

SUNSET ON JACKASS HILL

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Etiquette For Dog Parents

Dog parents have a responsibility to manage their pets' behavior and follow certain rules of etiquette. Follow these guidelines to ensure that you and your dog are being courteous community members.

- **Scoop your poop.** Bring several bags on your walks to be sure you have enough. If you run out, either come back and clean it up later, or ask another walker if they have a bag to spare.
- **Prevent barking.** Practice getting your dog's attention to easily redirect him if he barks at people or other dogs. If you know your dog acts this way, only allow him in the yard when supervised.
- **Only let your dog greet a stranger if they ask.** The same rule applies if you see another dog and caretaker approaching. Ask first and respect the other's response.
- **Always leash your dog on walks.** Not everyone is comfortable around dogs. Keep your dog close to you and stay alert to others. Your leash should be short enough to prevent your dog from contacting or jumping on passersby.
- **Don't play while on leash.** If you meet another dog on a walk (and it's alright with their caretaker) let the dogs sniff each other for five seconds and move on. Letting your dog play with another dog while on leash can result in injury and teach your dog that all dogs enjoy this kind of interaction, although many don't.
- **Be aware of other people's feelings.** If your dog does something to upset someone (jumping up, barking) apologize to them and take measures to prevent the situation from reoccurring.

— Animal Humane Society

Family Mother's Day Activities

TAKE AN AT-HOME TRIP: Even if you can't hop on a flight to Paris for the weekend, Mom can still enjoy a little taste of France (or any other destination that intrigues you). Start by buying some French croissants for breakfast. Then pack a picnic lunch of French bread, cheese, and fruit—or order a meal from your favorite deli or restaurant (quiche, anyone?). For an added touch, adorn your kitchen or dining room table with a red-and-white-checked tablecloth and fresh flowers, put on some French music, and teach the kids a few basic words in French, such as “bonjour” (good morning) and “merci” (thank you). Even better? Have your waitstaff do all the food prep and cleaning!



SHARE OLD MEMORIES: One sentimental way to share family memories is by looking through old photographs or home movies. If you live near Grandma or Grandpa, ask them to pull out old mementos of Mom as a child, and take a trip together down memory lane. The kids will get a kick out of the styles of clothes their mom wore—not to mention the fact that there may be visible proof that Mom was once a baby, toddler, and teen. And who knows? The clothes Mom rocked in the past just may very well be back in style again!

CREATE A FAMILY COMIC STRIP: Start a new tradition this year by creating a family comic strip. Take a long sheet of paper, and draw three or four large squares next to one another, like a newspaper comic strip. Then, think of an event, celebration, or something funny that happened this past year, and illustrate it with markers, crayons, or paints. Be sure to include dialogue, a date, and a title, such as “Life with the Smiths.”

Older children can help with the drawing and writing, while younger kids can dictate their thoughts or help color. Save your comic strip, and create another one next year and others in years to come. When you're ready to compile all of your strips into a book, stack the pages and thread them together with sturdy yarn. Or, go digital and upload them to your favorite photo-sharing website and order a memory book to enjoy together.

HOST A LIP-SYNC CONTEST: Nothing brightens a family celebration quite like music. But if you want to really turn up the fun, stage your own “lip-sync” contest. To begin, each family member will choose a favorite song. Then turn on the music, and have each person lip-sync the words to the song, doing their best to mimic the performer. Other family members can rate the performance from 1 (not at all like the performer) to 5 (exactly like the performer), and write down their score on a card. The person with the highest score wins the contest.

RECREATE THE SPA AT HOME: At some point on Mother's Day, moms usually want a little rest and relaxation. Make sure they get what they need—and deserve—by creating a list of “spa services” they can choose from. The list could include:

continued on page 2

Mother's Day, *continued from front page*

- An hour alone so they can call a friend or soak in the tub
- The opportunity to take a nap
- A massage from their partner or children
- A manicure at their favorite nail salon

The kids can make up coupons with each of these services, and encourage Mom to redeem them throughout Mother's Day.

PLANT SOME FLOWERS

If you have some extra space in your garden, you can create a live Mother's Day canvas. First, buy various packets of flower seeds that grow fast and well in your region. Then have your kids draw a picture or write a short message (like "We love Mom") in the garden dirt with a stick. Drop the flower seeds into the dirt lines; then cover them up, and water every few days. Before long, your picture (or message) will be blooming, and you'll have a Mother's Day gift that keeps on growing.

MAKE SENTIMENTAL ARTWORK

On a warm day, go outside and have your children (and anyone else who's game) place their hands and feet into a shallow tub of colorful, nontoxic paint. Spread out a roll of butcher paper, and encourage everyone to press their hands and feet onto it, leaving their prints behind. Label each handprint and footprint with the person's name, the date, and a special message to Mom, and allow your collective masterpiece to dry. Try this activity again next year, and see how much bigger some hands and feet have become!

—<https://www.parents.com/holiday/mothers-day>

Advertise in this Newsletter!

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.



Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or info@newsletterconnections.com

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Real Estate Has Officially Awakened For Spring!

Last week the real estate market hit some milestones. There were more homes listed that same week than seen since 2012 and sold prices hit an ALL TIME HIGH! It is definitely time to sell if that is in your plans.

Contact me with questions regarding your home's value, the selling process, and what updates you should consider.

— **Celia Zaharas, Your Trusted Realtor**
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MARKET ON YOUR CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #004a87;">Saturdays</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #c00000;">SOUTHWEST PLAZA</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #004a87;">MAY 4 - OCT 26</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.9em;">Southeast Parking Lot Wadsworth & Bowles 8am-2pm or Sellout</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #004a87;">Saturdays</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #c00000;">LAKEWOOD</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #004a87;">JUN 15 - SEP 28</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.9em;">Mile Hi Church Alameda & Garrison 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #004a87;">Sundays</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #c00000;">HIGHLANDS RANCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #004a87;">MAY 5 - OCT 27</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.9em;">HR Town Center 9288 Dorchester St. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #004a87;">Wednesdays</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #c00000;">LITTLETON</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: #004a87;">JUN 19 - SEP 25</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.9em;">Aspen Grove 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>

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—Victor Hugo



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April showers means May 15 is Bring Flowers to Someone Day to celebrate why giving flowers plays a significant roll in kindness. Flowers are one of nature's most beautiful gifts. Bring Flowers to Someone Day is the perfect way to give the gift of love and kindness to those around you. Whether you gift flowers to show sympathy or give them just because, the simple act of giving flowers brings joy to the recipient.

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Memorial Day Activities With Kids

We're so excited for the summer! The pools are opening, the grill's heating up, and school's winding down. But in the midst of the fun, take a few minutes to teach your family that Memorial Day is a special time to recognize the service men and women who've fought for our country.

Explain the History of Memorial Day

The Memorial Day tradition began around the Civil War, when folks wanted to honor the soldiers who had died in that conflict by decorating their graves. There's some disagreement over whether this started in the south or in Waterloo, NY, but in either case, the tradition started as Decoration Day. Families would gather together at cemeteries, bringing picnics and remembering, together, those whom they had lost. Gradually Decoration Day became Memorial Day, and in 1971, Memorial Day became a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Monday of May. While Memorial Day is specifically a holiday to recognize the sacrifices of men and women who have died in combat, many people also spend the day honoring veterans and current service personnel and working for peace and unity with all people.



take off hats as veterans pass in a parade. Have them look for American flags, and point out that, officially, flags are to be flown at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day as a remembrance. During services you may also see soldiers fire rifles into the air or people throwing flowers into the ocean in memory of those lost at sea. Next time you're at your local town hall or playground, check for a memorial and take time to read it with your kids.

Make a Tasty Treat

Bring cookies or another treat to our neighbor, a World War II veteran. It's wonderful to recognize someone your kids know. But it's also fun to enjoy a treat yourselves! A simple one is a blueberry and strawberry parfait with yogurt, whipped cream, or ice cream. Put them into clear plastic containers to show the patriotic colors, and pop them into the freezer if it's a hot day.

Craft Something Special

Want to slide in a history lesson while keeping little hands busy? You can help kids make a tissue paper poppy while explaining about Memorial Day's origins, then explain that poppies, because they are blood-red, became a symbol of sacrifice during World War I. These are easy to create, and they make a lovely gift.

—<https://denver.kidsoutandabout.com>

Watch a Parade or Memorial Service

We have some local parades, and kids love a parade, but you can also take the opportunity to point out traditions and Memorial Day etiquette. Teach children that we stand and

Spring has not Disappointed!



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