

A close-up photograph of a tabby cat and its kitten. The adult cat is in the background, and the kitten is in the foreground, both looking towards the camera. They are resting against a tree trunk with rough bark. The lighting is warm, suggesting sunlight filtering through the trees.

LARKSPUR SENTINEL

NOVEMBER 2025

Serving the 80118 community



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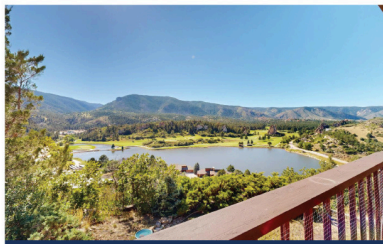
4415 ECHO COURT | RETREAT IN PERRY PARK | JUST LISTED! | OFFERED AT \$700,000



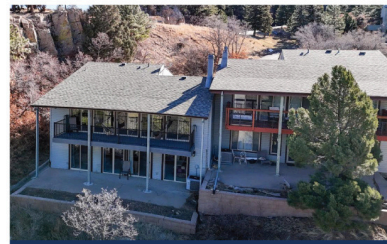
1151 KENOSHA DRIVE | SAGE PORT | OFFERED AT \$1,415,000



7597 MOLAS COURT | STERLING POINTE | SOLD! | \$1,150,000



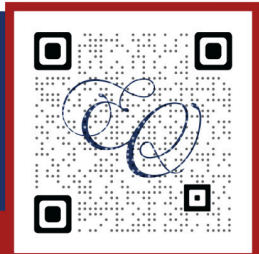
6301 PERRY PARK BLVD, #13 | ECHO HILLS | OFFERED AT \$529,900



6301 PERRY PARK BLVD, #22 | ECHO HILLS | PENDING!

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.

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NOVEMBER 2025 COVER
by: Emily Coates



Scan for the full list
of links or go to
our site under the
month's issue



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A note from the Editors

Larkspur Sentinel

Happy November, Larkspur! The time of year to ceremoniously count our blessings has finally arrived!

Here at the *Larkspur Sentinel*, we're incredibly grateful for YOU, our readers, and we're back this month with a special treat – a print edition! Along with the online edition still available at larkspursentinel.org, we have begun printing our publication again for those of you who enjoy holding your local news in your hands. This first limited print version will be available at a few locations around town including The Spur, the Larkspur Post Office, and Larkspur Town Hall. We will continue to expand print operations for our upcoming issues, but for now, for those of you who want a sneak peek at a printed copy, don't forget to grab one while you're in town.

The November issue is full of the people, places, photos, and stories that make us grateful to call the 80118 our home. Be sure to

learn about Douglas County Search and Rescue's lifesaving role in an important and eye-opening article by Editor Nicole Wegg. Other features this month include an in-depth interview with Deputy Fire Chief Walden by Larkspur Fire Protection District contributor, Wayne Moore, and an exploration of the history of Indigenous peoples in Douglas County from Richard Bangs of the Douglas Land Conservancy. Discover how to protect your garden and landscaping from the local deer population with CSU Extension's John Murgel's informative article, and learn more about an illegal incident of bear hazing that happened here in Larkspur last month, resulting in the need for the animal's euthanization. Sean Dodd, District Wildlife Manager with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, is seeking the public's help in solving this crime.



Perry Park, Fall 2025.
Photo credit: Kim Carlsen

Also this month, find up-to-date news from local agencies including the Town of Larkspur, Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary, Perry Park Metro and Water Districts, Aging Resources of Douglas County, Douglas County Schools, and our regional Larkspur Elementary. An important update on the Crystal Valley Interchange from the Town of Castle Rock is also provided in this month's pages.

Wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving and hoping this finds you preparing a bountiful harvest to celebrate with those you love!

With deepest gratitude,

Kim Carlsen

Kim Carlsen, Co-Editor

Nicole Wegg

Nicole Wegg, Co-Editor

WHAT'S GOING ON?

NOVEMBER 2025

Nov. 4: Larkspur Parks and Recreation Board Meeting 5-6 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

Nov. 5: Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary Meeting 6 p.m. at LFPD Station 161

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

Nov. 11: Larkspur Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer 5:30-7 p.m. at Design Partners, 1704 Lake Drive [INFO](#)

Nov. 12: Larkspur Fire Protection District Board Meeting 6 p.m. at LFPD Station 161 [INFO](#)

Nov. 13: Perry Park Metro District Meeting 6-9 p.m. at Perry Park Country Club [INFO](#)

Nov. 18: Firewise Committee Meeting 9-11 a.m. at LFPD Station 161 [INFO](#)

Nov. 18: Community Barn Project Meet and Greet Meeting 6 p.m. at Larkspur Town Hall [INFO](#)

Nov. 19: Larkspur Planning Commission Meeting 5-6:30 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

Nov. 19: Perry Park Water and Sanitation District Meeting 2 p.m. at 5676 Red Rock Drive [INFO](#)

Nov. 20: Town of Larkspur Public Hearing for 2026 Town Budget 5-6 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

Nov. 20: Larkspur Town Council Regular Meeting 6-8 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

Nov. 22: Help Put Up Lights at Larkspur Park with Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary 10 a.m. at Larkspur Community Park

Nov. 23: PPCC Christmas Bazaar 10am-4pm. 7047 Perry Park Blvd., Larkspur

Nov. 25: Larkspur Water and Sewer Board Meeting 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Town Hall [INFO](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Dec. 6: LES Holiday Bazaar at Larkspur Elementary

Dec. 6: Holiday Magic Happens Tree Lights in Larkspur Community Park [INFO](#)

All dates are 2025 unless otherwise noted



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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.

Soldiers honored at Bataan Death March; Larkspur Free Library reopens

*Sherilyn West, Mayor
Town of Larkspur*

Bataan Death March memorial honors thousands of soldiers


In 1942, thousands of soldiers were forced to march to prisoner of war (POW) camps in the Philippines, where many died or were executed if they fell or faltered. These heroes were recently honored with the Bataan Death March held at Larkspur Community Park.

On October 11, the Honor Bell Foundation took part in this memorial event by tolling its Honor Bell for the fallen. According to [its website](#), the Foundation is “a Colorado-based nonprofit dedicated to honoring the selfless service of those who have served our Nation.” The Honor Bell is “a 1000-pound bronze instrument forged from the legacies of heroic service men and women” that “is tolled at public ceremonies and funeral rites, symbolizing our respect and commemorating our loss.”

Around 100 participants also ran or walked a full or half marathon on the Colorado Front Range Trail to honor the fallen soldiers.



*The Honor Bell tolled to honor thousands of soldiers at the Bataan Death March held at Larkspur Community Park.
Photo credit: Town of Larkspur*



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*Community members attend the Bataan Death March.
Photo credit: Town of Larkspur*

Larkspur Free Library up and running for patrons

The Larkspur Free Library is now scheduled to be open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A big thank you goes out to Amy Ford and Kim Carlsen for taking the reins and scheduling volunteers to reopen the library. With over 40 people wanting to volunteer, it won't be an easy task, but it has gone very well so far. The community response has been overwhelmingly positive with lots of new ideas and plans being discussed.

Upcoming meetings, events, and holiday closures

- November 6:** Town Council Regular Meeting at 6 p.m.
- November 11:** Town Hall closed for Veterans Day
- November 20:** Public Hearing for 2026 Budget at 5 p.m.
- November 20:** Town Council Regular Meeting at 6 p.m.
- November 27:** Town Hall closed for Thanksgiving
- December 6:** Holiday Magic Happens Tree Lighting at Larkspur Community Park at 4 p.m.

Larkspur Free Library open every Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Heroes on the frontline: How Douglas County Search and Rescue answers the call

*Nicole Wegg, Editor
Larkspur Sentinel*

It happens when you least expect it. You're on a hike and accidentally take the wrong trail, steering you deep into the mountains as the sun is setting. An at-risk relative leaves home unannounced and is now unaccounted for. You're out fishing in a high alpine lake, and the weather quickly takes a turn for the worse leaving you stranded. You're climbing a rock face and take a firm step as the rocks crumble below you and your footing is lost.

These are all scenarios that we never want to find ourselves, or the people we love, in, but they can happen in the blink of an eye. Thankfully the Douglas County Search and Rescue Team, Inc. (DCSAR) is on standby, ready to help when the unthinkable happens. Dave Arnett, a former corporate executive, now DCSAR Public Information Officer and Field Director said, "We've all gotten lost before, and DCSAR is privileged to be here to help make what could be the worst day of someone's life, better."

History and Mission

Douglas County Search and Rescue Team, Inc is an all-volunteer non-profit organization (501c3) that was founded in 1998 by Bruce Fosdick and his son, Richard. The mission of DCSAR is to provide search and rescue services, emergency response and community education to Douglas County citizens. DCSAR operates under the authority of the Douglas County Sheriff and partners with law enforcement, fire, EMS teams and other agencies throughout Douglas County.

DCSAR has been fully accredited by the Rocky Mountain region of the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) since 2005. To remain accredited, the teams are tested in the areas of search, high angle technical rescue, scree field evaluation, winter rescue and avalanche operations. Teams who achieve MRA



*After a rescue of a 10-year-old ATV rider at Rampart Range.
Photo Credit: DCSAR*

accreditation are considered the "best of the best" and set an international standard for search and rescue excellence.

DCSAR is activated when a 911 call is routed for certain issues such as climber falls, injured or lost hikers (40-50%), endangered or lost people (30-40%), evidence and weapon searches (5%), and more. They receive an average of 130 calls for service per year and about 70-80 of those calls end up dispatching a team to the field. Each team sent into the field consists of about 25-30 people. There are currently 60 fielded volunteers and another 14 in training.

Teams and tools

DCSAR includes multiple sub-teams including K9, ATV, drone, snowmobile and the technical team (which does both vertical and low-angle technical work), that are each engaged for different types of searches and rescues. They are also implementing a mountain bike team for urban and technical terrain.

The searches they execute are categorized into two groups: urban and wilderness. Urban searches are typically for lost or endangered people such as autistic children or elderly people who could be at risk for things like hypothermia. Wilderness searches and rescues are for things like ATV and dirt bike accidents, climber falls, and lost or injured hikers.

Drones are increasingly being used in nearly every mission to assist the volunteers in searches. They continue to develop special capabilities and use software such as LOC8 to help find people using colors and patterns.

continued from previous page

Arnett and DCSAR also teach others about hiker safety, carrying the proper items and what to do when you get lost. He said that “community education is a big part of what DCSAR does. We want to be able to mitigate risk and help people make the right choices.”

True stories from the field

Recently, on a warm summer day at Devil’s Head, the lead climber of a rock-climbing crew fell, swung into a rock and broke his hip. DCSAR was called out to bring him down in a high angle evacuation and then in a low angle technical carry out that took hours. Thankfully, he recovered.

In December 2024, a family of 4 took off on an ATV adventure at Rampart Range. When it was their 10-year-old’s turn, he happily hopped on, headed out and took a wrong turn ending up lost many miles away from his family, scared and confused. Miraculously, he knew to drive to the top of a hill, found cell service and called his mom and 911. DCSAR was dispatched, used a drone to find him, and executed their first ever drone care package drop including water, a hat, gloves, and food. They were able to relay photos back to his parents, assuring them he was ok as he awaited rescue.

At Indian Creek, north of Rampart Range, many people participate in hiking and mountain biking. This time, a mom and her 2 daughters embarked on a beautiful hike and unfortunately ended up lost. The DCSAR team was called out and searched for them all night--teams covered 11 miles on foot! Thankfully, the lost hikers found a cabin and kept warm until they were rescued.

How to get involved

Volunteering requires significant time investment. New volunteers are required to train for 9 months and must pass a fitness test and skills test on topics such as first aid, navigation, search techniques and gear. Arnett said, “If you want to volunteer in search and rescue, it



*Night training of a search and rescue.
Photo Credit: DCSAR*

is very important to ask yourself if you can commit to the significant time required for this.” If you are over 18 years old, and are interested in volunteering with DCSAR, there is a new member class available most years (the next one will be in fall 2027). Go to the volunteer tab at dcsar.org and complete the form.

Next time you are out simply enjoying the Colorado wilderness on a hike, driving your ATV or fishing in a lake, take a moment to remember the people that voluntarily risk their lives and spend their free time helping those that find themselves in tricky, unexpected and dangerous situations that need rescuing—you never know when it could be you! It’s relieving to know the unsung heroes are waiting to answer the call.

DCSAR is a non-profit organization, and they are committed to providing search and rescue at no cost to the community. Their funding comes from the county, grants and community donations. If you’d like to donate click here: <https://dcsarco.org/donate/>



During a technical rescue training in Rampart RangePhoto Credit: DCSAR

When citizens call, we'll be there: an interview with Deputy Fire Chief Charles Walden on the state of the Larkspur Fire Protection District



*Wayne Moore, Secretary
Larkspur Fire Protection District*

Deputy Fire Chief Charles Walden has been with the fire department for nearly a quarter century, starting as a Volunteer Firefighter. He's responded to quite a few major incidents within the Fire District, but he also knows that to anyone who calls 911, every incident is major! His dry wit, sage wisdom, and frank candor are well known to those who have served with him or passed him on his daily walks with his rescued dogs.

Chief Walden recently retired from his federal government senior management position, plus he retired as a Colonel, having joined the Marines at age 17. The insights he has gained serve as a valuable asset in planning for the future of the Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD).

What do you see as the most meaningful change that has taken place within the LFPD?

Our firefighters' morale is the best I've ever seen. Case in point – we have an extremely low turnover rate in personnel and our staff is happy. Much credit for this goes to the leadership and vision of our Fire Chief, Tim McCawley, but we are a good place to work for many reasons. We've accomplished this by addressing multiple facets of a firefighter's work-life. Foremost, we have improved work-life quality and personal recognition. Next, we brought wages to a competitive level with other fire agencies, yet we stayed within the District's budgetary constraints. And we have really cranked up our training program to focus on the needs of our constituents along with the goals of our staff. It is no exaggeration that training occurs at both fire stations, every day, across all shifts.



*Deputy Fire Chief Charles Walden
Photo credit: LFPD*

What is different now from when you first started as a Volunteer Firefighter?

There are fewer dinosaurs! But seriously, several important changes come to my mind.

First, due to the calls we run on I-25, our firefighters are constantly at a heightened risk of harm due to speeding drivers. About 100,000 car movements occur daily along the interstate within our fire district, and highway officials report that many vehicles travel over 100 mph through our section. While many folks obey state law and move over, many do not – requiring us to strategically place an apparatus in the path of cars to help keep our staff safe. Tragically, two troopers have given their lives in the line of duty in or near our district after being struck by vehicles while out of their cars.

Second, fires are more toxic now. Modern home construction materials are vastly different than the materials of past years, along with the contents of our homes. For example, homes of yesteryear were made of wood and nails, and were able to withstand direct flame exposure while maintaining their integrity and strength. Structures today are substantially constructed using composite materials, and glues are often used in place of nails. Many modern materials emit toxic substances when exposed to fire, and

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homes may lose their structural integrity more readily due to flame exposure. Fortunately, structural fires are uncommon due to modern building codes and other improvements.

What other changes have you seen?

Like much of America, we serve an aging population. Nearly a quarter of our population is over 65 years of age. Around 70 percent of our emergency calls are for medical services, and I joke that we are often an ambulance service that brings 500 gallons of water with us when we respond. And I am often asked why a fire engine accompanies the ambulance on medical calls. The answer is simple: to move our patients safely and to prevent injuries to our firefighters, additional personnel are required to carefully lift and carry folks up and down stairs and around obstructions.

Second, we have greatly expanded the responsibilities and duties of our Fire Marshal. I am proud to note that our district is lucky to employ a Marshal who has many professional and technical qualifications often not found at smaller agencies. With our new focus, I have seen a noticeable increase of safety for both our firefighters and the public. Examples: we are conducting more wildland fire mitigation homeowner requested inspections, we are diligently reviewing building and construction plans, and we have implemented a permit system to address requests for contained fires.

What challenges do you see LFPD facing on the horizon?

There are many, but I will focus on what I consider to be the top two. First, the expense of firefighting equipment has nearly doubled, being at a rate that is far outpacing inflation. For example, a complete ensemble of an individual firefighter's bunker gear (coat, pants, helmets, and boots) costs about \$5,000. And each firefighter is issued two sets so that they may quickly change into the second set to reduce the chances of occupational toxic exposures which can lead to adverse health consequences. Our youngest fire engine is just over four years old, and we bought it for around \$750,000. That same engine now costs \$1.3 million dollars, and will take nearly four years to deliver versus the 18 months it took for the last apparatus. Moreover, an apparatus must be equipped fully with hoses, radios and tools to be effective. This process adds over \$210,000 in cost to the base price of a fire engine.

Second, the recruitment and retention of highly qualified personnel will forever be a challenge for public safety agencies. Our salaries and benefits must fairly compensate our personnel for their levels of education, professional competence, and personal effectiveness. The LFPD has suffered in the past from high levels of staff turnover, but Chief McCawley's focused efforts to keep our compensation structure fair in light of inflation and other factors has represented a huge but welcomed change in how we have continued to move forward as an agency. To minimize the increase of employee health costs, the LFPD participates in a regional consortium of other fire agencies to control costs. Even so, this year we were surprised with a significant uptick in medical costs for our employees but it was an increase that was less than the national average.

Wrapping up, what else would you add?

Citizens of our District can trust that we will be there when they call. Speaking for everyone who wears our badge, we are proud to be YOUR fire department.



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Finding connection and gratitude this Thanksgiving



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

As the holiday season approaches, many of us look forward to gatherings with family and friends, full of conversation, laughter, and gratitude. But for some older adults in our community, the holidays can also bring feelings of loneliness and isolation, especially for those living alone or far from loved ones.

At Aging Resources of Douglas County (ARDC), we believe that no one should feel forgotten during the holidays — or any time of year. Our staff and dedicated volunteers work year-round to make sure older adults stay connected, supported, and valued.

Through our programs like Transportation, Companion Services, and Help at Home, we help older adults maintain their independence and stay engaged with the community. Whether it's a friendly volunteer providing a ride to the grocery store, a regular phone call that brightens someone's day, or help around the

house to make daily life a little easier, each small act adds up to important connection.

This Thanksgiving, we're reminded that gratitude and giving go hand in hand. Volunteering with Aging Resources is one meaningful way to share the holiday spirit. A simple conversation or an afternoon visit can make an incredible difference in the life of an older neighbor.

If you or someone you know could benefit from our services, or if you'd like to volunteer and bring comfort and companionship to others this holiday season, we invite you to reach out.

Together, we can make sure every older adult in Douglas County feels seen, supported, and thankful this season. Contact Aging Resources of Douglas County at 303-814-4300 or www.goARDC.org.



Stock image via Canva

In celebration and remembrance

Larkspur Sentinel

From joyful beginnings to treasured memories, we're honored to share your milestones. Submit yours to larkspursentinel@gmail.com



*Kevan & Savanah Hawkins
09/26/2025 married at their home in Larkspur*

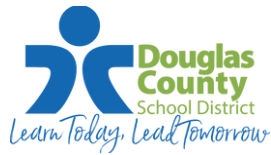
Remembering Cec Sanders
Our Larkspur community and the state of Colorado mourn the loss of Cec Sanders, a dedicated wildlife rehabilitator who devoted nearly 40 years to caring for bears, mountain lions, foxes, bobcats, and more through the Wet Mountain Wild Rehab Center. Cec's compassion and commitment left an incredible legacy in wildlife care. Condolences to her husband, Tom Sanders, as he navigates this difficult time.

Shared with permission from Sarah Heckathorn.



Congratulations to the 2025 Larkspur Recreation League Kickball Champions 2025

DCSD home to 33 National Merit Scholarship semifinalists



Paula Hans, Public Information Officer
Douglas County School District

Douglas County School District (DCSD) is pleased to announce the names of 33 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists, making them part of an elite group representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors. These academically talented students advance in the competition, which awards 6,930 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million.

The goal of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation is to honor the nation's scholastic champions and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence. Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be awarded in the spring and summer of 2026:

- 2,500 National Merit Scholarships
- 830 Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarships
- 3,600 College-Sponsored Merit Scholarships

Finalists will be announced in February, with National Merit Scholarship winners announced in the months to follow. Congratulations to these outstanding DCSD students!

Scholarship Semifinalists

1. Aaron Bell, Mountain Vista High
2. Abigail Bento, Highlands Ranch High
3. Owen Bissell, Rock Canyon High
4. Srikar Buddhineni, Chaparral High
5. Kendall Chestnut, Castle View High
6. Nakul Choudhary, Rock Canyon High
7. Aiden Dixon, Highlands Ranch High
8. Carter FitzGerald, Mountain Vista High
9. Luke Houston, Rock Canyon High
10. Colton Howell, Douglas County High
11. Kathleen Keesey, Rock Canyon High
12. Arshia Koul, Rock Canyon High
13. Alex Lien, Mountain Vista High
14. Aiden McCullum, Mountain Vista High
15. Unnati Mishra, Rock Canyon High
16. Aanya Naik, Rock Canyon High
17. Nadhi Naval, Rock Canyon High
18. Joshua Neill, Castle View High
19. Caleb Olson, Mountain Vista High
20. Andrew Perry, Douglas County High
21. Ashley Pytte, Mountain Vista High
22. Spencer Radetsky, Rock Canyon High
23. Charles Raitsev, Rock Canyon High
24. Dhriti Ramesh, Rock Canyon High
25. Cameron Sarvis, Legend High
26. James Schick, Chaparral High
27. Gabrian Scoville, STEM School
28. Kailash Shenoy, Rock Canyon High
29. Nicolas Stuart, Rock Canyon High
30. WeiAnna Taylor, STEM School
31. Ian Weiner, Rock Canyon High
32. Saanvi Yadav, Chaparral High
33. Hannah Zhang, Rock Canyon High

Larkspur Free Library

November Hours

Wednesdays: 10 am - 3 pm
November 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Saturdays: 10 am - 3 pm
November 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

Stop by for a new-to-you read, CD, DVD or puzzle!
Your kind donations are also always gladly accepted!

News from Larkspur Elementary School



Kaylin Sanford, Registrar and Attendance Secretary
Larkspur Elementary School

Larkspur Elementary is buzzing with excitement as we celebrate our students' achievements and look forward to a season filled with community events and togetherness!

Veterans Day Assembly

Monday, November 10 | 10:00 AM

We invite all veterans to join us for a heartfelt Veterans Day Assembly honoring their service. Our students have prepared songs, readings, and special presentations to express their gratitude and respect. Following the assembly, veterans are warmly invited to stay for a Veterans Luncheon hosted by our school community.

Open House

Tuesday, November 18 | 4:30–5:30 PM

Families and community members are invited to our Open House to explore classrooms, meet our amazing staff, and learn more about the engaging programs that make Larkspur Elementary such a special place for children to learn and grow.

International Harvest Festival

Friday, November 21 | 1:30–2:30 PM

We are thrilled to host our first-ever International Harvest Festival, a schoolwide celebration of community, culture, and creativity. Each grade level will showcase a unique contribution, from international crafts and poetry to music, dance, and storytelling. This joyful afternoon will bring together students, families, and the community to honor global connections and shared learning.

Superhero CMAS Celebration

Friday, November 21 | 2:30–3:30 PM

Immediately following the festival, we invite all families, students, and community members to join us in the Larkspur Elementary gym for our Superhero CMAS Celebration. We are so proud of our Bobcat students, who have worked hard to achieve

excellence. This year, our school has earned the John Irwin School of Excellence Award for the first time and received the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award for the second year in a row. Join us for an afternoon of fun, music, and community spirit as we celebrate these incredible accomplishments together.

Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, December 6 | 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

We're looking forward to our festive Holiday Bazaar, featuring over 65 vendors, food trucks, family fun, and a special visit from Santa Claus. This event is free and open to the public, offering a perfect opportunity to shop for unique gifts and enjoy the holiday spirit. Be sure to stop by before heading to the park for the town's tree lighting!

Larkspur Elementary continues to shine thanks to the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community. We're so proud of all we've accomplished together and look forward to seeing everyone at these wonderful upcoming events!

A colorful poster for the Superhero CMAS Celebration. The text reads: "YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR SUPERHERO CMAS CELEBRATION" in large, bold letters. Below that, it says "FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2025 2:30-3:30 PM LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY GYM". The poster also features two award medals: the "JOHN IRWIN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE" award for 2025 and the "GOVERNOR'S DISTINGUISHED IMPROVEMENT" award for 2024 and 2025. The text continues: "Join us as we celebrate our students' hard work and success! WE'RE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY HAS RECEIVED BOTH THE JOHN IRWIN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR 2025 -AND- THE GOVERNOR'S DISTINGUISHED IMPROVEMENT AWARD FOR 2024 AND 2025". At the bottom, it says "COME ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF FUN, MUSIC, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT! FAMILIES, STUDENTS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE ALL INVITED TO CELEBRATE THIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT TOGETHER!". The poster is decorated with illustrations of diverse children in superhero costumes.



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



CETUSA
Council for Educational Travel, USA



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
Nov. 9 - Congregational mtg. 9:00-12:00

St. Philip in the Field church was built 1872 and is surrounded by Bear Canon Cemetery, where generations of West Plum Creek families have been buried.

DCSO launches Blue Envelope Program

Deborah Takahara

Douglas County Sheriff Office



The Douglas County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce that we are the latest agency to roll out the Blue Envelope Program.

This free initiative is designed to support safer interactions with law enforcement by providing deputies with important information about someone with a disability or who may need additional assistance.

How it works: When a deputy conducts a traffic stop, a person can hand over a Blue Envelope containing copies of their driver's license, proof of insurance, registration, and any other relevant information. The envelope can also include details about verbal or communication needs, or other accommodations. This allows deputies to provide the support and understanding each individual may require.

The Blue Envelope Program envelopes will be available for pick-up at:

- Douglas County Sheriff's Office:
4000 Justice Way, Castle Rock, CO
- Highlands Ranch Substation:
9250 Zotos Dr, Highlands Ranch, CO
- S. Metro Fire Rescue HQ:
9195 E. Mineral Ave. Centennial, CO



This program helps ensure that interactions with law enforcement are safe, clear, and respectful for everyone.

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

Bear illegally hazed in Larkspur, CPW seeks information from the public



Sean Dodd, District Wildlife Manager
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is seeking information about a bear that was shot and severely injured with a pellet gun around the week of October 11. The bear had to be euthanized by Parks and Wildlife due to injuries sustained from the pellet gun. This is believed to have occurred in the Sage Port area of Larkspur.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife would also like to remind Larkspur residents that hazing bears with a pellet gun or a BB gun is illegal and not a proper hazing method. Please contact the Denver Colorado Parks and Wildlife Service Center at 303-291-7227 for information to reduce bear conflicts. Residents of Larkspur live in bear habitat and need to live responsibly in bear country. This includes removing attractants and not using inappropriate hazing techniques that could lead to dangerous encounters with wildlife.

Anyone with information about this crime against wildlife can make a report to Operation Game Thief by phone at 1-877-265-6648 or via email at game.thief@state.co.us. CPW's Operation Game Thief program is a Wildlife Crime Stoppers organization, and informants can remain anonymous if reported through Operation Game Thief. This can also be reported to the Denver Colorado Parks and Wildlife Service Center at 303-291-7227 or to Colorado Wildlife Officer Sean Dodd (720) 930-7762 or via email sean.dodd@state.co.us.



A bear was illegally hazed with a pellet gun in October. The public is being asked for assistance in solving the crime. Photo credit: Sean Dodd



FEATURED COLORADO PROPERTIES






Colorado Luxury Life Bonnie Sells Colorado Brokered by eXp Realty.LLC

Bonnie Schwam Broker Associate

719-651-2916

Bonnie@coloradoluxurylife.com

Not intended as a solicitation if working with another broker



*Holiday
Magic
Happens*



Gave the Date...

Larkspur Park Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 6th | 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Want to Decorate a Tree?

Be a part of the Holiday Tree Lighting Event by Sponsoring a Tree! Just select an available tree in the Larkspur Park to sponsor and decorate selected tree with lights.

Tree Application & Decorating Instructions



PLEASE TEXT PEGGY WHALEN @ 720-217-3478
Your Selected Tree Number

On the town: Local social events

Larkspur Sentinel

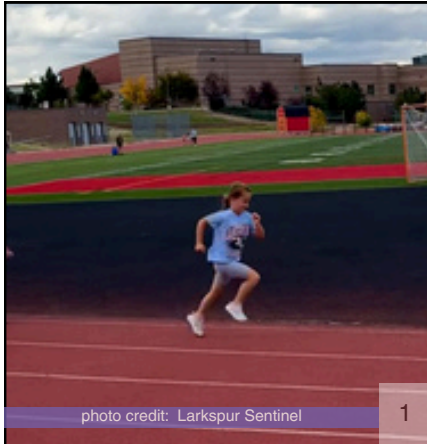


photo credit: Larkspur Sentinel 1



photo credit: Megan Jones 6



photo credit: John Manka 9



photo credit: Becca Greer 2



photo credit: Megan Jones 4



photo credit: Lisa Geisler-Van Antwerp 7



photo credit: Becca Greer 10



photo credit: Becca Greer 3



photo credit: Larkspur Sentinel 5



photo credit: Lisa Geisler-Van Antwerp 8

Photo Captions: (1, 2, 3, 10) Larkspur Landsharks Running Club Races. (4) Decker Jones with his team, Rapids Elite Team, Age 10. (5) PACCT Board Members meeting. (6) Brayden Jones with Rapids Elite Team, Age 12. (7 & 8) Ladies of Larkspur Hike and Dinner Gatherings (9) Larkspur Chamber and B.O.B Castle Rock Mixer at Jellystone.

Wild & Wonderful: Images through our readers lens

Fall in love with Larkspur
Larkspur Sentinel

Send us your pictures to larkspursentinel@gmail.com



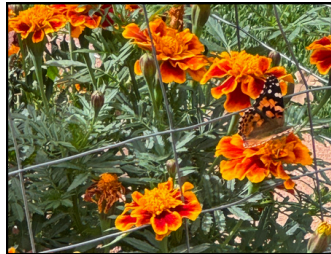
Still blooming taken by: Sheila Niemeier



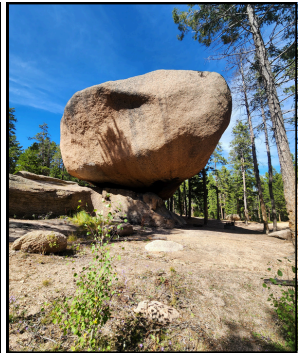
Pictures taken by: Emily Coates



Picture by: Brian Arthurs via FB
Larkspur Neighbor to Neighbor Page



Picture by: Stephanie Y. Deininger



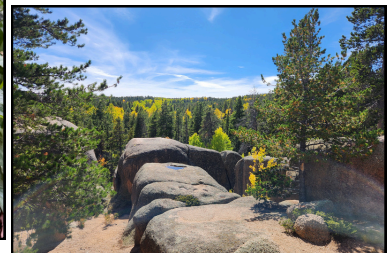
Pictures By: Richard Dodd of Perry Park



Taken by: Michael Riebau



Picture by: Stephanie Y. Deininger



**Window Washing
Screen Cleaning & Repair**

**Free Quotes!
(720)821-0588**



Locally Owned and Operated

Scoff in the face of deer



John Murgel, Extension County Specialist,
Horticulture and Natural Resources
Colorado State University Extension Office

One of the attractions of living in a rural or semi-rural part of Colorado is being able to see wildlife, including large wildlife, right outside one's door or kitchen window. These scenic visitors, though, can become one of the most exasperating of garden challenges one can face in a place like Larkspur. Deer are at the top of the list. Animals that at first inspired wonder and delight become less welcome as a commensurate amount of the landscaping disappears. Winter can see deer damage spike, as food resources become scarce. Deer are primarily browsers rather than grazers, making trees and shrubs especially vulnerable. Choice perennials, though, especially when first flushing growth, are happily eaten as well.

If you've ever despaired of gardening in deer country, you're not alone. A few options are out there that can help you recover some of those pleasant feelings you had when you first saw a deer out the window.

1. Exclusion

For preventing damage from deer and all manner of other wildlife, exclusion is the gold standard. For deer, exclusion can take the form of perimeter fencing, fencing around individual shrubs and trees, bud-caps, or cages for smaller perennials. A deer fence should be at least seven feet tall in order to work. Typical deer fences are eight feet high, just to be safe. Fences should be made of sturdy wire, wood, masonry, or other materials without large gaps – in other words, in addition to looking peculiar, a seven-foot-high split rail fence will not be effective. Cages around individual trees and shrubs can be a better option, particularly when neighborhood landscaping regulations limit the height of fences.

Smaller plants or portions of plants can be protected with less monumental structures. Paper or cardboard bud-caps can be used to protect the dormant buds of deciduous trees and shrubs during the winter, but need to be removed during the summer months to allow for growth. These can be purchased or made at home, and are typically attached with staples.

Perennials can be protected with wire cages that cover the plant during the vulnerable stage. Temporary cages can be made of chicken wire or hardware cloth. For perennials that need long-term protection or to improve garden appearance, consider using stylized cages, like repurposed wire baskets or even bird cages, firmly anchored to the soil around the perennial, for a bit of functional garden art.

2. Repellents

Many products are sold and said to repel deer. Two active ingredients in particular have been shown in multiple studies to be the most effective: putrescent whole eggs (available in brands like Liquid Fence®) and sheep fat (available in brands like Trico®). Repellents only work when deer have other food options and when the plants to be protected are treated directly, according to label instructions. In other words, you can't spray a perimeter line with repellent and expect it to work. The fewer plants are protected with repellents, the better the repellents tend to work. Even so, in areas where food is scarce, deer find a way to get past their disgust – it beats starving!



A mule buck explores the local landscape.
Photo credit: John Murgel

3. Deer-resistant plants

Hungry deer, or even curious deer, will nibble almost anything, so nothing is considered to be completely "deer-proof". Plants with fuzzy and/or aromatic foliage tend to be less palatable – look for things like sages (*Salvia*), black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia*), and blanketflower (*Gaillardia*) to name a few. Bulbs like daffodils and grape hyacinth (*Muscari*) should be avoided, whereas tulips are highly preferred. Many mail-order nurseries indicate deer-resistance in catalogs, and [Plant Select®](#), a Colorado State University partner organization, has a list of 115 commercially available plants that are not often browsed – searchable from the main page. For additional information on this topic, also see [Preventing Deer Damage](#).

Helping our neighbors in need this holiday season

*Erin Keefe Feinner, Principal's Secretary,
Larkspur Elementary School*
*Lisa Walker, Secretary,
Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary*



Stock image via Canva

It's November, and we're closing in on the holidays. Get into the spirit by helping support local families in need! Needs are higher this year than in previous years; there are currently between ten to fifteen identified families with needs. Please consider joining with Larkspur Elementary School, Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary, and Larkspur Fire Protection District to make the 2025 holiday season bright for our neighbors.

This time every year, Larkspur Elementary School helps identify families who need assistance. Erin Keefe Feinner assembles a list of needs for families that includes sizes for clothing and winter gear, gift requests, and other special family needs. Local individuals or community organizations, like the Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary, sign up to supply needed items. Larkspur Elementary will also have a Giving Tree at the Larkspur Park Tree Lighting on December 6 with tags containing toys, activities, and clothing requests for children in need.

LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR
★ Local ★ Handmade ★ Crafts ★ Gifts ★
DECEMBER 6 10AM-4PM
LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
60+ Vendors
SANTA
Food Trucks
FUN!!
FREE ADMISSION

Here's how to help:

- Sign up using the Sign Up Genius links below for one or both of the lists:
 - [Winter gear needs](#) - Please deliver items by November 14.
 - [Holiday gift needs](#) - Please deliver items by December 15.
- Watch for specific lists of needed items posted to the [Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary Facebook Group page](#) and on the Giving Tree at the Larkspur Park on December 6, Tree Lighting Day!
- Donate gift cards: gasoline, grocery, haircuts, bowling, movies, top-golf, mini-golf, passes to the zoo, restaurants, etc. These families typically don't have budgets for necessities, much less fun activities for the kids!

Please drop off marked donations at Fire Station 161, 9414 South Spruce Mountain Road, or at Larkspur Elementary, 1103 Perry Park Avenue, for distribution to the families. Families in need remain anonymous.

Special day recognizes indigenous people



Richard Bangs, DLC Board Member
Douglas Land Conservancy

Douglas Land Conservancy honors the Indigenous peoples who have stewarded the lands we now help protect. As we care for more than 28,000 acres under conservation easement, we recognize that these landscapes have deep cultural, ecological, and spiritual significance to the original stewards of this region. Today and every day, we strive to uphold their example of deep respect and connection to the land as we work to preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of our community.

Many tribes traveled through this area on hunting parties and made their homes here. As they did, they tried to leave the land much as they found it, as it provided game and shelter needed for survival.

Many along the Front Range recognized and honored the existence and contributions of the Indigenous people of Colorado and Douglas County who came to this land before the Europeans by celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day on Oct 13. Boulder officially adopted the holiday in 2016 through a resolution promoting the recognition of Indigenous presence in public spaces and resources. Denver also recognized the day in 2016 with a city council vote. Douglas County has not recognized Indigenous Peoples' Day as special holiday.

In 2021, United States President Joseph Biden issued a proclamation recognizing the day as a special event, although not as a national holiday.

Evidence, prehistoric and recent, proves people lived in Douglas County at least nearly as far back as the last ice age in a continual coming and going looking for good hunting grounds and places to shelter from cold winters.

In northwestern Douglas County is Lamb Spring, an archaeological site that reveals the bones of

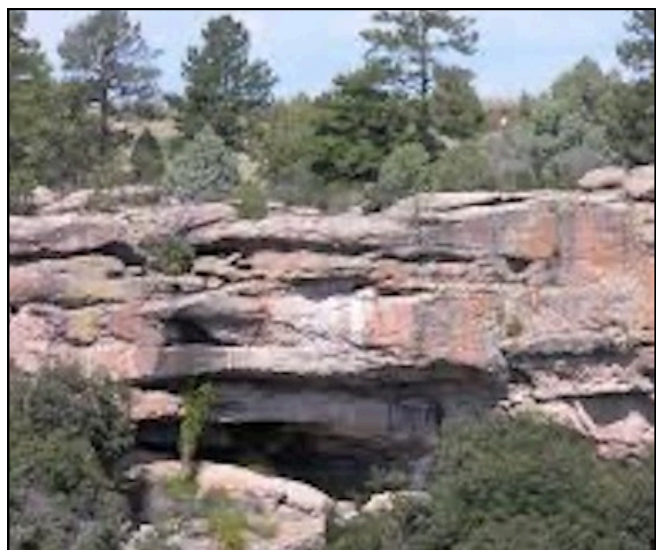
prehistoric mammoth, horse, camel and bison. Among the bones were artifacts left by humans that indicate people hunted and camped around the spring for the past 9,000 years and possibly much longer.

Two and a half miles south of Franktown is the Franktown Cave, a prehistoric archaeological site in a large rock shelter that contained artifacts from prehistoric occupations over 8,000 years. Some of the findings include rare perishable artifacts manufactured from hide, wood and fiber, and plant material. The occupation of Douglas County by Native Americans continued through the early history of the area to the present day.

A study by E. Steve Cassells, states the Ute tribe and the Apache were frequent visitors to the Front Range in the early 1700s, the Ute from west of the Front Range and the Apache from the plains.

Between 1700 and 1750 the Comanche began to push the Apache south and by 1820, according to Cassells, they had been pushed out of Colorado. The Ute was still dominate west of the Front Range and made frequent visits to Douglas County.

By 1820 the Arapaho and Cheyenne were moving into Colorado, pushed south by the Sioux after being pushed westward from the Great Lakes area by white settlement.



The Franktown Cave, inhabited by Native Americans as far back as 8,000 years. Photo Credit: DLC

continued from previous page

They pushed the Comanche south and by the late 1870s the Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes dominated the eastern plains of Colorado and Douglas County. They had frequent exchanges with the Ute who still used the Front Range of Colorado as hunting grounds.

As more and more settlers, gold seekers and explorers pushed into eastern Colorado, the Native American tribes were placed on reservations and battled with United States and Colorado forces. They were moved from place to place as treaties were violated, and white populations became dominate.



Native American artifacts are still found on hikes through Douglas County open space. This rock shows signs of being tooled. Photo Credit: DLC

But there is still an active presence in Douglas County of the Native American culture. On 70 acres of Daniels Park, a Denver owned park, stands the Tall Bull Memorial Grounds, reserved for Native Americans for ceremonies and activities.

Denver to set aside the parcel in 1977 for a consortium of organizations. It became known as the Tall Bull Memorial Council.

Tall Bull was a major Southern Cheyenne Chief, war chief and Dog Soldier leader. In 1864 approximately 500 people were following him in eastern Colorado, western Kansas and Nebraska. He was shot and killed in the 1869 Battle of Summit Springs in Colorado by Major Frank North, leader of the Pawnee Scouts.

So, as you travel about the county, just remember that your footprints are just the latest that have left marks in this area that has been occupied and visited by indigenous people for up to 13,000 years. Trend lightly.

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

★ *Perry Park Country Club* ★

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Come shop for a variety of home-made gifts for loved ones (or yourself!) and support local artists & crafts-people!

Door prize raffles drawn throughout the day!

STILL ACCEPTING VENDOR APPLICATIONS UNTIL NOV. 10TH!

Email mleland@perryparkcc.com for more info!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 10AM-4PM

PERRY PARK COUNTRY CLUB - 7047 PERRY PARK BOULEVARD, LARKSPUR

PPMD meeting notes & updates

Keith Worley, Secretary

Perry Park Metropolitan District



The meeting began with Director Worley notifying the Board that a resident was concerned about the possible use of herbicides in Gillon Pond and he also met with two residents that are concerned about speeding on Red Rock Drive and that no follow up has been done.

Director's Items

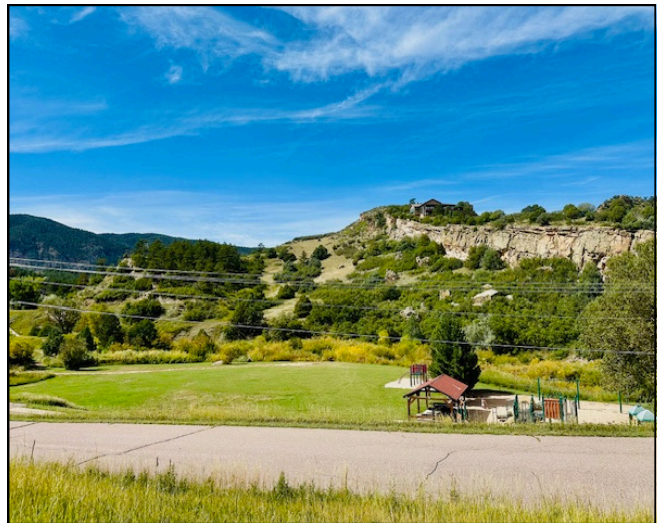
Director Baumann noted that the Board decided to remove the Highway 105 fence without a contractor and requested an action plan and timeline for removal. It was suggested that Director Baumann coordinate the fence removal.

Committee Reports

Firewise Committee - Director Worley stated he would send the updated FRWRM grant postcard, after the design is updated. Director Worley expressed concern about the cost of the fire pond work and noted that alternatives would be explored. He also noted the District is waiting for feedback from the Fire Department and would be seeking funding sources. Ms. Diana noted the website now includes FRWRM grant information and gave details of the reimbursement process.

Parks and Open Space Committee

- **Entry Way (Subcommittee)** - Director Mulbach notified everyone that the Committee had received higher-than-expected quotes for the project and that it would be postponed until spring. He stated the Committee is addressing concerns from the Douglas Land Conservancy.
- **Gilloon Pond (Subcommittee)** - Director Baumann presented the proposed scope of work for the inspection and evaluation of Gilloon Pond by an engineer.



View of Wauconda Park facing Southwest.

Photo Credit: Nicole Wegg

- **Pet waste at Wauconda Park** - Director Mulbach notified the Board that he had received the pet station and would be installing it at Wauconda Park. Discussion was had about the two proposed quotes for pet station maintenance and insurance requirements for District vendors. Director Mulbach stated he would communicate with Director Lisa Van Antwerp about insurance.
- **Perry Park Metropolitan District Design Aesthetic Proposal** - Director Mulbach presented the aesthetic proposal and stated that Board Member input had been incorporated into it. Moved to approve the proposal, with the understanding that it may be modified from time to time with Board approval. Motion passed unanimously. Note: This will only apply to PPMD projects.
- **Wauconda Park Report** - Director Mulbach obtained three bids for the work recommended in the Wauconda Park Annual Playground Inspection Report. He stated he would provide recommendations to the Board at a future Board Meeting.
- Director Worley reported on the **beaver damage** and risk of overflow into the old headgate pipe under Red Rock Drive that could result in road failure. Water level maintained at spillway elevation. Score: Worley 15, Beaver 1.

continued from previous page

Events and Activities Committee

- President Hill stated the next community event would be the **Winter Solstice Bonfire** and the **installation of lights at the entryway**. The Board may have to purchase more lights. The bonfire event has been added to the district’s insurance policy as a covered event.
- Director Brickweg stated that **fireworks are confirmed for July 3, 2026**. President Hill requested a contract for the fireworks show but contract is not available yet.

Financial Matters

- **Review and consider acceptance of August 31, 2025 Unaudited Financial Statements** - Director Worley moved to approve the unaudited financials as presented; seconded by Director Brickweg. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Review and consider approval of Payables through September 11, 2025-** Ms. Diana presented the payables for the period. Directors Worley and Mulbach notified the Board that they met with the Perry Park Country Club and confirmed that there was no duplication of services with Larkspur Outdoor Maintenance. Reviewed amended payables total of \$36,790.43. Director Brickweg moved to

approve as amended; seconded by Director Worley. Motion passed unanimously.

Management Matters

- Ms. Diana presented a quote to remediate Board video recordings for ADA compliance. District Management advised that the recordings must be removed from the website and that the YouTube channel video recordings must be deactivated without remediation. The Board agreed. Director Baumann inquired about meeting minute details. President Hill addressed. Director Worley noted the district's transparency through offering virtual meetings. Director Brickweg moved to consider the meeting recordings a product of WSDM Managers; seconded by President Hill. Motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. Diana requested that a meeting date be set for the budget hearing. The Board decided to schedule the budget hearing for the November 13 meeting. Director Brickweg requested that Committee chairs provide items the committees would like to budget for to him and Director Baumann.

Next Regular Meeting scheduled: November 13, 2025, at 6 p.m.

Local Resource: 80118 Non Profits

Updated as of October 2025 - send updates to larkspursentinel@gmail.com

Larkspur Veterans Monument

A monument by local Larkspur artists, landscaper, & craftsman in honor of all veterans past & present. 501(c)(3). (303) 681-2324

Zoology Foundation

A 501(c)(3) animal sanctuary in Larkspur focused on education and the human animal connection. info@zoologyfoundation.org

Larkspur Free Library

A free community library with books, movies, games, and puzzles for all ages. Contact (303) 681-2324

Larkspur Elementary PACCT

Parents helping LES families with supplies, clothing, & groceries. 501(c) (3). lespacct@gmail.com

Ladies of Larkspur

LOL provides opportunities for social interaction, recreational activities & community enrichment. 501(c)(7) larkspurladies1@gmail.com

Team Lacey

Dedicated to Women’s Cancer Awareness. 501(c)(3) Contact Peggy Whalen (720) 217-3478

Larkspur Food Pantry

Local food pantry brought by LVFA & Larkspur Church. gethelp@Larkspur.church

Larkspur Historical Society

A group providing education and access to historic sites while supporting preservation projects. 501(c)(3). Larry (303) 681-3537

Larkspur Volunteer Fire Auxiliary

The LVFA is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to raise money to purchase equipment & provide training for the firefighters. infolvfa@gmail.com

Perry Park Blanket Brigade

A quilting group making and donating lap and crib-size quilts to people in need. Cindy Hotaling cjaspsjr@yahoo.com

Perry Park Water and Sanitation District news



Brian Arthurs, Director
Perry Park Water & Sanitation District

“Collaborative partnerships form when utilities and community groups bring solutions to the table along with problems that need addressing.” - Katherine Baer

District welcomes newly formed Perry Park Water Together community group

At the October 15 Perry Park Water and Sanitation District (PPWSD) Board meeting, Perry Park Water Together (PPWT), a dedicated volunteer organization of residents, requested that two PPWSD Board members volunteer to meet with their committees to ensure open communication and continuous progress updates. The Board agreed to the request and warmly welcomed the group, expressing appreciation for the group’s dedication and help. The volunteers of PPWT recognize the considerable time and effort the Board puts into managing the District, and emphasize that they understand the challenges are complex and they want to be part of the solution.

September Board Meeting highlights

The PPWSD Board held its regular monthly meeting on September 17. The Board was asked to consider holding two to four meetings per year after business hours. Other highlights from the meeting include:

- **Waucondah Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) funding:** The Board continued to discuss financing options for the essential Waucondah WWTP improvements, currently estimated at \$9.2 million.
- **Sageport Radium Removal Project:** Good news! Following an analysis by the District Engineer and Operations Manager, the estimated cost for the Radium Mitigation Project was reduced by \$1 million by modifying the building footprint and piping. The Board confirmed that the dedicated radium mitigation fee will be removed once the project is fully funded.



Stock image via Canva

- **Smart Meters trial:** The trial is ongoing, but not without challenges. Nine of the ten test meters have been installed.
- **2026 budget:** The process for establishing the 2026 Budget is underway with final adoption planned for mid-December. The Board unanimously approved electronic payments totaling \$206,674.64. The revision of the District’s Rules and Regulations is progressing.
- **Rates:** Customers expressed concern over the recent rate increase and a rumored future increase.
- **Long-term planning:** Customers inquired about the long-term Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The community was encouraged to view the Master Plan on the District website.
- **Water supply:** The Board reassured the community that the District is in a strong position regarding water rights.
- **Smart Meter advantages:** It was noted that Smart Meters will enable monthly billing, giving customers earlier alerts to costly leaks. In an effort to increase community involvement.

Keep an eye on [the District website](#) for the most up-to-date information and approved minutes.

Perry Park Water Together Community Committee holds public input meeting

Perry Park Water Together

The Perry Park Water Together Community Committee held its first public input meeting on October 3 at the Larkspur Fire Department, drawing more than 70 residents from across Perry Park, Sageport, Perry Park East, and Sandstone neighborhoods. The discussion focused on ensuring the long-term reliability, quality, and affordability of drinking water and wastewater services provided by the Perry Park Water & Sanitation District (PPWSD).

According to the District, an estimated \$32.4 million in infrastructure projects will be needed over the next several years to maintain compliance and update aging systems. These costs will significantly affect all ratepayers, making transparency and communication especially important as planning moves forward.

The purpose of the community committee is to foster collaboration between residents and the District Board by gathering public input, identifying priorities, and promoting transparency around infrastructure planning, budgeting, and communication.

Following the committee's presentation of community priorities and recommendations at the October 15 Board meeting, the PPWSD Board agreed to designate two board members to meet regularly with the committee. This step marks meaningful progress toward a cooperative, solutions-focused dialogue between residents and District leadership.

The next PPWSD Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12 at 2 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend in person or log in remotely to stay informed and engaged.

To participate in the ongoing community poll or learn more about the committee's efforts, visit perryparkwatertogether.com.



Building community.
Defending democracy.
Right here in Larkspur.

At Larkspur4Democracy, we're your neighbors
—organizing to protect democracy, and take
action in Douglas County and beyond.

Learn more:
Larkspur4Democracy.org
OR
info@larkspur4democracy.org

NOVEMBER 2025 IN LARKSPUR HISTORICAL LAND

October was Larkspur Historical Society's (LHS's) last month of the year for "formal" history walks and programs. However, we still have one history lesson yet for our Friday morning November 14, 10AM meeting at the *Spur of the Moment!* Our monthly meetings are always open to the public. The History Lesson is always at the beginning of the meeting and, afterward, you can either leave or stay for the meeting. Come join us! November's lesson, see below, is a really good lesson that will be presented by Rodger Greer.

Juan María de Rivera's 1765 Expeditions into Colorado



A fascinating look at Juan María de Rivera's 1765 expeditions into Colorado, the first documented Spanish exploration from New Spain into Southwest Colorado. These journeys penetrated territory that was off-limits due to hostilities with Utes and Comanches and the barrier of the San Juan Mountains, leaving the river names we know today.

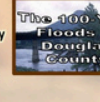


A Review of our 2025 History Lessons & Programs & Walks...

Larkspur Historical Society has had a great 2025! Now we are planning for 2026 activities ...for which you will get an early insight in our December Sentinel advertisement. Below is a brief rundown of our public activities in 2025.

Public Programs

- History Lessons**
- President's Message
 - D.C.'s One-room Schoolhouses
 - 1907's Cheesman Park
 - '65 Flood in Larkspur
 - Camp Amache
 - Early Roads of Douglas County
 - D.C. Family Roots
 - + Jaun Rivera's Expeditions, (above)



Larkspur's Spruce Mountain Road Walks

Two Spruce Mountain Road history walks through Larkspur ...learning about bygone days of the town during late eighteenth and early twentieth century.

Let us know if you enjoyed these 2025 activities on Facebook and watch December's Sentinel to see how our activities for 2026



Larkspur Historical Society

The voice of history of southern Douglas County & Divide Country



Purple spaces are available for social event and non profit ads submitted by nonprofit groups. All parties are welcome to contribute, just send us your details via email at larkspursentinel@gmail.com

"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



<p>Sold!</p> <p>1988 Lake Drive Sterling Pointe, Larkspur \$1,225,000</p> <p>4 Bedroom/6 Bathrooms Renovated, Elevator, Mountain Views 2.30 Heavily Wooded Acres</p>	 <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold; text-shadow: 2px 2px 0px black;">Just Sold!</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Under Contract!
 7113 & 7119 Echo Hills Club Rd
 Perry Park, Larkspur
 \$1,094,000

Consistent Winner Of



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For Sale!

1275 Fremont Drive
 Sage Port, Larkspur, \$1,085,000

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



"We first met Ben when we purchased our Larkspur home in 2014. He represented the sellers but became a kind resource as we figured out mountain living. In our 10 years in Colorado, he would go on to help us purchase a home for

Mom and later sell it. His expertise, pricing strategy, negotiation skills and representation were invaluable. When we decided to relocate from Colorado, there was only one person we trusted to sell our home. In an uncertain real estate market, we could not have asked for a better partner. He answered every question and responded quickly when we needed him. I cannot imagine a better experience for a real estate transaction."

Feedback from Kevin and Cherron Davis

Wolfe Realty Group, Inc.
 Office 303-681-3553
 Cell 303-667-7995
 Ben@DiscoverLarkspur.com
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Crystal Valley Interchange project update

Town of Castle Rock



The Crystal Valley interchange project – a top transportation priority for the region – is progressing, with bridge construction over Interstate 25 and BNSF Railway, along with relocating the West Frontage Road.

Over the summer, crews focused on constructing the road on the new Crystal Valley Parkway bridge and foundation work for the future on- and off-ramps.

The project is on track to reach a major milestone by the end of this year when crews open east-west traffic on the new Crystal Valley Parkway bridge over I-25 and will connect it to neighboring roads in coordination with Douglas County. The Town will provide more details and traffic pattern information ahead of the bridge opening. Once the new traffic pattern begins, residents are encouraged to plan ahead and allow extra time to adjust to the changes.

Opening the bridge to east-west traffic will allow crews to permanently close the existing West Frontage Road south of Yucca Hills Road to construct the new southbound I-25 on- and off-ramps at the new Crystal Valley Parkway interchange where the current West Frontage Road sits.

Work on the east side of I-25 continues as crews construct a retaining wall between I-25 and East Frontage Road to support the future northbound I-25 on-ramp.

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.



Crystal Valley Parkway bridge over I-25 in September 2025

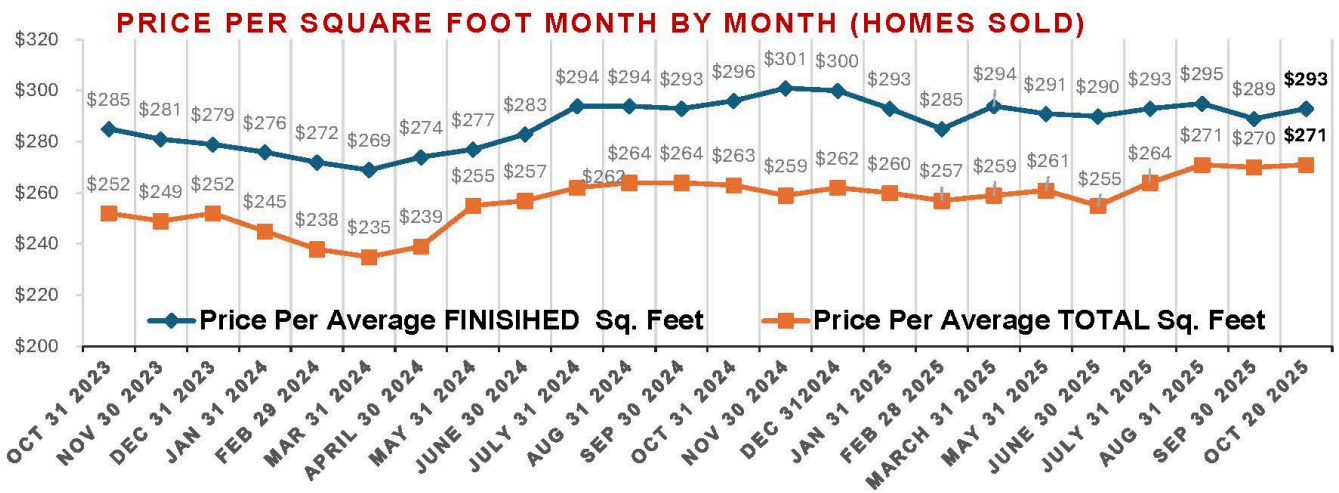
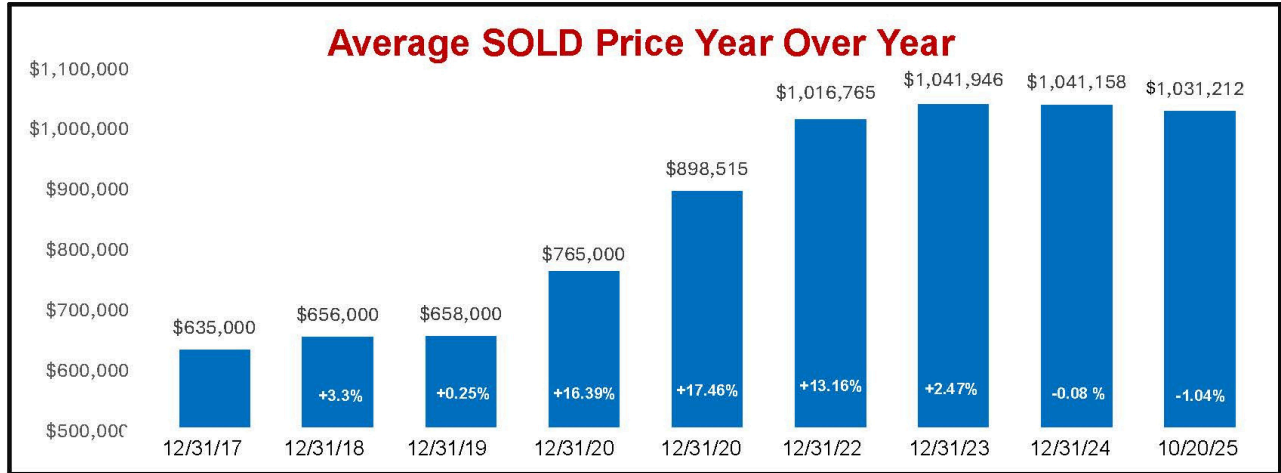
Photo Credit: Town of Castle Rock



Larkspur Area Real Estate Stats – HOMES SOLD

Homes Currently For-Sale (10/20/2025) ---61 (\$465,000 to \$8,875,000) --- Median \$1,099,000
Average Days on Market --- 95

Homes Currently "Under Contract" ---17 (\$450,000 to \$2,428,900) --- Median \$999,900
Homes U/C in the past 30-days = 12



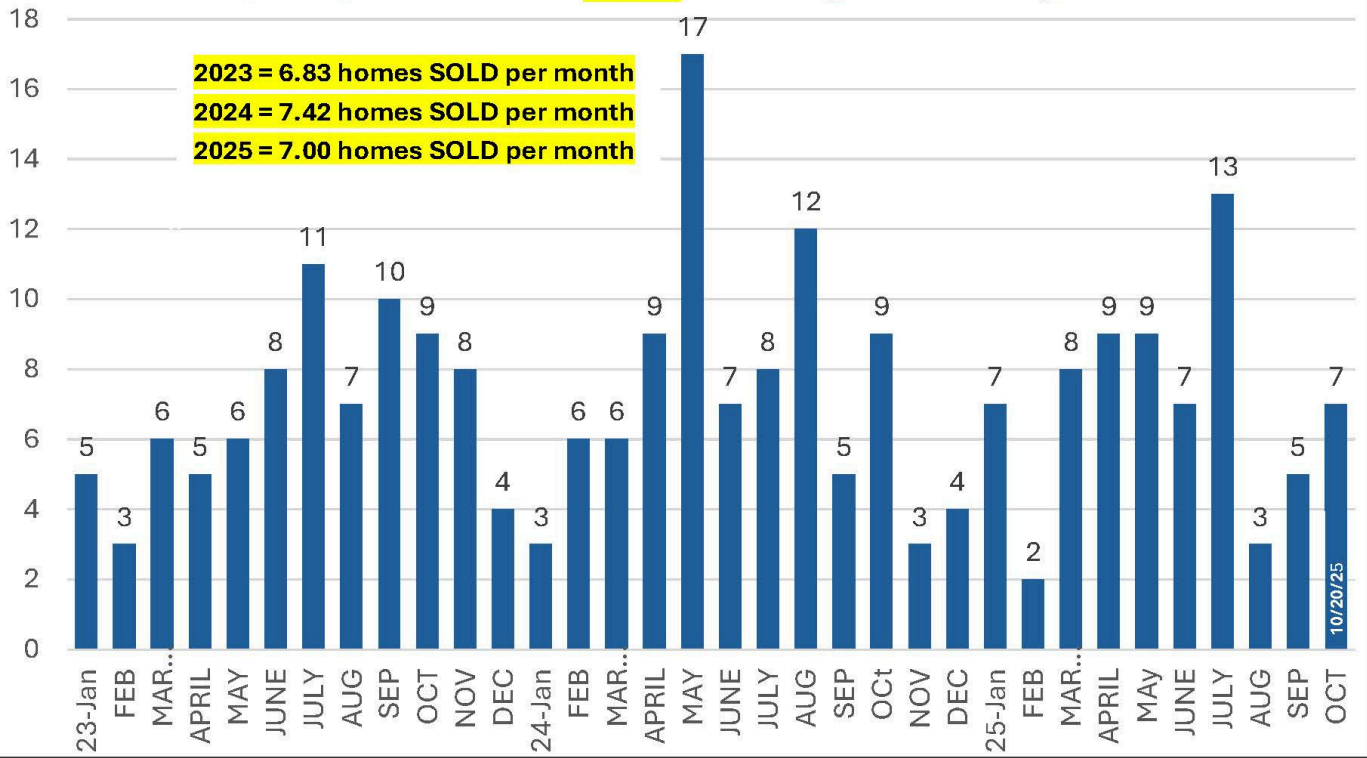
---The charts above represent a 6-month study of home sales ending on the last date of the month indicated. The top 2 and bottom 2 sales have been removed/deleted from each study. This is because very unusual properties can skew the factors that reflect actual market conditions. For example, a property 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.

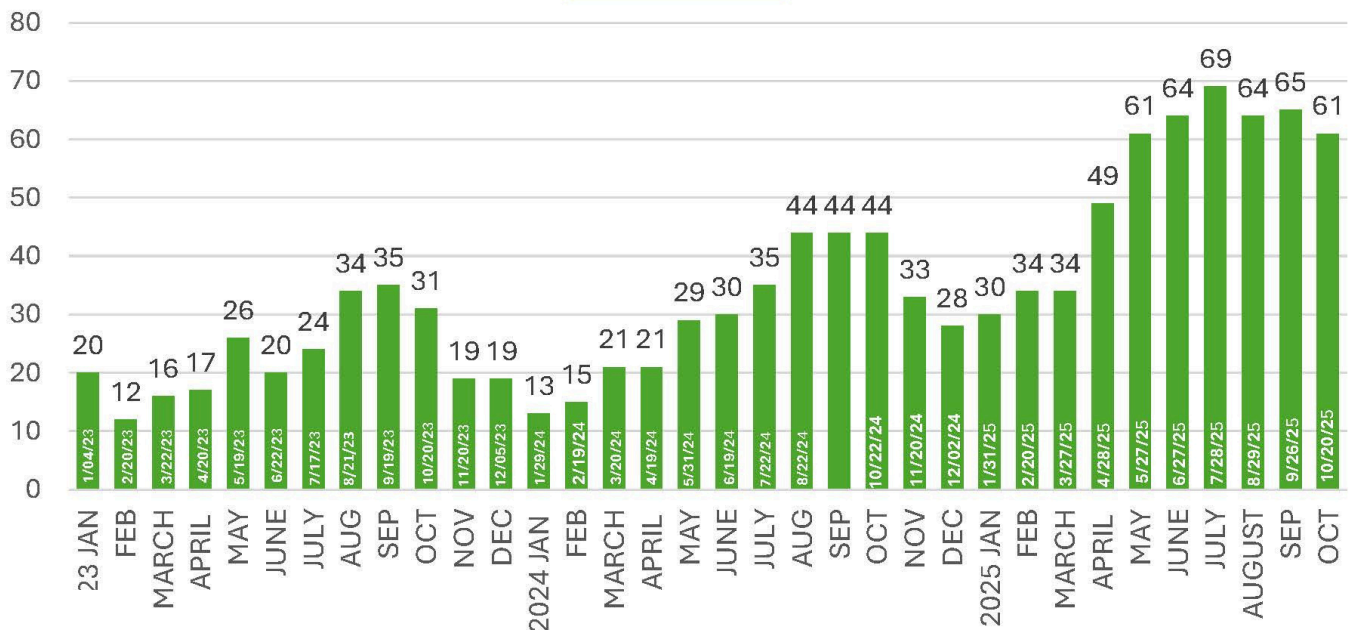


Larkspur Real Estate Stats OCTOBER 2025

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



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



303-681-1000

DavesResultsTeam@yahoo.com

www.DaveGardnerRealEstate.com

Thank you

We extend our deepest thanks to the neighbors, partners, and friends who made our return to print possible. Your support, encouragement, and time mean the world to us!

- The Addington Family
- The Cole Family
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- Minuteman Press Castle Rock
- Our longtime advertisers who have supported us year after year
- Elizabeth Owens & Dave Gardner for generously volunteering their time and printing copies for the community in recent years
- Nancy Page-Cooper for inspiring us to take this leap back into print and sharing invaluable advice
- The Larkspur Chamber of Commerce and President Bonnie Schwam for connecting us with the resources that made printing possible
- The Town of Larkspur for continuously sharing and championing this publication
- Our current and past Sentinel team: Kim Carlsen, Nicole Wegg, Shannon Garvin, Wendy Spurlin, Jennifer Martin, Margot Patterson and Kate Wessels for their dedication, teamwork, and countless hours ensuring we have quality content.

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FOR SALE
\$1,100,000

View Property Website at
www.7596RollinsDrive.com



7596 Rollins Drive - Sage Port

Move-In-Ready Custom Ranch-Style Retreat offers the "main-floor" lifestyle you've been searching for! 4,116 Sq. feet, this spacious residence features 5-beds, 4- baths, and a finished walkout basement. NEW Hickory floors throughout the main level..

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
\$1,225,000

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.

UNDER CONTRACT
\$1,100,000

View Property Website at
www.4002KalamathDrive.com



4002 Kalamath Drive - Perry Park

CUSTOM Highly Upgraded Two-Story Retreat nestled on a breathtaking 1-acre lot BACKING TO OPEN SPACE in Perry Park! This beautiful home offers 5,514 Total Sq. Feet of refined living space, featuring 5 spacious bedrooms and 5 bathrooms.

SOLD
\$917,500

View Property Website at
www.8174IncaRoad.com



8174 Inca Road - Perry Park

CUSTOM RANCH-STYLE Home with finished walkout Basement & 3-Car Garage. BACKS TO OPEN SPACE - VERY PRIVATE! Main Floor Primary Suite. 4,763 Square ft. with 5 bedrooms and 3-1/2 baths. Spacious "Great-Room" concept. Brand NEW Interior paint.

SOLD
\$910,000

View Property Website at
www.4801DelawareDrive.com



4801 Delaware Drive - Perry Park

CUSTOM RAISED RANCH-STYLE home with Finished Walkout Basement. The Home features 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, totaling 3,701 Sq. Ft. The primary suite, along with two additional bedrooms, a full bathroom, and a laundry room, is all on the main level.



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