Board of Canvass certification. There is a required eight-day timeframe after Election Day that allows for issues with signatures, to provide missing ID for mail-in ballots; and to receive ballots from military and overseas citizens.

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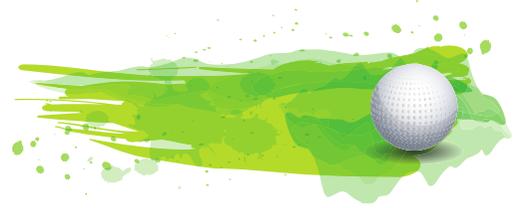
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Locally Owned and Operated

Golfing in Larkspur

Nicole Wegg, Editor
Larkspur Sentinel



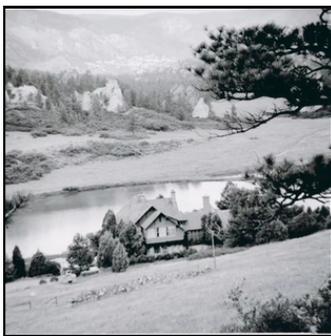
A favorite pastime of many locals and Larkspur residents is the game of golf. There is no shortage of exquisite courses around town, including the closest 18-hole courses at Perry Park Country Club and The Golf Club at Bear Dance. Each course has a beautiful design and unique features that draw golfers from every skill level. Their timeless beauty, delicious food, playful wildlife and gorgeous views attract novices and avid golfers alike.

Perry Park Country Club Golf Course

PPCC golf course was designed by golf course architect Richard “Dick” Phelps in 1969. It was originally designed as a 9-hole course but grew to 18-holes. He said, “It’s a thrill to work in Colorado. There’s such a wonderful variability in sites. You’ve got a mixture of soils, tree coverage and topography. And the micro-climates create a lot of variety in terms of what you can grow where.” Dick also had a very specific philosophy for his course designs—no blind shots. “I like to show golfers the trouble,” he said. “They can flirt with danger all they want, but I’ll do what I can to warn them first.”



View from PPCC golf course. Photo credit: PPCC



PPCC Manor House 1969.
Photo credit: PPCC

The Perry Park course, built around staggering rock formations and views of Wauconda reservoir, is a majestic experience to behold. “Perry Park is perfectly sculpted through the Rocky Mountains and native landscapes which must have existed in the same condition millions of years ago.” One unique feature of the Perry Park course is a cave on the 11th tee that used to be a stage-coach stop on the Denver-Colorado Springs route. It still has original carvings from the 1860’s. The manor house, now the clubhouse for PPCC, is the original home of investor Charles Roberts.

The Golf Club at Bear Dance

Bear Dance golf course, also home of the Colorado Section of the Professional Golfers Association of America (PGA), was voted best Denver Golf Course 2014-2024. Bear Dance opened in 2002 and was designed by a group of four PGA of America members, Brian Whitcomb, Stuart Bruening, Corey Aurand and Dennis Hogan. It is 18 challenging holes with an average elevation of 6800 ft. nestled in 753 acres of Ponderosa pines, grass-filled valleys and ridges of scrub oak. “Consistently rated as Colorado’s best and most challenging public golf course, Bear Dance offers generous tree-lined fairways framed by flashing white sand bunkers, striking water features, and intricate greens.”

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“At Bear Dance we strive to foster an environment of community, respect, and camaraderie for the game of golf...With an 18-hole championship design, and five sets of tees, any skill level of golfer will be provided an unforgettable challenge. With no contiguous fairways on the par 72, 7726-yard layout, you’ll enjoy a very private and serene round of golf with people of similar passion for the game.”



The golf club at Bear Dance Photo credit: Bear Dance

Improving your golf game

As you consider scheduling a round at one of these famed courses, here are some helpful beginner tips to improve your game. To develop a good golf strategy, it's helpful to think about risk management. The goal should be to avoid big mistakes, not just to shoot birdies. A few strategies to consider are: developing your mental toughness and pre-shot routine, playing to your strengths and working on your putting skills.

As with many games, golf requires strong mental acuity. Learning to accept bad shots and recovering quickly from them can improve your game in the long run. Managing ego and disappointment can be a difficult but beneficial skill to practice as well, and developing a pre-shot routine can help by building consistency, calming nerves and focusing the mind. One example of a simple pre-shot routine is to pick a target, visualize your shot, take a few practice swings and then commit to the shot.

Playing to your strengths means knowing what your consistent distances and shot shapes are. Are you more consistent with a fade (left to right), straight or draw (right to left) shot? Is the trajectory typically normal, high or low? Knowing your shot shape and distance will promote consistency in your game. It is also worth considering which club you hit best with. If you are skilled with a wedge, keep using it and if drivers pose a challenge, consider using one that avoids hazards even if it doesn't go the farthest.

Lastly, to improve putting you can practice reading the green by checking multiple angles of the shot (behind the ball and from the low side) and using your feet to read the putt by feeling the slope of the line. Poor distance control usually leads to more putts, not bad reads of the shot.

Whether you are new to the game or a long-time player, if you're looking to practice your putting, shoot some balls at a driving range or play a leisurely 18-hole game, be sure to check out membership opportunities at either club and put some of these game-improving strategies into practice.

Resources: www.perryparkcc.com, www.beardancegolf.com, www.google.com
<https://nwgolfadventures.com/bear-dance-golf-club/>
<https://www.coloradogolfhalloffame.org/person/richard-phelps/>

On the town: Local social events

Larkspur Sentinel



From Top Left to Bottom Right: (1) Kicking off the Music in the Park Summer Concert Series, Steve & the Cruisers on stage. (2) Spruce Mountain Ranch Team at Music in the Park, Blue Recluse. (3) Douglas County Library Team Members at Steve & The Cruisers. (4) Larkspur Chamber of Commerce Board Members; Jodi McKillip, Dennis Beshear, Bonnie Schwam, Christian Phelps. (5) Larkspur Farmers Market Opening Day, June 4, 2025 at Larkspur Community Park. (6) Bonnie Schwam, President of LACC with Blue Recluse. (7) A beautiful day for networking at Spruce Mountain Ranch on June 10th. (8) A night out at Music in the Park, June 2025. (9) Danny's Landscaping treating the community to some goodies at Music in the Park, June 13th. (10) Annual Garage Sale all throughout 80118, June 2025.

Infrastructure improvements and radium mitigation: investing in our future

Brian Arthurs, Director

Perry Park Water and Sanitation District



The Perry Park Water and Sanitation District (PPWSD) is committed to providing safe, reliable water and wastewater services to our community. To achieve this, the Board of Directors recently made important decisions regarding infrastructure improvements and a critical radium mitigation project. These proactive measures are essential to address aging infrastructure, meet increasing regulatory standards, and ensure the long-term health and efficiency of our water and wastewater systems.

Addressing critical infrastructure needs

The PPWSD Board approved an increase in capital improvement fees (CIF), a crucial step to fund vital upgrades, replacements, and maintenance of Perry Park's essential infrastructure. This increase is driven by several key factors:

- **Wastewater treatment plant upgrades:** Significant improvements are planned for the District's two wastewater treatment plants. The 50-year-old Waucondah Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) requires refurbishment, and the Sageport WWTP needs upgrades to meet compliance requirements related to monitoring Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN). The estimated cost to bring our wastewater treatment plants up to the required governmental standards and improve overall operational efficiency is between 15 and 20 million dollars.
- **Aging infrastructure:** Like many water districts, PPWSD has an aging infrastructure that requires continuous attention, including upgrades, replacement, and maintenance to prevent issues and ensure uninterrupted service.
- **Meter replacement project:** Funding will also support a project to replace aging water meters. This will lead to more accurate billing and help identify leaks within the system promoting water conservation.

Recent capital improvement project successes

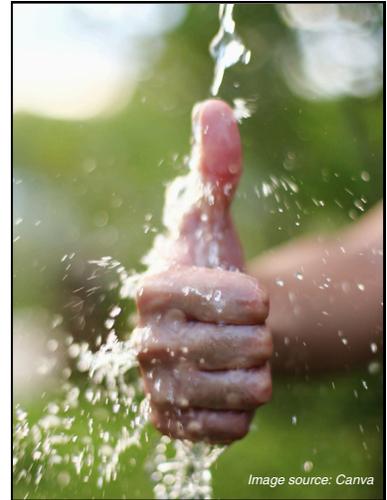
Thanks to these fees, we've already completed several significant projects, enhancing our community's water and wastewater services:

- **Sageport Wastewater Treatment Headworks improvements:** These upgrades ensure our wastewater treatment processes meet all Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment compliance standards.
- **Bannock Lift Station improvements:** We've replaced aging infrastructure to reduce the risk of overflows and ensure reliable operation.

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Prioritizing radium mitigation for safe drinking water

In a top priority for the PPWSD Board, a dedicated radium mitigation fee has been invoked for a period of three years to ensure the continued provision of safe drinking water.



- **Elevated radium levels:** Routine testing in August 2024 revealed radium levels in the water supply exceeding the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 pCi/L.
- **Radium mitigation project:** This finding prompted the urgent need for a radium removal project at the Sageport Water Treatment Plant.
- **Project cost and duration:** The project is estimated to cost between 2.5 and 3 million dollars and is expected to take approximately three years to complete. The radium mitigation fee, set at \$92 per bimonthly billing cycle, was implemented to cover these essential costs. The necessity of this fee will be re-evaluated upon project completion.

New fees effective July 1, 2025

To ensure the District's long-term financial health and address critical projects, the Board approved the following new fees, effective July 1, 2025:

- **Radium water treatment plant upgrade fee:** A \$92.00 bimonthly fee for both residential and commercial connections will be added for a three-year duration. This will fund the radium project at the Sageport Water Treatment Plant.
- **Construction water fee increase:** The cost for construction water will increase by 20% to \$31.20 per 1,000 gallons.
- **Capital improvement fee increase:** This fee will increase by \$14.36 per bimonthly billing cycle for residential customers and \$23.00 bimonthly for commercial customers. This adjustment is crucial as current capital fees have not covered expenditures for several years.

Operational updates and other business

During recent meetings, the Board also covered several operational updates. Meeting minutes from the prior Regular Board Meeting were approved as amended. An update was provided on the effort to upgrade water meters; more information will be available on the District website.

An email will be sent to all customers reminding them of speed limit requirements on the private road leading to the District Office, in response to concerns from the new owners of the Perry Park Ranch.

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An agreement for the final easement to provide electricity to Poncho Well was finalized. The Board accepted a bid of up to \$24,350.00 for road improvements at the Sageport Water Treatment Plant, essential for future radium removal construction.

Annual hydrant maintenance and flushing are complete, with six hydrants requiring significant repair. A pump at the Bannock Lift Station was replaced, and a seal pump leak at the Red Rock Lift Station was repaired. Protective fencing for the Poncho Well is also budgeted and forthcoming.

Our commitment to you

The Board's decision to raise fees is not taken lightly. It's important to remember that PPWSD residents collectively own all of the community's water and sewer infrastructure. The District operates as a non-profit entity, governed by a board of PPWSD residents who pay the same fees as everyone else. Rate increases are our absolute last resort. Our unwavering goal is to ensure you receive safe, quality water and efficient wastewater removal, and that our infrastructure and facilities are continuously maintained, repaired, and replaced, both now and in the future. Residents are encouraged to attend upcoming board meetings in person or via Zoom. Information regarding rate increases, board meeting minutes, and other updates is available perryparkwsd.colorado.gov/.



Seeking Volunteer Host Families

- Must be able to fill out an online application
- Must be able to pass a background check
- Must be able to provide a bed
- Must be able to provide some transportation for school activities
- Must be able to provide meals while the student is home
- Have a loving/welcoming environment
- Have an interest in different cultures & languages
- Be willing to create a lifelong relationship
- Treat the student like your own child
- Share your day to day with the student

Bridget Malfer, CETUSA Local Coordinator
email address: bridget.malfer@cetusa.org
website: www.cetusa.org
phone number: 888.cetusa.1



Larkspur Fire Protection Districts's five-year strategic plan

Wayne Moore, Secretary–Board of Directors
Larkspur Fire Protection District



“It’s tough to make predictions, especially about the future.”

This quote, attributed to Yogi Berra, highlights the inherent difficulty of forecasting future events and conditions with certainty due to the unpredictable nature of life. Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD) is experiencing a period of stability in operational personnel, financial condition, and equipment/facilities serviceability. Looking towards the future now is the time to develop a five-year strategic plan.

There exist known harbingers within the next five years for LFPD, which places a mandate upon preparation to sustain and hopefully enhance services provided to the constituents and non-residents within our district. A few examples of the known possibilities might stem from legislative changes in property taxes, enormous capital equipment costs that have significantly outpaced the rate of inflation, delivery of fire engines more than three years from the time of order, increasing competition from other fire agencies for staff, and housing growth along our northern and southern district boundaries. A worst-case scenario of the unknown would be a catastrophic event’s short- and long-term impact on our fire district.

This past April, a nine-member committee representing many perspectives was organized to formulate this plan. The group encompassed citizens living within the district, the Mayor of Larkspur, LFPD staff, and two LFPD Board of Directors members. They have strived to gather historical and current information on pertinent operational and financial subjects to make projections. Public input via a general, non-selective participant survey, which focuses on service expectations, is now sought.

To participate in the survey, go to LFPD website, larkspurfire.org or send your input via email to the committee at strategicplanninggroup@larkspurfire.org. The closing date of the survey is July 31.

For each actionable task in the plan, a uniform format will be used that addresses the general outline of the issue, measurable goals, financial requirements, and timelines. The LFPD Board of Directors will handle deciding the committee recommendations’ acceptance. Considering unpredictability and the many factors affecting LFPD, a plan such as this must be subject to periodic revisions.

Most important to this plan is ensuring that our LFPD firefighters and paramedics are highly trained and well staffed, arriving at any foreseeable emergency with the necessary equipment and within a time that can make a difference in the worst day of someone’s life.

Mid-summer greetings from Larkspur Elementary

Kaylin Sanford, Registrar and Attendance Secretary
Larkspur Elementary School



We hope all of our Larkspur families are enjoying a fun, safe, and relaxing summer vacation! Whether you're traveling, exploring the outdoors, or simply enjoying some downtime at home, we hope this break is a refreshing one for your whole family.

Don't forget, the school often has fresh eggs available for donation. Eggs are located in the red egg box near the bus loop. Proceeds from egg donations help support our Larkspur Elementary chicken program.

Larkspur Elementary families should look out for an email (to be sent in mid-July) with information about Express Check-In and the start of the school year festivities, including supply drop-off and teacher meet-and-greet. Online Express Check-In will open on July 22 for Larkspur Families.

Please note that our school office will have limited hours during the summer months. If you have questions or need enrollment information, you can contact Kaylin Sanford via email at KSanford1@DCSDK12.org.



The Larkspur Elementary egg house, with a welcoming new exterior.
Photo credit: Kaylin Sanford

We look forward to welcoming students back on August 13. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

A poster for Larkspur Farmer's Market. The title "Larkspur Farmer's Market" is at the top in a mix of serif and script fonts. Below it are illustrations of a whole tomato, a sliced tomato, two carrots, and three blueberries. The text "WEDNESDAY'S 3PM - 7PM JUNE 4TH - SEPT 3RD" is in a curved banner. The location "LARKSPUR COMMUNITY PARK 8820 SPRUCE MOUNTAIN RD" is listed. A list of offerings includes "ORGANIC PRODUCE", "MEATS, CHEESES, FOOD TRUCKS, ARTISAN VENDORS, LIVE MUSIC". It also says "STILL ACCEPTING NEW VENDORS" and "MORE INFORMATION THELARKSPURFARMERSMARKET.COM". The poster is set against a background of a farmer's market with various produce.

Superintendent Erin Kane selected for Google GSV fellowship

*Paula Hans, Public Information Officer
Douglas County School District*



DCSD Superintendent Erin Kane has been selected to the 2025-2026 cohort of the Google GSV Education Innovation Fellowship - a groundbreaking program formed through a partnership between GSV and Google for Education.

Now entering its third year, the Google GSV Education Innovation Fellowship unites K-12 superintendents and top-level instructional leaders dedicated to working at the intersection of technology and instruction to shape the future of education. By fostering collaboration among these visionary change agents, the Fellowship creates a powerful network that drives advancements in the EdTech landscape, instructional innovation and student outcomes.

“What began as a bold vision just two years ago has grown into a dynamic community of K-12 leaders driving meaningful change - from shaping district-wide strategy to leading instructional transformation at scale,” says Tiffany Taylor, Partner and Co-President of the ASU+GSV Summit. “The ripple effect of the Google GSV Fellowship is clear - and growing - thanks to an incredible network of alumni and the brilliance of our new 2025-2026 cohort. These are 32 system-level leaders who are not just ready for what’s next, but actively shaping it - tackling some of education’s biggest opportunities through the lens of innovation and with today’s most powerful technologies. We’re honored to be on this journey with them.”

Throughout the year, Superintendent Kane will work alongside 31 other Fellowship participants, collectively serving over 3.8 million students nationwide. Fellows will engage in collaborative projects, share insights, and create tangible impacts for their districts and the broader education system.

In this unique environment, the Google GSV Education Innovation Fellowship and newest cohort are poised to pave the way for more innovative and student-centered learning.

About DCSD

Douglas County School District is Colorado’s third largest school district and serves 62,000 students. Learn more at www.dcsdk12.org.

About GSV

GSV is a global platform fueling scaled innovation in “PreK to Gray” education and workforce skills to ensure that ALL people have equal access to the future. The platform includes the flagship [ASU+GSV Summit](#) (founded 2010), India-based [ASU+GSV & Emeritus Summit](#) (founded 2023), and [The AI Show @ ASU+GSV](#) (founded 2024). The investment arm of GSV is [GSV Ventures](#) (founded 2016), a multi-stage venture fund investing in the most important innovations across the global “PreK to Gray” landscape.

About Google for Education

Google for Education is a division of Google dedicated to empowering educators and students with innovative tools and technologies that transform the learning experience. With a mission to make education accessible, engaging, and effective for all, Google for Education offers a wide range of products and services tailored to meet the needs of teachers, students, administrators, and institutions. Through initiatives like Google Classroom, G Suite for Education, Chromebooks, and various educational apps and tools, Google for Education aims to create inclusive and collaborative learning environments, foster digital literacy, and inspire creativity and critical thinking. By harnessing the power of technology, Google for Education is committed to shaping the future of education and preparing students for success in the digital age.

Donations to LVFA support purchase of important equipment for local community and emergency personnel

Jim Godley, Treasurer

Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary

The Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary (LVFA) has been providing various types of support to our Larkspur (LFPD) Firefighter and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel since LVFA's formation in 2009. While the current focus of our fundraising efforts is to provide scholarships to LFPD members, in prior years the LVFA has used donated funds to buy equipment that the Fire District has not been able to purchase out of its regular budget.



Large-capacity PPV fan.

Photo credit:

Larkspur Fire Protection District

Here are a few examples of how we've used the funds donated by the local community to help prepare for emergency situations:

- Purchased two pond strainer systems, allowing firefighters to pull water from a natural pond/stream without clogging hose lines or engine pumps;
- Purchased a large-capacity Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) fan to help evacuate smoke or carbon monoxide from a structure after firefighting is complete;
- Bought 70 heavy-duty, fire-resistant sweatshirts with LFPD logos, for use while doing winter maintenance and training activities;
- Purchased oversized "yak-trax" ice traction cleats for firefighter use in icy conditions, to help prevent falls.

The LVFA has also helped to fund new computer workstations at the fire stations, holiday wreaths for the fire vehicles, and similar "morale and welfare" purchases.

The LVFA is an entirely volunteer organization, and we always welcome new volunteers who are interested in contributing to the community and supporting our wonderful firefighter and EMS personnel. Please contact Jim Godley at lvfatreas@gmail.com if you're interested in helping out.



Pond strainer test run.

Photo credit: Larkspur Fire Protection District

Larkspur Fire Department

Julius Doelle, Firefighter/EMT

Larkspur Fire Protection District



Fire Engine 162

Photo credit: Tyler Quintana

Engine 162 is a 2006 Pierce that responds out of Station 162 in Perry Park. It's powered by a diesel engine and has a power take-off (PTO) driven fire pump. A PTO is a device that transfers an engine's mechanical power and uses it to power another device. This pumper holds 1000 gallons of water, has 2, 200ft. pre-connected hoses that come off the side for fire attack and one, 200ft pre-connected hose that comes off the rear.

It also holds 1000ft. of 5" supply hose used to connect the pumper to a fire hydrant, self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA), auto extrication equipment and medical supplies as well. Engine 162 responded to 63 calls for service in 2025.

Tender 162 is a 6-wheel drive water tender built on a retired military truck chassis in 1997 and then retrofitted approximately 10 years later. It holds 2300 gallons of water which can supply the PTO driven pump or be dumped out of a "dump chute" affixed to the rear of the tender. The dump chute is designed to dump 1000 gallons of water per minute, which helps keep turnaround times down on tender shuttles.

This tender carries various wildland tools, a spare hose used to refill and medical supplies used in case of a crew member injury. This truck is invaluable in areas where there are no hydrants, especially for wildland fires due to its high ground clearance. Tender 162 responded to 7 calls for service in 2025.



Tender 162

Photo credit: Tyler Quintana

Zebulon Regional Sports Complex coming to Douglas County

*Cameron McClellan, Contributor
Owner of Colorado Team Real Estate*



The Zebulon Regional Sports Complex is a new development underway in the Sterling Ranch community in Littleton. Located near the intersection of Moore Road and Waterton Road, approximately four miles south of C-470, this 500-acre project is a public-private partnership between Douglas County, the Sterling Ranch Development Company, and KT Development. The complex aims to transform a formerly industrial area into a regional hub for sports, recreation, and community gatherings.

The first phase of Zebulon includes a 239,000-square-foot indoor facility featuring three full-size ice rinks and eight to ten basketball courts, which can be converted into up to 20 volleyball courts or 30 pickleball courts. Outdoor amenities will comprise a full-size synthetic turf baseball field under a seasonal dome, two full-size synthetic turf soccer fields adaptable for lacrosse or football, and additional spaces for softball. Future phases envision the addition of hotels, retail and dining establishments, swimming pools, and water features.



*Future site of Zebulon Regional Sports Complex.
Photo credit: Colorado Team*

The project also preserves over 400 acres of open space, including a 200-acre wildlife corridor adjacent to Sterling Ranch and Louviers, and 200 acres in Highlands Ranch. The Zebulon Complex along with the Brickyard Complex in Castle Rock will give Douglas County families much needed space for sports and recreation!



New DLC President, Todd Warnke

*Richard Bangs, DLC Board Member
Douglas Land Conservancy*



It's been a long and winding road for Todd Warnke, new President of the Douglas Land Conservancy (DLC), but he's right where he wants to be and he is passionate about DLC's mission. Warnke was elected as President of the DLC board in December of 2024 and took office January of 2025.

Warnke was born in Rigby, Idaho, and lived in every state in the Rocky Mountain region as well as Texas and Canada. He moved to Colorado in 1991 and to Castle Rock in 2002. He attended Portland State University where met his wife, Robin, and earned a degree in philosophy.

He worked in bakeries through college with his dad and then found work in banking, working in branches and community banks. That motivated him to go back to school to study accounting. But Warnke said he found that "boring" and began a second career in the IT field. He had a 15-year period where he had his own IT company and then went to work for one of his clients as director of IT.



Todd Warnke

Photo credit: Douglas Land Conservancy

That company worked in environmental consulting, doing evaluation, remediation and compliance work in Colorado and other places. Warnke's job was keeping the IT system running but that experience gave him exposure some of the issues around wildlife protection and conservation.

About three years ago, the company he worked for was bought by WSP which has acquired companies with about 78,000 employees around the world. Warnke's job is to make sure those acquisitions go smoothly on the IT side.

Warnke said he was on the Castle Water Commission for a number of years and "loved it." He is now on the Castle Rock Planning Commission, starting his third year. He also served on the Douglas County School District's Long Range Planning Committee and on a charter school governing board. "I've always been in the outdoors," Warnke said. "I was in Scouting and explored all over the Western United States. I've seen a lot of beautiful places, and I appreciate family ranching and how they care for large parcels of open space."

Warnke's relationship with DLC started by chance. He met Amy Graziano, now DLC's Advancement director, on a hike and was asked to take photos. Then he was asked to take

continued from previous page

more and ended up on a DLC video subcommittee that made films to promote DLC's conservation efforts, showcase award winners and promote preservation achievements. "That gave me a chance to see what DLC does," he said. When he was asked to join the Board, he accepted. He has worked on several DLC committee and a few years ago was elected as an officer on the Board. He was vice president of the board just prior to being elected to head the organization.

"I strongly believe it is a joy and an obligation to help build community," said Warnke. "That doesn't happen by accident. It takes people. The mission of DLC, a perpetual mission, aligns with my core values."

"DLC is now 38 years old and has gone through a growth pattern and has found ways to make it work. It's been a slow process but we're now at a point where we're building for success. We've gone from 2.5 staff to six staff. Through our stewardship we care for all 81 easements we hold and the more than 28,000 acres we preserve. And we're poised to do so much more."

"We recognized the high value of community participation, working with towns, the county and things we do like the book club, hikes and other events. We will be focusing on growing staff and leveraging all of that for the benefit of the Front Range."

"Voters in Douglas County have shown their desire to have access to open space, nature and support a sales tax help make that happen. But that's not (DLC's) sole mission. Half of the land we have easements on is privately held. We will continue to look for landowners wanting to place land under a conservation easement."



*Outdoor photography, Warnke's favorite pastimes.
Photo credit: Douglas Land Conservancy*

"In five years, I foresee DLC having a larger portfolio of land under easement and see new ways for DLC to connect to the community. We welcome people who want to connect to the outdoors.

"DLC takes their work seriously. I passionately believe we're honored to protect open space, protect watersheds and connect with nature."

Douglas Land Conservancy is a non-profit land trust based in Castle Rock. For more information on DLC, go to www.douglaslandconservancy.org.

My heroes – powdery mildew, bindweed leafminer and bindweed moth

John Murgel, Extension County Specialist, Horticulture and Natural Resources
CSU Extension Office

I think we can all agree that bindweed is the worst. Did you know that, along with us, several natural controls are out there trying to take it out? Powdery mildew is one that most folks have probably seen in late summer, but two insects are here also making their mark. Unfortunately, none of these is going to eliminate bindweed any time soon, but it is nice to know that the plant isn't invincible, isn't it?

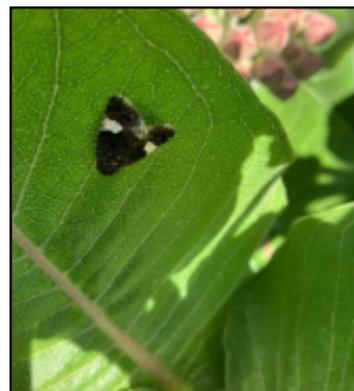


Signs of bindweed leafminers.
Photo credit: Douglas County CSU
Extension

Powdery mildew is a fungus that affects the leaves (and sometimes stems) usually in the late summer and fall. Bindweed vines take on a somewhat ghostly appearance as the white fungal threads grow from pin-point infection sites to eventually cover entire plants. The fungus takes resources from the plant, weakening it, but won't kill it even after years of infection.

New infestations come from overwintered spores on leaf debris that are blown or splashed onto leaves. Powdery mildew is the same fungus that impacts squash and pumpkins, lilacs, zinnias, and many other garden plants — but it won't be jumping from one to another. Each plant has its own variety of specialized powdery mildew that can't grow on other plants.

At this time of year, early summer, you might see signs of bindweed leafminers (*Bedellia somnulentella*) and bindweed moths (*Tyta luctuosa*). Both are members of the Lepidoptera, the insect order that includes butterflies and moths. You will likely see bindweed leafminers by their symptoms and signs, but you're not likely to spot the insects themselves. The moths are quite small, with a wingspan of no more than a centimeter. They are light brown and fold their wings tightly when landing, making them almost invisible. You are more likely to see the signs of caterpillars. Look for cleared window-pane sections in bindweed, spotted with black frass. If you were to open this lesion carefully, you would find the adorable caterpillars (trust me) within. Consider leaving this section of bindweed to help the larvae develop and the moths to spread. [Learn more about bindweed leafminers here.](#)



Bindweed moth.
Photo credit: Douglas County
CSU Extension

Bindweed moths are more noticeable, with their black wings with prominent white spots. They are slightly smaller than their famous cousin, the miller moth. Bindweed moth caterpillars feed (in the more customary fashion) on the outside of the bindweed plants. Look for them in the garden! [See and learn more about bindweed moths here.](#)

Crystal Valley Interchange project update

Town of Castle Rock



If you are travelling to the Colorado Renaissance Festival, use Interstate 25 to access Larkspur from the north as the West Frontage Road between Castle Rock and Larkspur will remain closed through the summer.

Bridge construction over I-25 and the West Frontage Road reconstruction continues as part of the Crystal Valley interchange project — the Town of Castle Rock’s top transportation priority. Last month, crews paved the bridge deck during an overnight operation and began roadway construction on the new bridge.

The Town plans to open the bridge to east-west traffic this fall, once the new Dawson Trail Boulevard and other neighboring roads, that will connect to the future interchange and serve as the new West Frontage Road, have been constructed and tied-in.

The lane reduction on East Frontage Road will continue to be used through the summer to build a retaining wall between I-25 and East Frontage Road to support the future northbound I-25 on-ramp.

The southern portion of East Plum Creek Trail can now be accessed via the newly constructed roundabout on Crystal Valley Parkway and East Frontage Road. It also can be accessed via the updated trail connection on Douglas Lane, located below the Crystal Valley Parkway Bridge. There is no pedestrian access on the south side of the bridge or on the south and west sides of the roundabout.



*View of the new interchange construction June 2025
Photo credit: Town of Castle Rock*

Once completed, the new I-25 Exit 179 and Crystal Valley Parkway interchange will improve safety and mobility in the surrounding community and provide a key regional transportation link from I-25 to southern Castle Rock and Douglas County. Completion of the interchange project is anticipated in 2027.

Motorists and trail users should expect increased truck traffic and heavy machinery in the area. Throughout the duration of the project, please watch for flagging operations and avoid distracted driving and cycling.

Perry Park Metro District meeting updates

Keith Worley, Secretary

Perry Park Metropolitan District



Firewise Committee: Perry Park Gateway Pond Receives "Fire Pond" Status

PPMD, in partnership with Larkspur Fire (LFPD) and Douglas County, obtained formal designation of the Gateway Pond as an official state recognized "Fire Pond". This allows use of water from the pond for fire suppression to protect both Perry Park and surrounding communities. A joint committee has been formed to determine the best ways to access this valuable resource along with potential funding. Helicopter access, along with an ability to draft water for fire engines, will allow a more rapid response to wildland fires in our area.

Slash pickup is in progress. Chris Miller, MR Hauling, updated the board on early slash pickups due to his pending travel in late June. Upon his return, all streets will be revisited to insure no one is missed. He noted that slash volumes were lower than past years. Randy Johnson, PPMD Wildfire Mitigation Consultant, reported a poor response from property owners who signed up in the past to participate in in the fire mitigation cost-share grants.

Parks and Open Space Committee: Kirk advised that **Wauconda Park playground** equipment and been assessed for the need of any immediate repairs. He was authorized to obtain an official inspection from a certified inspector. **Gateway designs** are progressing with potential concepts and costs. Potential park bench placements at the Gateway have been delayed and to be reviewed by the Gateway design committee. Future fencing will also be coordinated with the committee.

Bio-Weed Control: PPMD, in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA), will begin using biological control agents for control of four noxious weed species in its open spaces. Insects that feed on specific weeds are reared at the CDA Palisade Insectary. Four noxious weeds will be targeted: Leafy Spurge, Musk Thistle, Yellow Toadflax and Knapweed (Spotted and Diffuse). But, don't worry, they won't eat your roses, or any other plants. Decades of research and testing have gone into finding insects that feed on specific weeds and don't pose a threat to other plants or agricultural crops. Unfortunately, only four of our noxious weeds can be targeted at this time. You can read up on the program at: [Palisade Insectary](#). The Metro District will soon be announcing reformation of its Parks and Open Space Committee (POSC). And your opportunity to participate on the Bio Weed Control Subcommittee.

Keep in mind that noxious weeds are a form of biological pollution. They displace native plants, degrade wildlife habitats and contribute to wildfire spread. By using bio controls, we can lessen our dependence on herbicides, especially when the weeds are intermixed with our native plant communities. We now have another tool in our toolbelt. There are many other noxious weeds that will require traditional control measures. But for now, we can at least attack four of these invaders as part of a long-term program to protect our open spaces.

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Events and Activities Committee: July 3rd PPMD fireworks are now set. An additional cost for permit (fee went from \$50 to \$800) was approved. The July 4th Parade is set for 11:00am along the usual route and expenses for the post-parade hot dog roast were approved. Palmer Lake fireworks will be held on July 4th.

Financial & Management Matters: Overages in individual budget line items were discussed and may require a budget amendment hearing, even though the district is well within its overall budget. WSDM is progressing with updates to the website and posting of official PPMD information.

New Business: Chris Miller, MR Hauling, authorized the Perry Park Junk Dump event. August 22 and 23 were set. Drop offs will be limited to Perry Park residents. MR Hauling is to cover all costs and PPMD to cover public announcements of the event.

Old Business: Track K has been formally conveyed to PPMD. This area includes Bear Creek extending from Osage Road to the Upper Cheyenne area. The Perry Park Community Fund will be dissolved formally at a future meeting. FYI: Tax-deductible contributions can be donated directly to PPMD as IRS sanctioned donations.

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 10th, 6:00pm at Perry Park Country Club.

Perry Park Metro District Slash Pickup Reminder

A few items to remember when stacking your slash at the roadside:

- The weeks of pickup for our four zones are reversed for the June pickup starting with Zone 4, then 3, 2, and 1.
- Make one large pile instead of rows of smaller piles. If you hire a contractor to pile your slash, make sure they follow the rules.
- Do not stack slash close to utility pedestals or mailboxes.
- Do not pile slash underneath overhead powerlines.
- No stumps, lumber, pine needles or landscape waste are allowed.

Wildfire Adaption Cost-Share Grants for Perry Park Resident

The Perry Park Metro District (PPMD) will be sending out notice soon that Fire Adaption cost-share grants will be available to all qualifying Perry Park residents. PPMD was awarded a Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Management (FRWRM, called “fur-worm”) through the Colorado State Forest Service. Information will also be posted on the district’s website. These funds are intended to allow you to achieve a higher level of wildfire mitigation and manage wildfire risks to your home and property. Applicants must be willing to take steps necessary to protect our firefighters and natural resources. PPMD will also be mitigating its open space properties. And if you abut one of these open spaces, you can further enhance ecosystem restoration and wildfire adaption as Mother Nature intended.

Wildlife wisdom: fawns – what people need to know

Cecilia “Cec” Sanders, Licensed Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitator
Colorado Parks and Wildlife



July’s Wildlife Wisdom is brought to us by guest contributor, Cecilia “Cec” Sanders. Cec and her husband, Tom, operate their Wet Mountain Wildlife Center out of Pueblo. They are part of a small portion of Colorado wildlife rehabilitators with the expertise and resources to rehabilitate fawns. Cec shares her well-informed advice about the subject here:

Late May through the summer months brings the birth of fawns.

Many fawns come to us for rehab because people believe they have been abandoned by the doe. This is rarely the case. Does do not "abandon" their fawns. They nurse them immediately after birth with their first feeding, called colostrum. Colostrum contains nutrients, antibodies and antioxidants to develop the fawn’s immune system. The doe then makes her offspring scentless by consuming the afterbirth and body fluids.



A pronghorn fawn (left) and a mule deer fawn (right) being rehabilitated by Cec and Tom Sanders.
Photo credit: Wet Mountain Wildlife Center

After feeding, the mother doe beds the little one down in tall grass where it stays until she returns, which could be several hours later. Even if she has twins or triplets, she will separate them to keep them safe from predation. Mothers know where their fawn is bedded down and when she approaches, she makes an almost subsonic sound to let the fawn know it is time to nurse. Unfortunately, people often think a hidden fawn is at risk and are tempted to "rescue" it. For the most part, the best advice is to let the fawn be.



Four fawns in rehabilitation.
Photo credit: Wet Mountain Wildlife Center

On occasion, a doe will give birth in a precarious but obvious place such as near a busy street, visible to passersby. In cases such as this, the fawn can safely be moved to a nearby shaded area out of sight, but close to the birth site. It is a common myth that if a human touches a newborn that the mother will abandon it. This is not true, and in certain cases, informed but limited human intervention can be helpful. For example, every summer during the haying season, many fawns are removed from the hayfield and simply placed off to the side, so they are not killed by the blades. Some are not as fortunate.

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Sadly, 70% of fawns do not survive their first year. When fawns are about three weeks old, they begin to follow the doe. This is when they become more visible and more likely to be interfered with due to injuries. Many times, the mother doe is killed by a car and the fawn is lying next to her. Many get chased by dogs or caught in fences. Any of these instances is reason to reach out to [Colorado Parks and Wildlife \(CPW\)](#) for help; do not hesitate call in these types of situations.

Public History Events: July and August 2025

July 16 Meeting: Larkspur Town Hall at 6:30PM. The History Lesson is

Early Roads of Greenland and Larkspur

Bill Noe takes us back onto the early roads of Greenland and Larkspur that were built to support ease of travel and area commerce of the early travel era.



August 28 at 7:00 PM A Second Sortie

Perry Park Country Club
Colorado Room

By popular demand

A FATEFUL DAY



In 1944, an Army Air Corps B-17, known throughout history as the *Flying Fortress*, crashed in the Pike National Forest within two miles of Perry Park Ranch. All Crew members lost their lives.

This program leads you through what is known about the crash, the amazing B-17 aircraft, and how B-17s were used after WWII ...plus, the fascinating story about two Perry Park residents who had a difficult time of locating the crash site some 65 years after the occurrence of the crash.

NOTE: This is the second presentation of the B-17 program that was very popular last year. Please know that seating is limited, please RSVP as soon as possible to assure seating.

RSVP requested for this program: Nancy, 720.849.0718



Larkspur Historical Society

The voice of history of southern Douglas County & Divide Country



July highlights for thriving all summer long

*Chip Hunnings, Communications & Outreach
Manager*
Aging Resources of Douglas County



July is here—and with it comes sunshine, stories, and a season full of connection! At Aging Resources of Douglas County, we believe summer is the perfect time to refresh routines, enjoy the outdoors, and celebrate the many ways older adults bring joy and wisdom to our communities.

Enjoy the Great Outdoors (At Your Own Pace)

July is Great Outdoors Month, and there's no better time to soak up some nature. Whether it's a stroll through your neighborhood, a shaded bench at your favorite park, or simply tending to a few potted plants, being outside offers fresh air and a fresh perspective. An occasional ice cream treat always helps beat the July heat. If mobility is a concern, container gardening or a scenic drive with a friend can bring the same benefits—without the extra steps!

Those activities are great to share! Our Companion Program is here to help make that happen. We match caring volunteers with older adults for regular visits, friendly phone calls, walks, or shared hobbies. Whether you're looking for conversation, a helping hand, or someone to share an ice cream with, we can help.

If you—or someone you know—could benefit from a little extra companionship, call us at 303-814-4300. We'd love to help create a match!

Stay Cool, Stay Well

Summer warmth is wonderful—but hydration is key! Here are a few friendly reminders:

- Carry a reusable water bottle when you're out and about.
- Eat water-rich foods like melon, cucumber, and leafy greens.
- Choose loose, breathable clothing.
- Ask a neighbor or loved one to check in during hotter weeks.

And don't forget—our transportation services are available if you need a ride to the grocery store, a doctor's appointment, or a cool, air-conditioned destination.

Something to Laugh About

Need a smile? Try our July Brain Teaser:

What month do trees hate the most?

➡ Sep-timber!



Hope's first custard!
Photo credit: Kelsey Thiessen

Recognition Corner

Larkspur Sentinel



Boettcher Foundation Honors an Outstanding DCSD Student

A record number of Colorado students applied for the prestigious Boettcher Foundation Scholarship this year, with 50 being named recipients. The Douglas County School District (DCSD) is proud to congratulate a DCSD graduate for earning this prestigious scholarship that aims to retain Colorado’s inspiring high school graduates within the state for their college education.

Congratulations to Rock Canyon High School’s Olivia Brewer, who plans to attend CU Boulder. As a Boettcher scholar, Olivia will receive an \$80,000 scholarship award across four years, along with institutional, merit and/or need-based aid. As a comprehensive scholarship, the Boettcher award also includes a program and support system designed to help Scholars maximize their academic and leadership capabilities.

“As we welcome the 2025 Boettcher Scholars, we recognize how their individual efforts create ripple effects that extend beyond themselves, inspiring others and strengthening communities throughout Colorado,” said Vanessa Roman, director of scholarships and foundation programs. “Their leadership and service truly reflect the Foundation’s commitment to nurturing talent that drives positive, meaningful change.”

Scholars are selected based on academic excellence, leadership, service and character.

Need a Little Help This Month?
Food Bank & Care Center - Free

By Appointment
Contact us at - gethelp@larkspur.church
77 Perry Park Avenue, Larkspur

LARKSPUR
CHURCH



Come join us. All are welcome!
St. Philip in the Field Episcopal Church
397 N. Perry Park Road, Sedalia, Co 80135
(Hwy 105 near Wolfensberger)

Sundays - 8:00 and 10:00 services

Special Event
Homecoming Service and BYO Picnic - July 20
One service at 10:00 am

You're Invited
LARKSPUR ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, July 18, 2025: 6 pm
Larkspur Town Park
(or the fire station in case of inclement weather)

Come and mingle - meet your neighbors -
bring a friend!
Questions - Text 719-671-3720

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Brett LeMaire,
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"I am a Larkspur resident and have been specializing in selling Larkspur real estate for the past 17 years. I am the managing broker and owner of Wolfe Realty Group, an independent residential real estate brokerage firm. By choosing to specialize in the real estate market, I can provide you with the highest level of knowledge and insight when buying or selling your Larkspur or Perry Park home or land. If you have any questions about Colorado real estate, please contact Wolfe Realty Group Inc. at 303-681-3553 or go to www.DiscoverLarkspur.com"



Ben Wolfe
 Managing Broker & Owner
 Larkspur Resident & Larkspur Real Estate Expert



For Sale!

**1988 Lake Drive
 Sterling Pointe, Larkspur
 \$1,295,000**

**4 Bedroom/6 Bathrooms
 Renovated, Elevator,
 Mountain Views
 2.30 Heavily Wooded
 Acres**

2.30 Acres!

Gorgeous 5,207 sq ft walkout ranch perfectly situated on a secluded 2.30 acre wooded lot! This remodeled home features beautiful mountain views, 4 bedrooms, 6 baths and an elevator. The great room showcases 12 ft vaulted ceilings, a 3 sided gas fireplace and lots of picture windows. The gourmet kitchen boasts stainless steel appliances, slab granite counter tops, cherry cabinets and a large walk in pantry. The walkout lower level features distressed pecan floors, 10 foot ceilings, a family room, custom built wet bar and a billiards room.



Just Listed!
 11645 Colony Loop
 Lincoln Creek Village, Parker
 \$630,000

Consistent Winner Of



5280

For Outstanding
 Customer Service!



For Sale!
 1275 Fremont Drive
 Sage Port, Larkspur, \$1,095,000

This beautiful 4,401 finished sq ft ranch home is situated on a 1 acre wooded lot in the desirable Sage Port neighborhood. The great room boasts a floor to ceiling stacked stone fireplace and numerous windows. The kitchen has been fully renovated with quartz countertops and new cabinets. The finished walkout lower level includes 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a second laundry room making this perfect for multi-generational living.

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



"Ben is an amazing realtor. He has provided both buying and selling assistance and each time he does a fantastic job of handling the whole process. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of real estate and what

buyers need. Every time the transactions are quick and painless and we've never had a property sit on the market longer than a few weeks and dozens of showings. He is a born negotiator and I would not work with anyone but Ben Wolfe"

Feedback from Ian Holt

Wolfe Realty Group, Inc.
 Office 303-681-3553
 Cell 303-667-7995
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A walk on the wild side: summertime with Larkspur's critters, the Big Bear eagle saga, and short takes

Susan Peters, Contributor



A bear encounter, up close and personal

An observation of bear behavior: they can open sliding glass doors. More than a few bruins have come through our dog door, but this time a bear flung open our heavy unlocked slider and foraged through the kitchen while we slept. Our guard dogs were oblivious to the intruder. We were fortunate – a toppled counter-top sludge bucket, a spilled tub of dry dog food, some spewed bird seed, but nothing was broken. Some things were missing off the counter, as yet to surface again, and the stinker swiped Jello boxes and left the empties all over our property.

July in Larkspur, with the birds

In mid-July, Rufous hummingbirds literally dive bomb in. They harass the other hummers for a month, then leave their babies behind for another few weeks. July is also the month that fledglings start doing kamikaze missions into windows. [Make your windows safer for birds with these ideas from CornellLab.](#)



And I thought there were only three birds with similar sounding calls: robins, Western tanagers, and black-headed grosbeaks. Add to the list yellow-rumped warblers. Aye yi yi!

The Big Bear eaglets

Sunny and Gizmo are sisters, it somehow has been determined, and they're now bigger than their parents! The girls, seen on the [Friends of Big Bear Valley \(FOBBV\) Bald Eagle Nest cameras in California](#), were late in fledging, which is good, as it gives them more time to grow the tail feathers needed for navigation. Sunny was very graceful on her launch; Gizmo, not so much. She actually fell into her first flight, but recovered, and flew to a nearby tree, where she stayed for the next day. The next few days she spent time flitting from tree to tree while her sister soared with her folks, making loops, and chasing ravens.

Eventually, they all returned to the nest for one last party, never to return, or at least I thought. A big fish showed up. Gizmo, seemingly starved, munched on it for 40 minutes, then snoozed for hours. She was full and safe. Then mom and dad got into a tussle over the remaining fish. By the next morning, all were gone with only glimpses of the kids. I'll wait for the next six months to again watch Jackie and Shadow rebuild their nest and begin mating activities. Jackie's gotten a head start, still bringing sticks to her kempt nest.

continued from previous page

Short Takes

- Henny Penny – sharks are falling from the sky! True, but not to be seen in Larkspur! A hammerhead shark recently interrupted a disk golf game in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. An osprey had dropped it...obviously too big to handle! [Check out this ABC News video to hear more.](#)
- Speaking of sharks, how about that 14-foot great white shark in the Atlantic, the largest male ever seen there? Move over *Jaws*. This dude, named Contender, weighs in at more than 1600 pounds. He was last sighted 20 miles from Cape Hatteras on his way up north for cooler waters and more game. The people of Martha's Vineyard, the setting for *Jaws*, had better be planning to buy a bigger boat! [Track Contender here with OCEARCH.](#)
- As anyone who's taken a long flight knows (me!), sitting still for too long is a major pain. It can also present a serious health hazard, as inactivity can lead to blood clots in leg veins and the lungs. (Again, me!) Yet this risk doesn't affect hibernating bears, which lay still for months at a time. Now researchers know why: Hibernating bears produce less of a protein that researchers just learned helps blood to clot. [Learn more about this discovery, reported here by Scientific American.](#)



That's all, gotta run! Some yellow jackets are ready to meet their maker. Bring out the bait!

Contact: susan@larskpurconsulting.com; 303-725-6868; 2255 Quartz Mountain Drive

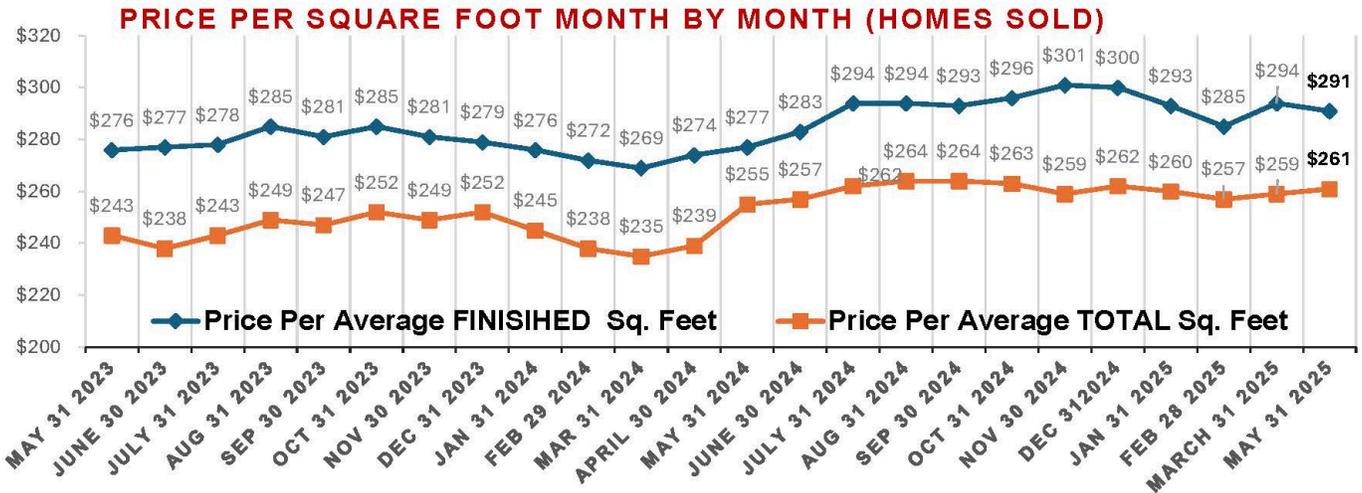




Larkspur Area Real Estate Stats – HOMES SOLD

Homes Currently For-Sale (06/27/2025) ---64 (\$430,000 to \$9,875,000) --- Median \$1,149,750
Average Days on Market --- 82

Homes Currently "Under Contract" ---16 (\$600,000 to \$1,650,000) --- Median \$907,475
Average Days on Market --- 31 **Homes U/C in the past 30-days = 11**



---The charts above represent a 6-month study of home sales ending on the last date of the month indicated. The top 2 and bottom 2 sales have been removed/deleted from each study. This is because very unusual properties can skew the factors that reflect actual market conditions. For example, a property with 100 acres but having a small 600 Sq. Foot house would be something that is simply not "typical". And because one property sells for over \$4 million does not mean that all other properties have gone up in value. Likewise, a property selling under \$250,000 does not mean that all others have gone down in value.

---The above information has been researched from the Metro Denver MLS System (www.REcolorado.com) by Dave Gardner of Results Realty of Colorado, located in the Town of Larkspur, CO. It is believed to be accurate but is NOT guaranteed. Every property will have unique factors affecting value such as location, condition, acreage, quality, size, age, upgrades and features. A thorough in-person assessment by an experienced real estate broker or licensed real estate appraiser is recommended to determine the actual current market value on an individual property.

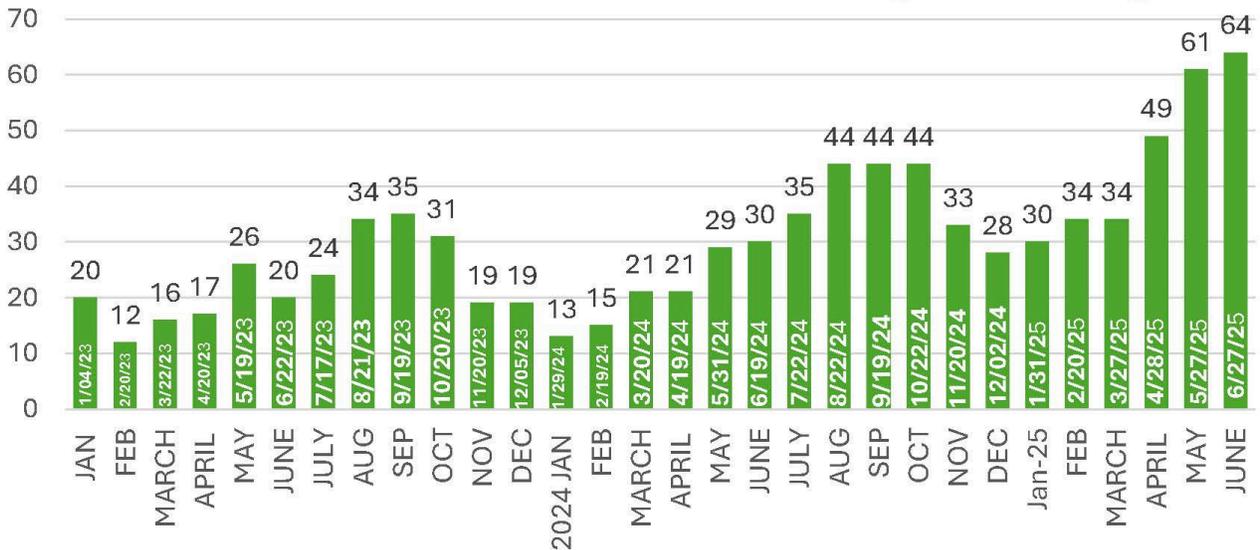


Larkspur Real Estate Stats JUNE 2025

2023/2024/2025 Homes SOLD in Larkspur Month by Month



2023/2024/2025 Homes FOR SALE in Larkspur Month by Month



Results Realty of Colorado is Located on the Main Street of Larkspur
 9164 Spruce Mountain Rd., Larkspur, CO 80118

303-681-1000

DavesResultsTeam@yahoo.com

www.DaveGardnerRealEstate.com



DAVE GARDNER'S Results Realty of Colorado

Office located on the Main Street of Larkspur



FOR SALE
\$1,300,000



View Property Website at
www.5846SouthPikeDrive.com

5846 S Pike Drive - Perry Park

Spacious Custom Ranch-Style home has been extensively remodeled with 5,292 Sq. ft., including a finished Walkout Basement. Features 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, Trex decks and a fenced yard. Great Room concept with a large kitchen, double island and loads of slab granite countertops.

FOR SALE
\$850,000



View Property Website at
www.4515RedRockDrive.com

4515 Red Rock Drive - Perry Park

This Custom 2-story home features 3,678 Sq. feet, 3 bedrooms, Main Floor Primary Suite, 4 baths, a main floor office and a finished garden-level basement. It has been lovingly maintained and is move-in ready.

FOR SALE
\$1,599,900



View Property Website at
www.4586BestRoad.com

4586 Best Road - Greenland

Fully Custom 2-story home on 35-Acres with incredible Views of Pikes Peak, other Mountains and Buttes. It features a charming guest house (ADU) for potential income, plus 2 barns. The property is zoned for horses & livestock. Move-in-Ready!

FOR SALE
\$924,900



View Property Website at
www.8174IncaRoad.com

8174 Inca Road - Perry Park

Welcome to the Foothills of the Colorado Rocky Mountains! BACKS TO OPEN SPACE - VERY PRIVATE! Main Floor Primary Suite and Partial Finished Walkout Basement. 4,763 Square ft. with 5 bedrooms and 3-1/2 baths. Spacious "Great-Room" concept.

SOLD
\$864,900



View Property Website at
www.767tenderfootdrive.com

767 Tenderfoot Dr. - Sage Port

Custom RANCH-STYLE Home features 4,406 total square feet with 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms a private office AND a FOUR-CAR HEATED GARAGE! Main floor Primary Suite plus 2 other main floor bedrooms. Outdoor paved RV Parking.

SOLD
\$810,000



View Property Website at
www.12973MesaViewRoad.com

12973 Mesa View Road - Greenland

Custom Home on 10 Fenced Acres backs to the Greenland Ranch. This home features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths and a finished walkout basement. Fantastic quality Cleary-Brand 2,560 Sq. Foot Metal Barn w/oversized doors at each end, water, electricity plus 3 stalls.



303-681-1000

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LARKSPUR AREA SPECIALIST!

