



The Perry Park

Sentinel

OCTOBER 2018



“There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.” - Nathaniel Hawthorne

“The sweet calm sunshine of October, now

Warms the low spot; upon its grassy mold

The purple oak-leaf falls; the birchen bough

drops its bright spoil like arrow-heads of gold.”

- William Cullen Bryant

“Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn.”

- Elizabeth Lawrence

“October’s poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter.”

- Nova Bair



PERRY PARK BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, October 16, 10 a.m. at the home of Barb Statkewica, 6535 Wauconda Drive in Perry Park Ranch. The book for discussion is *Before the Fall* by Noah Hawley. Two survivors of a plane crash are the center of this winner of the 2017 Edgar Award for Best Novel and the 2017 International Thriller Writers Award for Best Novel. In November the group will read *my grandmother asked me to tell you she's sorry*, a novel by Fredrik Backman. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome. For additional information see the book club website: http://applelane.com/Perry_Park_Book_Club.html

TUNES FOR TRAILS; PERKS FOR PARKS: Free! October 6, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Amphitheater at Phillip S. Miller Park, 1375 West Plum Creek Parkway in Castle Rock. 6 Million Dollar Band (6MDB to their fans) delivers high energy 80s dance hits. Enjoy a night in the fresh air while listening to live music. Enjoy craft beers, cocktails and delectable delights available for purchase from area vendors. Yard games and bounce houses will be set up for the children. Open seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Donations benefit the Parks and Trails Foundation. Bring a picnic and your family No outside alcoholic beverages of any kind are permitted.

FINE ARTS AND CRAFTS MARKET: October 27-28, Saturday, 9-4:30 and Sunday 9-3 p.m. at Lewis Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Road in Monument. Tickets at the door: \$6 a person.

PERRY PARK MARATHON BRIDGE will commence October 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the Perry Park Country Club. It will be held on the second Friday of each month except January when the club is closed. If anyone is interested in joining this group as a regular or a sub, please contact Jackie Flowers at 303-681-2802. The cost is \$12 per person which will cover expenses and monthly winnings plus end of the year winnings. You do not have to be a club member to play. All players are obligated for a \$13 food and beverage service each play date. This covers lunch plus coffee, tea and water.

HONORING VETERANS FOR 17 YEARS AT LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY: Larkspur Elementary School is proud to announce that its 17th Annual Veterans Day Celebration will be held on Friday, November 9th, 2018 from 10-11am in the school gym. All veterans and active duty personnel are invited to join us, along with their families, as we honor their service at this beloved event. The program will include patriotic songs performed by our students in Grades 1-3, a flag folding ceremony by Mr. Dale Erickson of the American Legion Harry C. Miller Post 118, and interviews with veterans. After the assembly, veterans and their families are encouraged to stay for lunch which is generously provided by our parent community. For more information on the event, please contact Sally Erickson, 303-519-4251. We hope you will join us at Larkspur Elementary in honoring all those who have served, and continue to serve our country.

HALLOWEEN EVENTS!
HAUNTED HOUSES AND
CORN MAZES; PUMPKINS AND
HAYRIDES!

LARKSPUR ELEMENTARY FALL FESTIVAL:



Mark your calendars for the **22nd annual Larkspur Elementary School PTO's Fall Festival on Saturday, October 27, 2018**, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Colorado Renaissance Festival Grounds in Larkspur.

This fundraiser is a true community event that draws families from Douglas and El Paso counties and beyond. All guests are invited to come in costume and enjoy a fun-filled day. Activities scheduled include a Costume Contest for Pre-K through 6th Grade that includes a new category this year - the Best Family Themed Costumes, Cupcake and Toy Walks, a Haunted House courtesy of the Larkspur Fire Department, Inflatables, PTO Bake Sale booth featuring home-baked goodies, popcorn, etc., Trick or Treat Street, DJ Danny Coyle and much more!

We are looking for teen and adult volunteers to help and teens can earn community service hours. We are also seeking sponsorships and donations of goods, new toys, candy, and bottled water. If you can help or are interested in sponsorship, please email Larkspurpto@gmail.com.

Check out www.larkspurfallfestival.org for event details and
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HALLOWEEN Continued from page 2

sign up to volunteer under the Volunteers & Donations Tab!

Invite your friends and family to come spend the day at the Larkspur Elementary Fall Festival and help raise funds for our little school in the woods. Thank you for your support!

~ JRMartin

CASTLE OF TERROR: Tours of the Castle of Terror are on October 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28, 7-10 p.m. Cost: \$10 cash or check. Castle Rock's most frightening haunted house, featuring appearances by the bearded lady, werewolf boy, Medusa and the amazing electric man. The volunteer attraction is hosted by the Castle Rock Fire Department, and all proceeds from this event benefit the Fire and Police Explorers. Address: 303 Malibu St, Castle Rock. Contact: 303-660-1066

CASTLE ROCK HARVEST FESTIVAL, Philip S. Miller Park, 1375 W. Plum Creek Parkway, Castle Rock, 4-8 p.m. October 28. The Amphitheater will be transformed with autumn activities, including pumpkin carving, face painting and hay rides. The Great Pumpkin Wall will be lit around 6 p.m. and movies will begin right after. Free admission. Contact: 303-660-1015



MORE HALLOWEEN FESTIVALS IN CASTLE ROCK: Wednesday, October 31, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. in Festival Park. Celebrate with costumes, candy, inflatables, carnival games, hay ride and more! The Outlets at Castle Rock will be hosting Wicked Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m., with face painting, a spooky magic show, a costume contest and store-to-store trick-or-treating.

SANDSTONE RANCH



Photo by Lisa Wartman

On December 27, the Douglas County Commissioners formally approved the \$18,750,000 acquisition of the 2,038-acre Sandstone Ranch. With its spectacular views, expansive hay meadows, red rock formations, wildlife habitat, historic ranching operation, and 3.5 miles of common boundary with Pike National Forest, Sandstone Ranch is the crown jewel of all the County's Open Space properties, but requires extensive planning to determine how the property can best be used. Following the development, adoption and implementation of a Master Plan, Sandstone Ranch will be open to the public for non-motorized use only.

In the meantime, residents have been invited to a number of events that allowed them to explore the beauties of the area and consider its potential. The accompanying pictures came from several such events: an "ice-cream social" to which local residents were invited and an evening tour sponsored by the Douglas Land Conservancy. The Wildlander trail run and responder challenge to benefit Larkspur Fire Department was also held at Sandstone in September.

The county invites residents to become involved in the Master Plan process. To take the online survey and to receive updates on all things Sandstone from the Master Plan process to opportunities for tours and special events, visit the county website: <https://www.douglas.co.us/dcoutdoors/openspace-properties/sandstone-ranch/>.



BLANKET BRIGADE WARMS HEARTS AND MINDS DURING DIFFICULT TIMES

Amidst the hum of sewing machines comes a steady stream of chatter and quiet laughter. They gather twice a month for conversation and companionship. While it may appear to be just



Cindy Hotaling

another social club, the women in the room call themselves the Blanket Brigade, and they are on a mission: to warm the hearts and minds of those in need. They create one-of-a-kind, handmade blankets for anyone who is dealing with medical, emotional or traumatic situations. Their blankets have been donated to Castle Rock Adventist Hospital Emergency Department, Douglas County School District (DCSD), Sweet Dream in a Bag, hospice centers, homeless shelters and many individuals.

The Perry Park Blanket Brigade began several years ago as a casual quilting/crafting group. Then, in 2015, they were introduced to the Palmer Divide Blanket Brigade, a 501(c)(3) organization, which has been making comfy blankets for children and adults for 20 years. The Perry Park women were inspired and they began their mission.

Last year they created and donated more than 300 blankets. To those who received one of these handmade creations, it's more than a blanket -- it's a gift from the hands of the members to the hearts of those in need.

- The DCSD Crisis Team Lead says the impact of receiving the gift is huge. It is so much more than a blanket. The children put it in their laps and they wrap themselves in it. It is precious to them.

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BLANKET Continued from page 4

- A teacher in another district works with students who are from troubled homes where it can be difficult to even get a good night's sleep. Several of his students snuggle up in their blankets when they get to school to take a quick power nap. When rested, they are ready for the day.

- A representative from the hospice center said the colorful blankets add a bit of cheer to the rooms of their clients.

- Many of the blankets are donated to Sweet Dream in a Bag. This organization provides bedding to needy children in unfortunate situations – poverty, homelessness, and domestic violence. The Blanket Brigade quilts are included in the bags for babies and toddlers. The group's 95-year-old member crochets small animals that are also included in the bags. (www.sweet-dreaminabag.org)

If you know of an individual or an organization that needs “a big hug,” the group is always eager to contribute comfy blankets.

That is why they do it—but how do they do it? The fabric is donated by community members. Once gathered together, the brigade members lay out fabric squares to create their design. Those squares are sewn together; a border is added and the final step is tying the blanket.



Jean Smoot who also crochets animals for children's blanket bags.

Photos by Shannon McQuery

New members are always welcome. You do not need to have sewing skills to enjoy working with this group – if you can tie a knot, there is a job for you. There are currently about 15 members who meet monthly on the first and third Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perry Park County Club (you do not have to be a member of the Club to join).

The Blanket Brigade can always use additional supplies:

- Cotton fabric and flannel
- Sewing thread and crochet thread
- Batting

• Yarn

If you would like to donate or are interested in joining the group, please contact Gwen Underwood at gwenspur@mac.com. See them on Facebook, Perry Park Blanket Brigade.

PET TALK WITH PILAR

Pilar Starman, DVD...

(with the help of Frankie, a 1.5 year-old Australian Cattle Dog cross)

It's my birthday and I can bark if I want to!



Hello. It is your favorite spotted reporter, Frankie the Aussie. I decided I like the connection I have with all of you, so I wrote this article before Mom could stop me! Of course, everyone likes to hear from me.

I've heard September and October are big months for birthdays. I wonder what happens in December and January for so many humans to be born in September and October. Maybe because it is so cold people need to stay

warm. Both my mom and dad have their birthdays at the end of September. Sadly, I don't know my actual birthday, but it had to be around the end of September 2016 that the universe was blessed with my spotted presence. I know everyone is so glad to have me around.


I love birthday parties, but my mom doesn't like me to go to them. She tells me there are too many risks for me to do whatever I want. That does not seem fair, does it?

These are the some of the concerns she has explained to me:

1) Foods dogs should not eat: She claims these foods can cause me to have stomach upset that may make me vomit or could even cause worse problems. These include cake, candy, rich and fatty foods (I love cheese). Foods with xylitol, an artificial sweetener found in a lot of human foods (including peanut butter, candy, gum), could even cause liver failure and death. Some dogs will get sick if they eat any foods out of their typical diet. I tell Mom I can eat anything, but she does not believe me.

2) Toys and party favors: I think this should be in the same category as food, but I am told these things can cause different problems. Sometimes what Mom says is not edible seems like it should be eaten. There are a lot of small things I know my mates and I would like to eat. These include balloons, balls, toy soldiers, pacifiers, and any other small object we can fit in our mouths. These items may be able to make it into our stomachs or intestines, but are too big to pass out the other end. They may lead to obstruction that could be deadly if not recognized in time

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PET TALK Continued from page 5

and surgically removed.

3) Noise and change to routine: I admit I am a creature of habit and routine. I do not like it when there are sudden changes and many of my buddies agree. When there are a bunch of small, noisy children running about, sometimes I think I need to herd them. I am meant to nip at cattle, so I might get confused with other noisy creatures running all about. Even if I don't bite them I get nervous with a lot of strangers around. I need to have a quiet refuge to escape the noise and stay safe from the strangers.

4) Potential Escape: I'm a runner. I love to get out and stretch my legs. Fortunately for Mom and Dad I'm an awesome dog and don't run away, but that's not true for some of my mates. I've spent some time with dogs (and even some cats) that have been lost because they thought it would be fun to go for an unsupervised stroll and have not been able to find their way home. If there are a lot of people coming and going it is safest for us pets to be confined to an area where we can't bolt out the door.

If you have any questions about your pets please call Larkspur Pet Hospital at 303-681-3980.

WALT'S WORDS

Walt Korinke...

It's not what happens to you

but how you react to it that matters.
Epictetus



CASTLE ROCK – The “no name” two-building complex across from the Adventist Hospital is becoming the new core of eateries on the west side of town. First to arrive a couple of years ago was the **Egg & I** (will convert to First Watch) serving breakfast and lunch with most meals under \$10. The



next two restaurants went into the new building completed early this year. **The Crush** is open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. serving over 50 wines in the glass, half glass, bottle or taste size along with “small plates” of brie, meatballs, proscutto, apple crisps, etc. Next came the five-star rated **Astro Tap House** open from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. with outdoor and garage door-indoor seating and live music on Thursday and Friday evenings. As you would expect, their specialty is 35 draft beers, margaritas and a few fine wines. Their menu tends to be under \$10 and includes Brats, four different Quesadillas, egg rolls, soft pretzels, Buffalo Chicken and Tater Tots. In the tenant fit-out stage and



coming soon is the **Library Company Bar & Grill** which will open at 11 a.m. for your lunch needs, serving burgers, sandwiches, patty melts, hot wings, and margaritas, martinis, beers and wine.



You might want to avoid the cross roads of **Wolfensberger Road and Plum Creek Parkway** for the next couple of months as the Town builds a round-about to replace the current stop sign at this very busy interchange. This active spot has traffic coming off the hillside for a rapid stop, and a heavy flow of traffic in and out of this south-

ern entrance to the Meadows. Meadows Parkway, the entry road from the east, is also undergoing major road replacement from concrete to asphalt – a lot of fun with the morning/evening work traffic.

Tired of moving the car out of the garage so you can do shop work, or need storage for a boat or vehicle, and you don't want to rent? You might want to consider the new **Garage Condos** under construction on the south end of Liggett Road just before it bridges I-25 across from Douglas County High School. You buy a shell space and can have it completed however you want. The units come with power (including 220), lights, climate control, water, large sturdy garage doors and with additional site amenities i.e. water and washdown areas, air/vac station, R.V. dump, common restrooms and an owners' private clubhouse. Typical garagecondo financings call for 20 to 25 percent down, five- year loans with 20 to 25 year amortization. For the whole story, go to www.garagecondos.com.



Canadian-based Couche-Tard, parent of **Circle K**, has purchased the 200 chain **Valero Corner Store** brand in a \$4.4 billion buyout and soon we will see the change applied to our local stores. Circle K, started in 1951 in El Paso as three Kay's Food

Stoes and grew thru a series of acquisitions and franchises into the Circle K organization with over a 1,000 outlets by 1975. In 1979 they expanded to Japan, and in 2003 was acquired by Couche-Tard. Circle K has developed into one of the most widely recognized convenience store brands represented in over 20 countries. North American operations consists of 8,081 convenience stores, another 2,766 stores are located in Europe, and 1,700 under the Circle K banner in 13 other countries. Locally, the two Castle Rock stores, **310 Wilcox and 94 Wolfensberger**

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should be changing their banners in the near future.

CASTLE PINES – Under review by City Planning, is a 200-unit apartment project, that if approved will commence construction early in 2019. Atlanta multi-family developer/owner is considering the 10.4-acre parcel located on the southwest corner of Castle



Pines Parkway and Lagae Road, just west of King Sooper. The project would consist of three and four-story structures with a variety of one, two and three bedroom units. Davis has a twenty-year track record of development and multi-family management with over 50,000 units stretching across the southern half of the country, including Arcos Lincoln Station Apartments in Lone Tree across from the RTD station.

PERRY PARK

Douglas County – you did us good! The entire Park received a **three-inch layer of asphalt** making the neighborhood look shiny and bright. And the bumps,



holes and pits, where did they all go? I can't find a dip anywhere as I do my daily rides (cycles, utvs and sometimes in the car) through the park. What a great place to live, and now it is even better. Thanks again to Douglas County

for caring. Not stopping there, the county is now underway with the **turn lane additions** to the Park entrance with plans to finish by the Ides of November.

Along with many ranch wells, the entrance pond is receding rapidly and will probably be waterless by the fall similar to the drought about five years ago. The good news is that the Metro District is planning to take advantage of the situation and will be sending in a crew to tackle some of the massive **cattail growth**. Unfortunately dredging is still not in the cards – too many governmental challenges to overcome. Planning is also underway to improve the appearance of the Gateway entrance – bring it on!



LARKSPUR – Another summer comes to an end – hats off to Gilad Shwartz, president, and the members of the Lark-



spur Chamber of Commerce along with the Town Council for the six **Music in the Park** concerts, double last year. It is

not just the music, but the over-all comfortable small town gathering of families in a pleasant picnic atmosphere and the enjoyment of one another. If you missed it this year, you will have another chance to return to small town America, just like the Bill Murray movie. Adults in lounging chairs, kids on swings, dogs on leashes, hot dogs, bbq and an overall good time. The September Arts and Crafts Fest isn't bad either.

New poles and lines have been run down Tomah Road, and the **Black Hills Service Company** is in the process of installing 3.1 miles of poethylene natural **gas pipeline** within the Tomah Road/Elk View Road right-of-ways with the purpose of providing increased capacity and accommodate future population growth between the towns of Larkspur and Castle Rock. The project involves trenching the four-inch-diameter pipe along with boring under existing drives to avoid disturbances.

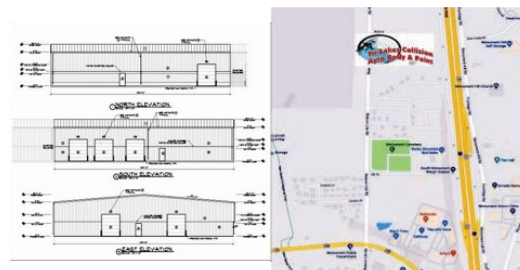


MONUMENT – The Monument Planning Commission is reviewing a site plan for 940 W. Baptist Road, just east of King Soopers.



Plans for the 0.6 acre site are for an unnamed 2,086 square foot drive-thru restaurant building with 25 parking stalls. The design is

modern with brick and stucco walls. The term "coffee shop" has been bandied about, could it be a Starbucks??? This is one of four planned or recently developed parcels that tie in with the King Sooper Center with access limited to the center itself.



Last year, **Tri-Lakes Collision** kicked off the development of Wolf Business Park on

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the north side just off of Beacon Hill Road. The eight-year old, family-owned five-star rated auto body and paint shop now plans to double the size of its new 10,000 square foot building. The metal building will be attached to the existing building on the existing 1.97 acre site.



The old Monument Hotel was proudly built at **192 Front Street** and served as the town's social events center until its destruction by fire in the 1920's. In 1976, the existing 4,851 square foot brick medical office building was constructed and has been sitting vacant since the departure of its

last tenant, MountainView Medical. A couple of years ago a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center planned to acquire the property but was publicly rejected by the citizenry; the town made a financial settlement for failing to issue a business permit. It is now under some physical revamping with plans to open in October with a return to the site's historic use – a wedding and events center. Hearth House currently operates in the old downtown with the Hearth House Cottage, a bridal suite or guest house and this will permit them to expand their services. They are in the process of elevating the roof with a large cupola, installing barn doors and Edison bulb industrial lighting and adding a 1,400 square foot patio. It will service weddings, private parties and special events and has the ability to seat almost 300 guests. History repeats itself as 192 Front Street resumes its duties as the social events center for the community.



COLORADO SPRINGS – Resort Lifestyle Communities has just broken ground on its second development in Colorado to be called **Aspen Trail Retirement Resort**. The \$30 million complex will consist of 126 independent studio, 1br, 2br and 3br apartment units ranging in size from 366 square feet to 1,206 square feet. Under construction at 5455 New Car Drive near Woodmen and Powers in northeast Colorado Springs, they bring a unique twist to the 55 and up retirement living. *There is NO buy-in fee – NO long term lease – you can rent the units on a monthly basis* with the freedom to move on if you so desire. They provide round-the-clock concierge service, resort style dining with snacks available in between meals. These are full-kitchen apartment units, and pets are allowed. Other amenities include a 150-seat theater, computer center, library, billiards, pharmacy, salon and banking services. A fitness center, and health and wellness program keep you in shape for a resident travel program. The

second Real Lifestyle's resort in Colorado is the Skypoint in Littleton, and they have 36 more resorts spread across the country.



chain's menu features omelets, pancakes, sandwiches, salads with speciality items that include Quinoa Power Bowls, Avocado Toast and Chickichanga. An important item at all breakfast restaurants is the coffee. First Watch will serve **Project Sunrise coffee** which is grown by a group of independent female farmers in Huila, Columbia. If you are hungry between 7 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., here's a new place to try. The locations are 1) across from the Chapel Hills Mall at 7816 N. Academy Blvd and 2) the northeast corner of Barnes and Powers at 5838 Barnes Road.

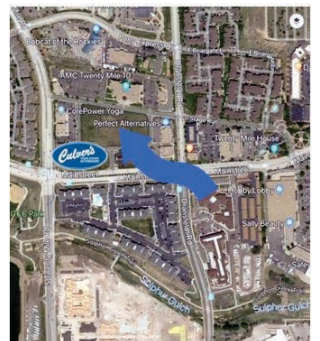
Goodbye **Egg & I** (both locations), hello **First Watch** (both locations). In 2016, First Watch acquired the 148 unit Egg & I chain bringing the chains total to 339 restaurants in 29 states. The Florida-based breakfast and lunch



PARKER – Across from Parker's Culver's development has commenced on the vacant lot. It's a great spot for the Laszlo, a 51-room luxury boutique hotel. The four-story property will include a steak and seafood res-



taurant, a sports bar, a martini & oyster bar, a diner, taproom and retail space. It will be part of the Preferred Hotels brand that includes the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs. Denver has a 12 year straight record of annual tourism growth, which supported a 5 percent growth in hotel rooms last year while still reporting a slight performance increase over the previous year. The hotel industry is one of the more difficult areas to finance these days, and the developer JLL Capital Markets was successful in achieving almost \$16 million in debt and equity financing which speaks highly for both the location and planned product. This is another "feather in the cap" for the Parker's West End Main Street effort which is expected to be completed in the next couple of years.



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DENVER – The Park Meadows Mall is going to take another try at a large bookstore – the last effort, which had an escalator dropping customers at the front door, lasted about two years – tough business (Borders shuttered its 400 stores in 2011). The new Amazon Bookstore is



a little different from the norm, well capitilized and should stand the test of time. Under construction on the second floor of the mall directly across from Macy's, it should be open this fall. Colorado is the eighth state to get an Am-



azon Book store since the first store openeopened in Seattle in November 2015. Their ultimate goal is to open 300 to 400 brick and motar stores while continuing their very active on-line books as well. Their stores carry from 3,000 to 5,000 titles with the books facing outward for customers' ease. A sign will display the websites star rating. The two-price system includes list price (on book) for non-Amazonians, or Prime members can scan the bookcover for special pricing. The stores are cashless – credit card or charge it to your Prime account. Sections of the store include the designation “books Kindle readers finish in 3 days or less.” In additon to books, the store will sell kindles and the various “Alexa” devices.



As the **RidgeGate development** prepares to jump to the east side of I-25 for development, the southernmost extension to the **RTD** nears completion with another two locations (Sky Ridge Medical and Lone Tree City Center)

in Ridgagate planned openings by the second quarter of 2019. System testing will begin near year end, and should be operational in the first half of next year. It should provide easy access to Rockies and Bronco games without the City traffic and of course for workers to and from the area.

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REPORT FROM THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Cindy Applegate, Secretary-Board of Directors



At the September board meeting, Rodger Greer was appointed to a two-year term to fill the vacant board position left open when Mike Grill resigned.

Please join us for the Larkspur Fire Protection District OPEN HOUSE on SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Station 161. 9414 S. Spruce Mountain Road

There will be a chili cook off 12-4 p.m. Demonstrations include DCSO K-9 unit, air life helicopter, Douglas County Search and Rescue.

Call Review Summaries

Between January, 2018, and August 31, 2018, LFPD had a total of 672 calls compared to 593 calls for the same time frame in 2017, an increase of 79 calls (11.75 percent). There was a total of 88 calls in August 2018 compared to 76 calls in August 2017.

Call Review for August, 2018

Fires: Total of five calls:

Structure fires: One (mutual-aid)

Vehicle fires: Two (one in-district, one mutual aid)

Brush/Grass fires: Two (in-district)

EMS: Total of 39 calls

Medicals: Nineteen (18 in-district and one mutual-aid)

Motor Vehicle Accidents with injuries: Nineteen (18 in district, one mutual aid)

MVAs No medical needed: (one in-district)

Alarms: Fire alarm system malfunction (two in-district)

Other: Total of 47 calls (42 in-district and five mutual aid)

On behalf of the entire Larkspur Fire Protection District, we thank you for your continued support. Our next scheduled board meeting is Thursday, October 11, 2018, 7 p.m. at Station 161 in Larkspur.

EXPLANATION OF BALLOT MEASURE 6B FOR LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Wayne Moore...

Ballot measure 6B, unlike a mill-levy-increase ballot measure, does not arbitrarily increase the overall taxes



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8376 SUGARLOAF ROAD | PERRY PARK EAST | OFFERED AT \$950,000 | JUST LISTED!



2775 E. HIGHWAY 105 | MONUMENT | OFFERED AT \$1,125,000 | COMING SOON!



4214 CHEYENNE DRIVE | PERRY PARK | \$679,900 | UNDER CONTRACT!



14232 STRAIGHT PATH LANE | THE TIMBERS IN LARKSPUR | OFFERED AT \$1,230,000 | 36 ACRES & LAKE!



17075 VISCOUNT COURT | BENT TREE | OFFERED AT \$1,099,000 | 2.5 ACRES!



4180 CHEYENNE DRIVE | PERRY PARK | OFFERED AT \$99,000 | JUST SOLD!

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6B Continued from page 10

paid on residential properties above current levels. Instead, it permits a means to stabilize the tax revenue funding at current levels for Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD) due to the dilemma created by the required statewide decrease in the residential assessment rate (RAR) mandated by the Gallagher amendment.

Overall, fire district revenues from property taxes will remain essentially unchanged from what they are today if ballot measure 6B is approved. This would allow maintaining the current levels of staffing, upkeep of apparatus/equipment and continuing excellent rural ISO ratings. Without a means to stabilize funding for the district, there could be a major decline in fire and emergency medical services and the possibility of increased insurance premiums.

In 2015 the Larkspur communities approved a mill levy measure for LFPD. Now, ballot measure 6B would allow adjustments of the mill levy to compensate for the decreased RAR to maintain current LFPD residential tax revenue at present levels. I want to reiterate, the residential taxes paid with passage of 6B would fundamentally remain identical to the current amount being paid. In 2017 the Colorado Legislature lowered the RAR from 7.96 percent to 7.22 percent. Already, this has started to erode improvements in the fire district that the 2015 mill levy provided. Without passage of 6B, future decreases in the RAR required by the Gallagher amendment will worsen the situation. To learn more about the Gallagher amendment and its effect on fire districts throughout Colorado, visit <https://www.larkspurfire.org/> and click on the Gallagher Video Link button.

Key elements contained in ballot measure 6B:

- Asks voter permission to adjust the LFPD mill levy to collect the revenue the district would have lost from a decrease in the RAR below the current rate of 7.2 percent. This portion makes clear that the mill levy can only be changed if the RAR is in fact reduced.
- Asks voter permission to adjust the LFPD mill levy in the future to match and be capped by Colorado's statutory rate study recommendation.
- Standard "De-Brucing" language that is regularly added on to any ballot measures that deal with revenues of a district.

Please attend one of the public meetings sponsored by Citizens for Larkspur Fire Protection District; October 17th, 6:30 p.m. at Bear Dance Country Club and October 18th, 6:30 p.m. at Perry Park Country Club. These meetings are a public forum allowing clarification of this specific ballot measure, 6B, primarily in an interactive question/answer manner.

New Mailing Address Effective July 3, 2018

**Perry Park Sentinel
c/o Diane Jauch
12637 Washington Lane #F2
Englewood, Co 80112**

NOTES FROM THE METRO DISTRICT MEETING

On September 13th the Perry Park Metro District board met the Perry Park Country Club.

In attendance were:



Directors:

Randy Johnson – President
Linda Black – Assistant Vice President
Vanessa Dao – Treasurer
Sean King – Secretary

Also, in attendance:

Kurt Schlegel; Special District Solutions, LLC
Tony and Sherri Perconti
Alex & Laurie Valderone
Steve & Loretta Rea
Tom & Diana Weins
Carolyn Jones
Beverly O'Donnell

The full meeting minutes will be available on <http://perryark.org/metro-district/meetings/> right after next month's board meeting.

Special work session scheduled for Gateway Pond.

Unfortunately, there was a hiccup with Douglas County regarding the plan to cut the cattails at Gateway Pond last month. In response, the Board has planned a special working session in order to review the history of the Gateway Pond and wetland area at the front of the park with residents. During that meeting all options for future maintenance and enhancement of the area within the conservation easement guidelines will be considered and discussed.

Free slash pickup program starts in October.

We had a close call with the fire just a few miles away from our neighborhood in September. It's a good reminder that Perry Park has a great program to mitigate wildfires called Firewise, and the free fall slash pickup is on track to begin this month! Be sure to have your tree clippings at the curb for pickup so we can continue to protect our neighborhood.

Wiens explains new Remuda Ranch plan.

Tom Wiens joined the PPMD board meeting last month to answer some recent questions and concerns from PPMD residents about Remuda Ranch plans. A couple of points from Wiens:

- The emergency evacuation route will not be opened for traffic between Remuda Ranch and Perry Park. The gate will stay closed unless there is an emergency that requires opening it for either neighborhood.
- All Remuda residents and construction will be required to use a road connected to Dakan road for access.

Continued on page 13

Wiens has kindly agreed to attend the next board meeting in October to answer additional questions or concerns from PPMD residents.

Next board meeting: Thursday, October 11th

The next Perry Park Metro District Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11th at the Perry Park Country Club. All Perry Park residents are welcome to attend and participate.

**Submitted by Sean King,
Secretary, Perry Park Metro District**

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

The September meeting of the Perry Park Water and Sanitation District began at 4:30 p.m. on the 19th with all directors present. The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the August 15th regular meeting, and that approval was unanimous. Disbursements of \$656,326.05 were then reviewed and unanimously approved. Next, having analyzed the present construction/bulk water fees and considered information from the district's staff and consultants, the district has concluded that such rates should be billed at the present commercial rates. The board was unanimous in their approval of a resolution to do so.



The annual Agreement for Services with Semocor was then reviewed and discussed. The Agreement for Services will be on the next month's agenda for approval. The first draft of the 2019 Budget was next reviewed. Over forthcoming several board meetings, the draft will be thoroughly discussed, prioritized and finalized before its submission to the Department of Local Governments in December. Directors Judy LaCrosse and Jim Maras were then appointed to the Staffing Committee.

The District Systems Report for August submitted by Semocor was reviewed, and operations were characterized as normal, while water sales were up by 40 percent over the previous month. The Monthly Staff Report submitted by the district manager, Diana Miller, was reviewed, and the news here was that new construction permits for 2018 now total 21. This report also updated the status of the district's capital improvement projects: it showed the Country Club Drive Loop as completed and that the Bannock Lift Station will be completed in September.

There were no further board discussion items or audience participation, so the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.. As always, further information is available on the district website, www.ppwsd.org.



BEAR WISE

Greetings, bear lovers, it's your local bear expert "Bronco" Beary Bear here. Like those who tailgate around the living room coffee table binging on football and pizza rolls, we black bears are in the final stages of fattening up for our up-coming winter snooze. Our coats are thick and full, but our tummies are still hungry as we consume up to twenty thousand calories a day between now and the time of "Now I lay me down to sleep." The result of this massive caloric intake is an additional four to five inches of body fat, doubling the insulation value provided by our coats.



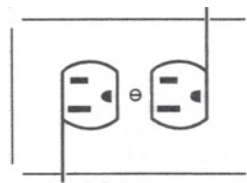
Bear Escapes Through a Manhole

Earlier this summer, my cousin, Bubba made the news in Colorado Springs. It seems he got himself into a bit of a bind after discovering a dumpster piled with berry-filled branch limbs pruned from nearby bushes. As is usually the case with us bears, Bubba ate the easy stuff first and then searched for hidden morsels to devour before calling it a meal. In this instance, Bubba discovered a plethora of berries which had fallen from the dumpster pile through the opening of a nearby storm sewer drain.



All that separated Bubba from the cache of berries was the

Continued on page 14



electric

Pete Dunbar

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

BEARY Continued from page 13

small storm drain opening. No problem. Bubba squirmed his way through the tight opening on the street and dropped down into the storm culvert. However, like a scene from the movie Indiana Jones, getting out of a cavern is often harder than getting into one.

Enter Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers who were alerted to Bubba's dilemma by a good Samaritan.

Discovering that Bubba couldn't be freed from the storm sewer without first sedating him (resulting in an ear tag and a strike toward a two strike sentence to be euthanized), park rangers ingeniously removed a nearby manhole hole cover to the storm drain and waited to see what would happen. Within a few minutes, Bubba poked his head out of the opening and made his escape to nearby open space.

Watch Bubba's escape here: <https://twitter.com/twitter/statuses/1022627674097741825>

A big THANK YOU to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife – Southeast Region for providing a happy ending to this story. Bubba promises not to venture into any more storm drains, unless... well, you know how we bears are when it comes to food.

Twin Bear Cubs Update



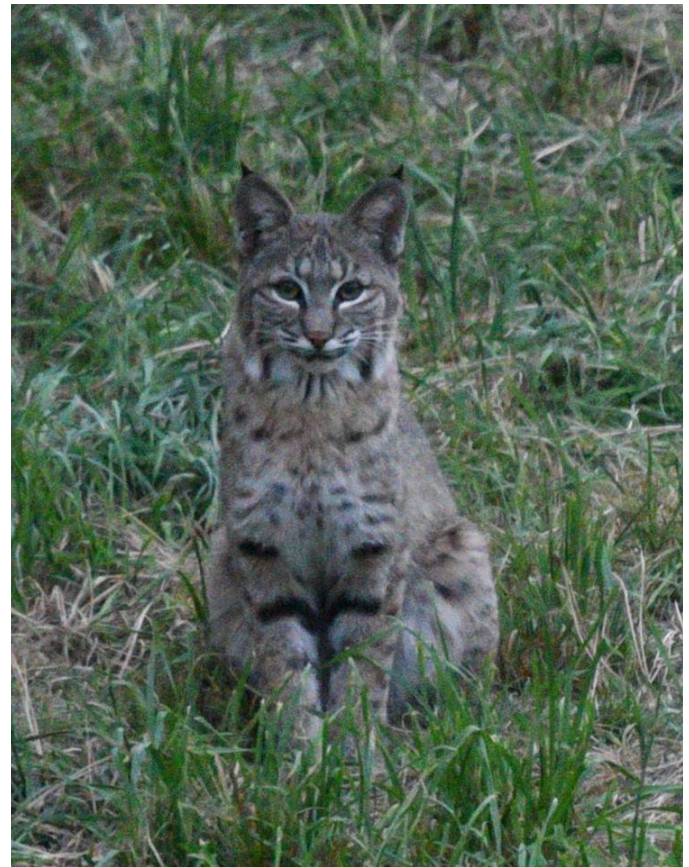
The picture to the left is one of the local twin bear cubs recently photographed in Perry Park - East. Compared to a photo of the pair taken a couple months ago, they have more than doubled in size over the summer.

You learned in last month's edition of *Bear Wise* that black bear cubs only have about eighteen months before leaving their mother's care and living on their own in the wild.

Please send your bear pictures, questions and comments to me at: wisebeary@gmail.com

Until next time - stay cool, be safe, and for goodness sake, stay out of the storm sewers.

Your friend in nature,
Beary



Gordon Lane has not only mastered the camera; he obviously has a way with animals! Either that or the bobcat needed a free picture for his yearbook. Or maybe just a way to say, "Thanks for all the voles I've eaten at your house!"

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Susan Peters...

Fall...Birth Announcement...Short Takes

Easing into fall!

The rapidly changing leaves, cooler days (finally), and shorter days re-



Attention Birders! If you are not planning on feeding birds this winter and are feeding them now, please stop. Otherwise they will be dependent on you for food when the snow tops the Mulleins, and they will starve to death.

mind us that fall has returned. By now, you can definitely take in your hummingbird feeders, unless you want to leave one going for the extremely tardy migrating hummer, the one who stops and smells the roses along the way. By the end of October, if they have not gotten the message, it is

sayonara.

Two young hummers are still here practicing their jousting and

Continued on page 16

"I am a Larkspur resident and have been specializing in selling Larkspur real estate for the past 14 years. I am the managing broker and owner of Wolfe Realty Group, an independent residential real estate brokerage firm. By choosing to specialize in the Larkspur and Perry Park real estate market, I can provide you with the highest level of knowledge and insight when buying or selling your Larkspur or Perry Park home or land. If you have any questions about Colorado real estate, please contact Wolfe Realty Group Inc. at 303-681-3553 or go to www.DiscoverLarkspur.com"



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WILD SIDE Continued from page 14

babe-attracting high dives for next year. It reminds me of seeing young elephant bulls play fighting for that time they will be going for the kill to win over a lovely elephant maiden or two.

A lone monarch butterfly landed on one of my remaining sunflower blooms – no, it is not their favorite milkweed. But this time of year, they are not laying eggs. But it should hustle off to Mexico before the freezes come.

Fall means love in the air for the elk and deer. The marvelous elk bugling is a virtuoso NOT to be missed. The bucks will be strutting their stuff, so keep your dogs near. Many a pooch has fallen victim to a feisty buck thinking that he is being challenged for his herd of does.

It is so great to see the squirrels cramming acorns into their cheeks rather than my bird seed.

And time to stock up the bird seed:

- Black oil sunflower seed
- A good quality seed mix with no red millet and only a small quantity of white millet, along with some peanut pieces
- Whole peanuts, the price of a king's ransom, delight the jays on snowy days and direct them away from the regular feeders so smaller birds can feast in peace. Costco is the best place to buy these in seven-pound bags
- Niger thistle – perfect for the gold finches and pine siskins
- A small block of salt – be careful where you put it. The salt can corrode a lot of things including stucco. Trust me.

Be sure to store all seed in bear, raccoon, and rodent-proof containers, preferably metal.

Among your fall chores is to clean out feeders and houses with a brush and detergent mixture, adding in a little bleach. The houses will be used in the winter storms for shelter. If you want to spend a pleasant time, pop into the Wild Bird Store off Founders Parkway, south of Home Depot. They offer many creative items including a bird shelter that can accommodate a number of birds.

Oh, and if your hummingbird feeders have black spots (mold), put a little bit of bleach in them – maybe a couple of tablespoons, and then fill with water. In a few minutes, wha lah! The mold is gone! This must be done regularly through the feeding season, as the mold will cause respiratory ailments. And yuck! Who wants to eat mold, anyway?

Not to be a party pooper, but consider this chart – the best I could find closest to Larkspur--which puts the reality in front of us for the mean date of the first snow fall.

(The following snowfall data for Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Alamosa has been compiled using NWS Pueblo and NCEI records)
(measurable snowfall defined as being greater than or equal to 0.1 inches)

Colorado Springs

Mean Date of First Snowfall.....October 19th
Earliest First Snowfall: Trace.....September 2nd, 1961
Earliest Measurable Snowfall: 4.2 inches.....September 3rd, 1961
Latest Measurable First Snowfall: 0.2 inches.....November 28th, 2010
Greatest Amount for First Snowfall: 6.0 inches....October 24th, 1997
(13.9 inches followed on October 25th, 1997. This was the Blizzard of '97)

Oh, joy! But we certainly need the moisture no matter what form it comes in.

Babies!!!

Apparently, our mating water striders were into their he'n and a she'n relationship long before we first saw them. Now there are not ONE but TWO batches of young-uns. And there may be one more before the cold weather moves in. It is just really tough to see which parent each looks like.

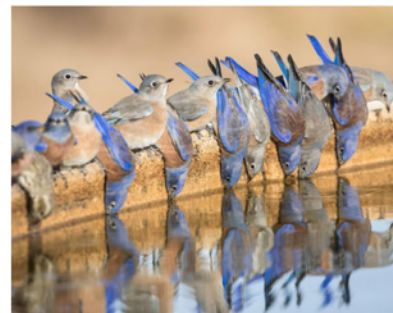
Short Takes

Only one more month of bruin frenzy feeding and we can stop bringing in our feeders at night. From their scat, they are loading up on the choke cherries and the bearberry berries.



This year brought some variations in coloring with a couple of bird species: some Towhees so dark that it is hard to make them and their markings out. And they have dark eyes, NOT RED eyes. I went scrambling

and the nearest look-alike I could find is the California (formerly brown) Towhee. But Colorado is far from its usual territory. One theory is that the fires this year have driven them here. And we have had a very dark Mountain chickadee coming to the bird bath. See the photos of what must be their siblings, also darker than usual.



The fledglings are now looking like normal sleek birds rather than ruffled clueless ones. It makes me smile seeing as many as seven of those darling pygmy nuthatches lined up on the bird bath. Speaking of, check out this blue-

Continued on page 17

WILD SIDE Continued from page 16

bird picture from the Audubon Society. October is the month they pack their bags and head south for a leisurely winter.



And did you see the story of the five baby squirrels from Wisconsin whose tails naturally got tied in a knot in their nest? See the included picture. They all had to be anesthetized to undo

the mess with nesting material in it. Three of the babies' tails have grown out to be fluffy. Two others are on watch to see if the lack of blood circulation has killed their tails. In that case, amputation will be required.

And how about the video of the humpback whales in a triple breach off the coast of Nova Scotia? Check it out: <https://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/videos/stunning-video-captures-triple-whale-breach-coast-nova-scotia>

Dang! I missed tarantula mating season in southern Colorado for four different species this past month.

It seems that there are multiple turkey flocks in a very small

area. I spotted two about a half-mile apart this past week. Hark! I hear them coming to scrounge for seed and cracked corn. Wow! Look at all of them – a HUGE flock. A turkey for every oven in Larkspur!

That's all, folks, for this month. Gotta run – the last hummingbird feeder needs a refill and that will exhaust this year's supply of sugar water.

HowtoContactMe: Email is best at susan@larskpurconsulting.com. Alternatively, call my cell phone at 303-725-6868 or send a short write-up to 2255 Quartz Mountain Drive.



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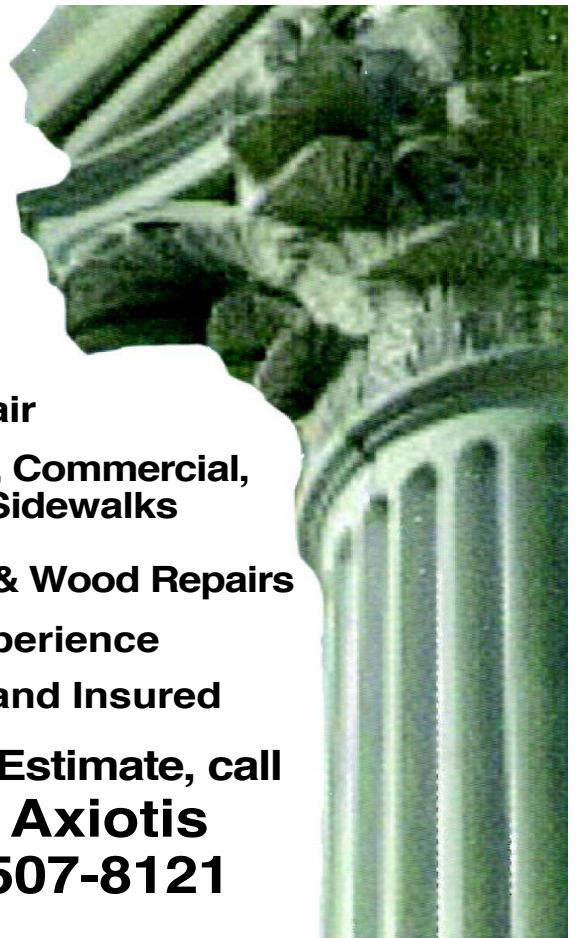
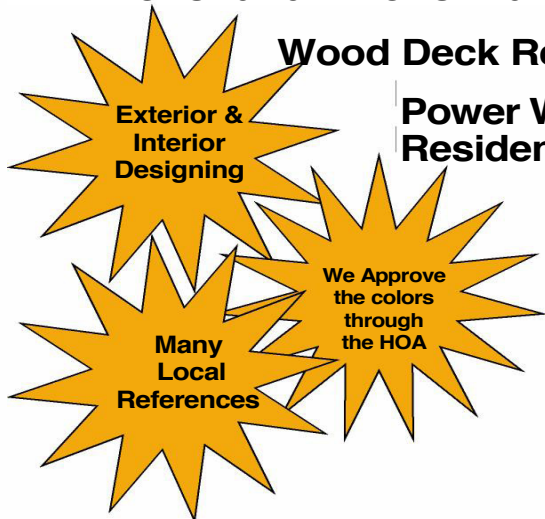
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Dependable and trustworthy 14 year old looking to pet sit and babysit. CPR and first aid training completed. Please call or text Jacqueline Meeks at (832)600-8014.

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

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

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

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

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

My name is Clayton Saunders I am a hard worker, boy scout, and high school athlete. I will work for all jobs and services you would need. Contact me at (720)-369-6941 or clayton.saunders19@gmail.com

My name is Delaney Liebke, and I am 17 years old and am available for babysitting or pet sitting throughout the Larkspur area. I have had my licence for over a year now, so I can drive any place necessary. Please contact me at dgliebke@gmail.com or 303-681-9091.

New! Super Summer Nanny/Sitter Available For Hire: Need a fun, dependable, affordable nanny to provide care for your kiddo(s) this summer? My name is Teaghan Todd; I am a freshman in high school and I absolutely love kids. I am responsible, CPR/AED certified, and have my babysitting certification. I would love to help give your kids a summer they can remember. Call or text me at (303) 726 7534 or email me at teartodd@gmail.com

My name is Kylie Cronin and I am 14 years old. I am great with children and animals and will always give them 100% of my attention. If you are looking for an experienced and dependable baby sitter, pet sitter, or someone to do household chores please contact me at kylie.queen21@gmail.com or 720-412-1567. I am looking for work in the Perry Park and Larkspur area.

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

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Proofreaders: Thanks to Terry Brownfied for carefully proofreading!

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

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The *Sentinel* will correct all errors occurring in the paper. If you find a problem with a story - an error of fact, or a point requiring clarification, please call a member of the Editorial Staff. The opinions expressed in the *Sentinel* are not necessarily the opinions of the staff or its advertisers.

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