



June 2024

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Landscape Volunteer Days

The Alpers Farm HOA is looking for volunteers to spread mulch throughout our community on **Sunday, June 9th and Sunday July 14th from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.** Pizza and water/soda will be provided. Please sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0549A9AA2DAAFB6-49828509-elpers> so we can send you additional information. This will be a great time to enhance the landscaping throughout our community and meet some new neighbors.

Alpers Farm Picnic

Please mark your calendars for the afternoon of **Saturday, August 10th** for a neighborhood picnic. More info to come soon, so check your email!



Property Manager

Angela Christensen

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Email: angela@kchoa.com

Alpers Farm HOA Improvements

DID YOU KNOW that the Alpers Farm HOA has completed several projects over the past few years and has plans to make additional improvements to the community.

Past projects include:

- Rehabilitation of the monument signs (replacement of rotted wood, new paint, and new metal drip cover)
- Landscape improvements to the south monument sign (removal of invasive grass/plants, new drip lines and plantings)
- Removal of several invasive trees from detention ponds
- Replacement of damaged plastic edging with metal edging
- Fence rehabilitation (replacement of damaged posts/pickets, staining of over 3,600 ft. of split rail and privacy fence)
- Replacement of sunken concrete mailbox pad
- Professional pruning of over 80 trees
- Turf conversion of 6,700 S.F. to native grass (by north monument sign)

Future projects include:

- Permanent electrical service and lighting of both monument signs
- Pruning of remaining HOA trees (future 3 yr cycle)
- Removal/replacement of outdated and damaged drip systems
- Replacement of damaged plastic edging
- Conversion of mulch to rock in certain landscape beds

Father's Day Activities That Are Fun For The Whole Family

TAKE A WOODWORKING CLASS: There's something about crafting something from wood that's so rewarding. Whether your guy is already a master carpenter or just interested in learning more about the skill, attend a local woodworking class or sign up for one online. Even if he just ends up making a footstool or chopping board, it's a fun project and he gets to keep the fruit of his hard work as a sweet Father's Day memory.

BUILD A MODEL: Remember the days of carefully making a miniature car, tank, rocket or other model kit? Your dad probably does, too, and would probably love to make one again. Order a kit online or head to the hobby store to find the project that suits him best. If you've got the time, join him in the project. After all, time spent together on Father's Day is the best gift you can give your dad.

CREATE A MAN CAVE: Does your dad have a space all his own? If not, help him make a man cave where he can retreat to watch all his favorite shows on TV or tinker around without worrying about messing up the throw pillows. No need to have a spare room or basement, just a spot or corner where he can kick back and chill.

GO GOLFING: Dads and golf go together like, well, dads and golf. You can't go wrong being his caddy for the day while he practices his chip shot on the fairway. Not much of a golfer? No worries, miniature golf is a blast and an activity the whole family can join in on.

continued on page 2

Fathers Day, *continued from front page*

PLAN A FISHING TRIP: Catching fish is usually less important than the time spent out on the water taking in the scenery and enjoying the great outdoors. Whether you nab a couple for dinner or just toss back a few beers while hanging out with your dad, you can't go wrong taking him fishing on Father's Day.

BUILD A BIRDHOUSE: Spend the day building a birdhouse together either from scratch or using an easy DIY kit. Along with encouraging his favorite fowl to nest nearby, the time you spend working together on the project is sure to leave you with lasting memories.

PLAY PICKLEBALL: Think tennis meets ping pong, and you've got the latest sports craze taking over the country. Pickleball courts are popping up everywhere, so find one near you and take Dad for a fun day out in the sun.

BUILD A FORT: Make him feel like a kid again by building a fort for Father's Day. If you're up to the task, install a shed. After all, everyone knows that sheds are really just forts for grown-ups. For a temporary solution, throw sheets and blankets over a few chairs and call it a day.

RENT A BOAT OR KAYAK: If you're lucky enough to own a kayak or boat, there's no better day to take it out — weather-permitting, of course. Otherwise, find a local place with available rentals, so you can spend Father's Day out on the water.

ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR: There's nothing dads like more than ice cream. Nothing. Assemble a sweet spread, complete with an assortment of ice cream flavors and toppings. Hand him a super-size bowl and spoon, then let him eat to his heart's content.

—<https://www.today.com/life/holidays/>

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Alpers Farm

Community Association Manager:
Angela Christensen
Direct: 303-933-6279 | angela@kchoa.com

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 15th of the month before the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 10th. Please email news articles to the editor at klarson@pcms.net. All "Letters to the Editor" must be signed and include a daytime phone number in case there are any questions. Letters may be printed without the author's name if requested.

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<p style="margin: 0;">Sundays</p> <p style="margin: 0;">HIGHLANDS RANCH</p> <p style="margin: 0;">MAY 5 - OCT 27</p> <p style="margin: 0;">HR Town Center 9288 Dorchester St. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Wednesdays</p> <p style="margin: 0;">LITTLETON</p> <p style="margin: 0;">JUN 19 - SEP 25</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Aspen Grove 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr. 10am-2pm or Sellout</p>

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June Is Colorado Pollinator Month

When people hear the word “pollinators” they usually think of bees, but ants, beetles, butterflies, flies, hummingbirds, and moths are also primary pollinators in our state. Pollination is the transfer of pollen to stigma, within or between flowers and plants. A plant’s flowers need to be pollinated to complete their life cycle of producing fruit and seeds that make more plants.

Pollinators are nearly as important as sun, soil, and water in the production of most fruits and vegetables. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, over three-quarters of the staple crops that feed the world rely on animal pollination. On a small scale, a lack of pollination results in a fruitless tree. However, since many of the foods we eat require pollination on a larger scale that could mean a shortage to our food supply. So, the month of June has been officially designated as pollinator month to help bring awareness to the importance of pollinators.

Here are a few action items to protect these important contributors to food production and beauty in our world:

- **Plant flowers in groups.** Groupings or clumps of plants will attract more pollinators than single plants scattered. A bee or butterfly will feed more if they don’t have to travel too far between plants.
- **Think of providing flowers throughout the season.** Plant a variety of plants that flower at different times to offer continuous pollen and nectar sources. A few examples of spring plants could include blue flax, allium, crocus, and serviceberries. For summer you might try blanket flower, bee balm, lavender, and sage. For fall, hyssop, coreopsis, common sunflower, and golden rod.

- **Use insecticides carefully, if at all.** This is self-explanatory!
- **Grow native flowering plants which are adapted to local soil and climate.** Plant Select has many great plant recommendations that are suited to Colorado and known for their hardiness and low water consumption. For a good list of native plants, check out the CSU Extension Website for the fact sheets: NativeHerbaceous Perennials for Colorado Landscapes – 7.242 and CreatingPollinator Habitat – 5.616

It is quite amazing but there are over 950 species of bees in Colorado alone. Did you know that hummingbirds can fly backwards and upside down? Also, the average life-span of those beautiful adult butterflies is roughly three to four weeks so take a moment to look around in your yard and notice the pollinators and be kind to them this June and always!



– <https://csuhort.blogspot.com>

National Flag Day

On June 14th, National Flag Day honors Old Glory and commemorates the adoption of the United States flag on June 14, 1777. The holiday is a day that Americans show respect for the U.S. Flag and what it represents. Representing independence and unity, the Star-Spangled Banner has become a powerful symbol of Americanism and the flag is flown proudly.

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The Best Family Podcasts For Road Trips

Have summer travel plans? Tune in to one of these podcasts to help pass the time. Quell the insistent “Are we there yet?” questions with entertainment that inspires and teaches kids something new. These podcasts have adventure at their core, so your young travelers will get excited about their audio journey, and destination.

Camp Adventure is a 12-episode series filled with camp-themed segments such as mail time, sing-alongs, and games. Counselors Ben and Hannah take listeners through silly and educational tales with themes such as caring for nature and snorkeling, Spanish lessons, even hands-on creative challenges.

Dorktales Storytime features two kinds of storytelling that listeners can choose from: wacky retellings of classic fairytales that incorporate important life lessons, and lesser known stories about hidden heroes of history. There’s Evelyn Cheesman who collected over 70,000 undiscovered species of insects and plants, and Tenzing Norgay who served as a guide on the first ascent of Mount Everest. Families can also sign up for bonus materials online.

Aaron’s World is full of time-traveling adventure and dinosaur science as told by a kid, Aaron, who spent five years (from age six to 11) putting together this 50-episode drama. The story follows a young boy and his computer companion as they explore a prehistoric world and learn about different creatures and science topics. Each episode is self-contained, but a larger arc pulls the series together and leads listeners to an anticipated finale.

Circle Round For Storytime! This podcast from Boston’s NPR station introduces kids ages four to 10 to folktales from cultures around the world, including a story about a busy bird from the Native American traditions of the Hitchiti, Cherokee, and Navajo people. Each 10- to 20-minute episode teaches kids life lessons about perseverance, generosity, and kindness; they also end with activities that inspire conversation between kids and adults.

Purple Rocket Podcast was created by a father of three who needed an outlet for the wild stories floating in his head, and who wanted to invite kids along for the ride. The result is a mix of story series, including “Grandpa’s Globe,” a nine-episode tale about kids who use a magic globe to explore the world (similar to Magic Treehouse books); and “Space Train,” which follows Doug and friends onto a flying locomotive that takes them through the universe.



Greeking Out, by National Geographic, features original retellings of Greek mythology—with some forays into other tales from Loki and Norse origin—in a kid-friendly form. Stories of gods and goddesses, monsters, and heroes transport listeners to a different time and place. Because myths can include complex themes that might be hard to explain to a child (sacrifice, for example, or getting pregnant from eating fruit), each episode begins with an overview content so parents can decide if the story is appropriate for their child.

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Red, White & You

Wednesday, July 3, 2024 in Clement Park

Red, White & You is a FREE patriotic, community event focusing on fun for the whole family! Red, White & You is the largest free community event in South Jefferson County. Geared toward all ages and designed to bring the community together, attendance is estimated at 35,000+ annually. The event includes kids' activities, live entertainment, food concessions, community business booths, beer & wine garden, and a fireworks display. Event runs rain or shine.

*What is one to say about June,
the time of perfect young summer,
the fulfillment of the promise of the
earlier months, and with as yet no sign
to remind one that its fresh young
beauty will ever fade."*

– Gertrude Jekyll



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