



The Leawood Reporter

Published by the Leawood Civic Association

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January 2026

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Dates To Remember:

Upcoming Events:

Leawood Civic Association

January 13th: Leawood Civic meeting
6:30 at Leawood Elementary

Upcoming LCA Events

Easter Egg Hunt in April
Garage Sale in May
Cleanup Day in June

*January, the first
month of the
year. A perfect
time to start
all over again,
changing energies
and deserting
old moods, new
beginnings,
new attitudes.*

—Charmaine J. Forde

Scholarship

Deadline Details

Applications must be received by Tuesday,
March 31st, 2026. See details on page 4.

Santa Party Success

The Leawood Santa Party was a magical success, filled with joy, laughter, and holiday spirit! A heartfelt thank you to Santa and Mrs. Claus for spreading Christmas cheer and making memories with the children. We also extend our gratitude to the parents and children for their enthusiasm, patience, and for keeping this cherished tradition alive. Your smiles and excitement are what make this event so special. We can't wait to see everyone again next year for another season of festive fun!

*January is here, with eyes that keenly glow,
a frost-mailed warrior striding a shadowy
steed of snow. — Edgar Fawcett*

Membership Drive Happening Now!

Don't miss your chance to join the Leawood Civic Association for the upcoming year! Membership is open, and it's the perfect time to get involved, support community events, and stay connected with your neighbors.

For just \$30 per household annually, your membership helps fund neighborhood favorites like the Leawood Picnic, holiday events, scholarships, and so much more.

Sign up today at LeawoodNeighbors.com and be part of what makes Leawood an amazing place to live!

What the Leawood Civic Association Does and Why You Should Join

The Leawood Civic Association (LCA) is made up of your neighbors, working together to promote and protect the best interests of our community.

We are **not an HOA**—membership is voluntary, and you're not required to attend meetings to participate. However, if you'd like to get involved, we meet once a month for just one hour to plan fun events and activities for the neighborhood.

WHAT WE DO

Here are just a few of the things we organize and maintain:

- **Community Events:** Easter Egg Hunt, Garage Sales, Summer Front Yard Parties, Car & Craft Show, Leawood Picnic, Santa Party, and more!
- **Leawood Entrance Maintenance:** Keeping the Bowles entrance looking its best.
- **Neighborhood News:** We publish *The Reporter* to keep everyone informed about community happenings.
- **Scholarships:** We offer scholarships for local high school seniors—encourage your eligible student to apply this year!
- **Clean-Up Day:** We provide dumpsters for residents to use for a small fee (a great deal compared to renting your own!).

The National Western Stock Show & Rodeo

January 10-25, 2026

Each winter, nearly 700,000 people visit the National Western Stock Show, an extravaganza of about 30 rodeos, 11 horse shows, and countless other attractions just a couple of miles from the heart of Denver. For so many visitors from the increasingly urbanized West, the Stock Show offers a rare window into Western tradition and the incredible importance that agriculture and ranching industries have made to revolutionize our daily lives.

For many other visitors, the National Western Stock Show is a pilgrimage, a gathering of the extended family that sustains and defines the West. Since the first Stock Show in 1906, it has been a place where generations of farmers and ranchers – people whose hard work feeds the rest of us – spend time reuniting with old friends, learning about new approaches and techniques in agriculture and ranching, and doing some business, year after year.



Minutes For Leewood Metropolitan Recreation And Park District

Special Meeting, November 29, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
5324 Leewood Dr., Littleton, CO 80123

Attendees: Board Members Zach Sack, Marci Turaga, Vicki Grove and Park Manager Ken Leaf

Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm

The tree care contract by Designs By Sundown was reviewed. Motion was made to approve the contract for approx. \$57k and allow Designs By Sundown to begin tree removal, trimming, and maintenance in the order of urgency and importance based on their professional recommendation. Unanimously approved, including an asynchronous vote by Carole Gottlieb.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Minutes Submitted by Marci Turaga, Secretary.

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Leewood Civic Association Board Members

P.O. Box 620397, Littleton, CO 80162

President: Laurie Sarno 720-244-4921

Vice President: Paul O'Connor 303-507-8767

Treasurer: Paul Klinger 303-960-7871

Secretary: Nancy Bock 303-794-5454

Editor: **NEED VOLUNTEER Open Position**

Membership: **NEED VOLUNTEER Open Position**



Jesse Opgenorth

Chip Langowski

Rhonda Eveleth 303-898-5418

Dave Sarno 720-244-4921

Camille Sankey 303-884-2773

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month 6:30-7:30 p.m. (or unless otherwise noted) at Leewood Elementary during the school year and at Leewood Park in June, July & August. (no meetings December) Location information is always specified on the first page of the Reporter every month. Visitors are encouraged to attend LCA meetings. We welcome all comments, ideas or suggestions.

The *Leewood Reporter* is published monthly by the Leewood Civic Association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter is delivered by direct mail to all residents of Leewood.

News Articles:

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email your ideas and articles to feedback@leewoodneighbors.com or call 720.295.5221. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, and are included as space permits.

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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Leewood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board Members

P. O. Box 620802, Littleton, CO 80162-0802 • 303-281-8766

President/Treasurer: Carole Gottlieb

Secretary: Margaret Turaga

Board Member: Jesse Opgenorth

Parks Manager: Ken Leaf

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00p.m. in the Leewood Elementary School (during school year), Leewood Park Pavilion (during Summer). Visitors are always welcome!

Questions for the Park Board? Questions, concerns, or comments for the Park Board? Contact any of the Park Board members listed above.

LCA Minutes November 4th, 2005

Attending: Nancy Bock, Rhonda Eveleth, Chip Langowski, Paul O'Connor, Jesse Opgenorth, Camille Sanky, Dave Sarno, Laurie Sarno.

Treasurer's Report:

No treasurer's report was given, as Paul Klingers wife was in the hospital having a baby.

Discussion Items:

Santa Party- Neither the Sarno's or Rhonda Eveleth will be able to attend the Santa party. Rhonda is arranging for help so the event will run smoothly.

Halloween Holiday Lighting Conest: Winners of the Halloween lighting contest were awarded either a gift card or membership to the LCA. Laurie mentioned that she currently does not have posting rights on the Leawood Neighbors platform. In response, Chip will add Laurie to the list of board members authorized to post, allowing her to share the holiday lighting contest winners in a timely manner.

Laurie suggested several ways the board could raise additional funds to add to the LCA treasury. In response, Jesse asked about the purpose of raising these funds and the intended uses. One proposal was to increase the number of scholarships awarded to high school students. Another idea was to use the funds to purchase new signs for advertising LCA events.

There will be no LCA meeting in December. The next meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday in January, which falls on January 13th.

Meeting ended at 7:25pm.

Fitness Goals: Setting Up For A Successful Resolution

- **Be Specific & Realistic:** Instead of "get fit," aim for "walk 15 mins, 3x/week".
- **Start Small:** Build momentum with achievable mini-goals, like "exercise snacks" throughout the day (stairs, jumping jacks).
- **Find Your Fun:** Choose activities you genuinely enjoy (dancing, hiking, sports) to make it sustainable.
- **Schedule It:** Block out workout times in your calendar like important meetings.

Staying Motivated

- **Get a Buddy:** An accountability partner or group provides support and consistency.
- **Track Progress:** Monitor small wins to build confidence and see how far you've come.
- **Reward Yourself:** Celebrate milestones with non-food rewards like new gear or a spa day.
- **Fuel Your Body:** Ensure you're eating well and staying hydrated, and don't forget sleep and rest days.

Overcoming Obstacles

- **Plan for Setbacks:** Prepare for illness or travel by having backup plans (e.g., hotel gym, walkable area).
- **Don't Aim for Perfection:** If you miss a workout, just get back on track with the next one; consistency is key, not a rigid schedule.
- **Focus on Enjoyment:** If exercise feels like a chore, you're more likely to quit; find joy in the process.

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Winter’s Work: Rest, Renewal And Resilience In The Garden

When the garden settles under a blanket of snow, it can feel as though everything is lifeless and still. But in reality, winter is not wasted time; it’s a season of rest and recovery. Just like people and animals, plants benefit from downtime, and the cold months are essential for their long-term survival.

In winter, many plants enter a state called dormancy, nature’s version of sleep. Dormancy is far from passive; it’s an active survival strategy refined over millennia. When temperatures drop and daylight wanes, perennials, shrubs, and trees respond by redirecting their energy from leaves and flowers down into their root systems. This strategically allows plants to conserve resources during harsh conditions while preparing for spring’s explosive growth.

Winter does more than recharge individual plants – it also benefits the larger ecosystem. Freezing temperatures naturally suppress pests and diseases, keeping populations in check. Cycles of freezing and thawing help break down leaves and organic matter, thereby enriching the soil. Snow, often called “the poor man’s fertilizer,” insulates plant roots, adds moisture and slowly releases nitrogen into the ground as it melts. In this way, the cold season is as much about renewal as it is about rest.

Some plants require a certain amount of cold before they can germinate (a process called cold stratification) or flower. Many beloved garden plants, from peonies to fruit trees, require a specific number of “chilling hours” below 45°F to break bud properly come spring. Without this cold period, flowering may be sparse or entirely absent. It’s nature’s quality control mechanism, ensuring plants don’t waste energy blooming during

unreliable warm spells that could end in frost damage.

Colorado native plants are masters of winter survival. Species like penstemon, blanket flower and pasque flower have evolved alongside our dramatic temperature swings and intense sun exposure. Their dormancy strategies are finely tuned to our semi-arid climate, where winter moisture slowly percolates into the soil while plants rest. By incorporating natives into your garden, you’re working with plants that have perfected the art of thriving through Colorado’s challenging winters, emerging each spring with a vigor that comes from generations of adaptation.

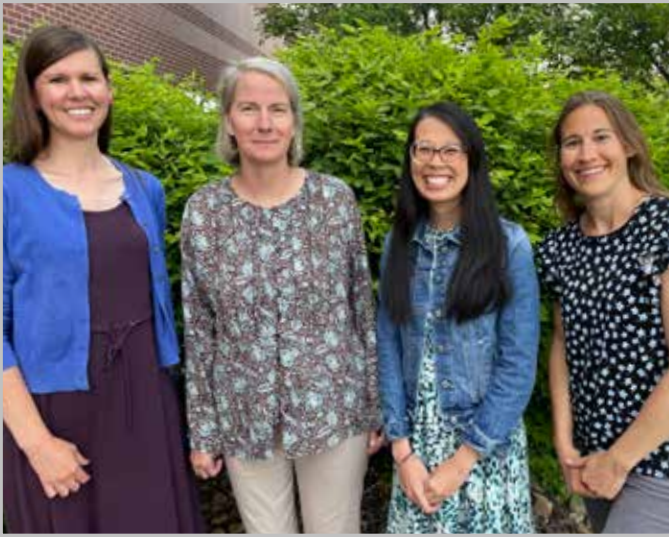
For those who love their gardens, winter can feel like a long wait. But it’s worth remembering that this downtime is essential. Resist the urge to overprotect perennials from the cold; many need the chill. Instead, embrace winter as nature’s way of giving your garden a chance to recharge. While the plants are resting, we can do the same – dreaming, planning and preparing for the vibrant burst of life that spring will bring.

— By Pam Rosendal, Colorado Master Gardener

National Clean Off Your Desk Day

January 13 is an opportunity to begin your new year with a clean and organized workspace. Whether your desk is in a private or shared office, cubicle, home or a make-shift desk on the counter, having your workspace uncluttered and organized will help you work more efficiently. A clean workspace improves productivity and inspires us, too. It often gives us a sense of serenity.

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Denver Zoo Free Days

- Friday, January 9
- Sunday, January 25
- Sunday, February 22
- Sunday, April 19
- Wednesday, November 11
- Saturday, November 14
- Sunday, November 22



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LCA Balance Sheet Nov. 2025

CHECKING	DEBIT	CREDIT
11/1 Beginning Balance.....		\$7,521.82
11/7 Ionos: Email Hosting	4.00	
11/20 Reporter Postage	273.00	
11/20 Check: Xcel Energy	14.44	
11/24 Acuity - Insurance Payment	350.00	
TOTALS.....	641.44	
Ending Balance		\$6,880.38
SAVINGS		
11/1 Beginning Balance.....		\$1,026.97
Interest.....	\$0.04	
11/30 Ending Balance		\$1,027.01
TOTAL ASSETS		\$7,907.39

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Leawood Statistics for December 2025

Current Homes FOR SALE in Leawood

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$625,000	\$950,000	2
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	\$690,000	\$775,000	2
Bi-level	None	None	0

Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in Leawood

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	None	None	0
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	\$580,000	\$580,000	1
Bi-level	None	None	0

Homes SOLD in Leawood (April 1, 2025–Dec. 5, 2025)

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$570,000	\$700,000	3
2-story	\$645,000	\$725,000	4
Tri/Multi-level	\$520,000	\$900,000	10
Bi-level	\$795,000	\$795,000	1

The statistical information is based on MLS data Dec. 5, 2025. Not all of the properties were listed and/or sold by Duffy & Associates, LLC.

What Clients are Saying About Duane...

The experience of working with Duane was phenomenal! He will tell you the truth, not just what you want to hear. He is methodical and calming—excellent personality traits that carry you through a trying time. The fact that Duane is an expert in the Columbine area is an added bonus. I would wholeheartedly recommend Duane to sell your home. Don't hesitate—he will take excellent care of you! J. S.

We would not hire any realtor, other than Duane, to find us the right home and to sell our existing property. During the process Duane became our lifelong realtor and, even more importantly, a true friend. C. & M. E.



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