



# The Leawood Reporter

Published by the Leawood Civic Association

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November 2025

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## Dates To Remember:

### Upcoming Events:

#### Leawood Civic Association

**October 26th:** Halloween Decorating Contest Voting Ended. Winners will be picked by LCA and will be announced in the December newsletter.

**November 4th:** LCA Board Meeting, Leawood Elementary, 6:30pm

**December 10th:** Santa Clause at Leawood Elementary, 6:00-7:30pm

**THERE IS NO LCA BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER**

### Upcoming Events:

#### Rec & Park District

**Thursday, November 13, 2025,**  
6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary

**Thursday, December 11, 2025,**  
6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary

## Leaf Place Cards



Adorn mini pumpkins with cute leaf name tags. Mix up the colors to create a pretty palette!

**Santa Will Be Coming Early To Leawood Elementary: December 10th, 6:00-7:30pm**



## Join The LCA Board – We Need You!

Want to make a difference in your neighborhood? We're looking for two new board members to help us keep things running smoothly and build up our community. You'll attend monthly LCA meetings, join in on fun events, and take on a role that only takes a couple of hours each month.

### MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Keep track of new memberships and renewals in our website portal. Plus, bring your creative ideas for making membership even more valuable—like cool perks, advertising options, or boosting our annual membership drive.

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Love sharing stories? You'll write the front-page content for our newsletter, share event updates, and coordinate with LMPRD. Don't worry—you won't be alone; advertisers and the printer provide the rest.

Both positions are a low time commitment and a great way to get connected, meet your neighbors, and have a say in shaping our community.

**Interested?** Reach out to us at [lcaboard@leawoodneighbors.com](mailto:lcaboard@leawoodneighbors.com), or give Laurie a call at 720-244-4921.



*We should just be thankful for being together. I think that's what they mean by Thanksgiving.*  
– Charlie Brown

## Don't Blow Leaves Into The Street

As we enter the fall season, leaves all around Colorado are starting to fall. Although pretty in the trees, the leaves can cause issues in the streets.

You could face a fine if you rake or blow the fall leaves from your lawn into the streets. That's because the leaves, or other yard waste, can clog the storm drains and cause flooding. It is also dangerous for our water quality.

## WeeCycle Donation Drive

**Wednesday, November 5, 2025, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Aspen Grove**

Give your gently used baby gear a second life! WeeCycle and Timbuk Toys are teaming up for a special Pop-Up Gear Drive at Aspen Grove (in the parking lot near Timbuk Toys), making it easy for you to donate baby and toddler essentials to families in need.

### What to Donate:

- Gently used baby & toddler clothing (newborn – 5T)
- Diapers & wipes (new & unopened)
- Gear & essentials like strollers, car seats (less than 6 years old), pack 'n plays, and carriers

Every donation helps WeeCycle support Colorado families in need, ensuring all little ones have access to essential items.

## LCA Minutes

LCA MEETING – OCTOBER 7TH, 2025

**Members present:** Nancy Bock, Rhonda Eveleth, Paul Klinger, Chip Langowski, Jesse Opgenorth, Paul O'Connor, Dave & Laurie Sarno

**Treasurer Report:** Paul reported another quiet month as far as expenses paid out. He has investigated banks that have Zell and is trying to narrow it down. Jesse & Paul O. pointed out we can keep the current credit union if we have Venmo. Board members agreed that it was a good option.

### Other topics:

Camille expressed concern that present signs for advertising events are getting old and deteriorating. Nancy contacted PTSA and advertising events on the school marquee board is an option. Other signage will be discussed next month.

Laurie discussed Platinum membership dinner being held next week at 3070 Sports Bar.

**Halloween Decorating Contest:** Laurie will buy Target gift cards for the three winning houses.

**Santa Party:** Will be on December 10th. Nancy called Mrs. Santa to make sure that date was good for her & Santa.

Meeting ended at 7:15pm.

## 16th Annual Denver Veterans Day Run, Festival And Parade

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Denver City Park

5K/10K RUN & RIPPETOE RUCK

The Denver Veterans Day Run, Parade and Festival is held to celebrate and honor the brave men and women who have served our country. Our origins stem from a passion to recognize the sacrifices made by our veterans, create a vibrant community event where we can come together in gratitude and support the mission to help Veterans in Colorado create economic vitality through career advancement and entrepreneurship.

This event supports the mission of Colorado Veterans Project focused on supporting Veterans and Transitioning Active Duty in the pursuit of vibrant careers, meaningful employment, and successful entrepreneurship to continue a meaningful life full of purpose and fulfillment.

Our event involves collaboration with veteran and military focused organizations with the support and collaboration of the City of Denver, ensuring a heartfelt and engaging celebration.

–<https://www.denerveteransday.com/>

*It's up to us to choose contentment and thankfulness now—and to stop imagining that we have to have everything perfect before we'll be happy.*

–Joanna Gaines

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### Leawood Civic Association Board Members

P.O. Box 620397, Littleton, CO 80162

<b>President:</b>	Laurie Sarno	720-244-4921
<b>Vice President:</b>	Paul O'Connor	303-507-8767
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Paul Klinger	303-960-7871
<b>Secretary:</b>	Nancy Bock	303-794-5454
<b>Editor:</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER Open Position</b>	
<b>Membership:</b>	<b>NEED VOLUNTEER Open Position</b>	
	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 Leawood Elementary during the school year and at Leawood 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 *Leawood Reporter* is published monthly by the Leawood Civic Association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter is delivered by direct mail to all residents of Leawood.

### 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@leawoodneighbors.com](mailto:feedback@leawoodneighbors.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](mailto:info@newsletterconnections.com)**



To find ad rates and discounts, go to [NewsletterConnections.com](http://NewsletterConnections.com) or scan QR code.

## Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board Members

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

President/Treasurer:	<b>Carole Gottlieb</b>
Secretary:	<b>Margaret Turaga</b>
Board Member:	<b>Jesse Opgenorth</b>
Parks Manager:	<b>Ken Leaf</b>

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00p.m. in the Leawood Elementary School (during school year), Leawood 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.

# 10 Tips For Raising Grateful Kids

Saying thank you is one of the first social rules many parents teach their children, and for good reason. We want our kids to be appreciative and not take things for granted, and learning to be grateful can improve kids' relationships, ability to empathize, and overall happiness. If you are looking for ways to reinforce the importance of gratitude or would like to find other meaningful ways your kids can show appreciation, here are some tips:

**1. Set an example.** Kids learn a lot from watching their parents. Show them what it means to be grateful by offering a genuine "thank you!" to a waitress who serves your food, a helpful neighbor, someone who holds the door open for you. But don't stop there — include your kids, too. Thanking children for doing things that are helpful, even when they are chores like putting away toys, reinforces the behavior and lets them know they're appreciated.

**2. Point out generosity.** Call attention to it when people (including your kids!) do things that go beyond what's expected — helping without being asked, being especially thoughtful, or taking extra time to do something because it's important to someone else. Send the message that you will notice if they knock themselves out for you, or for someone else.

**3. Have a talk.** Try asking your child how they feel when people say thank you to them for doing something nice, and then how they feel when they don't.

**4. Find fun ways to say thanks.** There are lots of ways to show gratitude. If your child isn't comfortable talking to strangers or has a hard time expressing themselves in writing, work together to come up with a different way for them to show

their appreciation. They could try giving a smile or a thumbs up if someone holds the door, or show grandma how much they love their new coat by drawing a thank you picture (or taking a smiling selfie!) instead of writing a card.

**5. Share the love.** Encourage kids to think of people who help them, from coaches to neighbors to the local firemen, and say thanks with cookies or cupcakes.

**6. Put things in perspective.** Talk to your kids about those who are less fortunate. Understanding that not everyone has the same advantages will help them develop compassion for others and gratitude for their own privileges.

**7. Let kids choose.** Encourage kids to turn their interests into action. Whether it's a fundraising drive at school, a bake sale, or a run for charity, expressing their interests and using their skills for a good cause is a great way to boost their confidence and give them a chance to give back at the same time.

**8. Get involved.** If kids are too young to go alone or aren't comfortable dealing with strangers solo, make giving back a family affair. Find places where you can volunteer together or let your child choose a charity to donate to.

**9. Make gratitude part of bedtime.** When you tuck them in at night, ask your child to tell you three things they're grateful for. Even if they've had a bad day it will help them — and you — end each day on a positive note.

**10. Give kids credit.** Be mindful of the fact that your child may have their own way of expressing gratitude, even if it doesn't fit your expectations.

—<https://childmind.org/article>



**COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL**  
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**December 2nd, 2025**

**6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

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 www.chsrebels.net

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 10 am - 4 pm  
 6201 S. Pierce St., Littleton, CO, 80123

**Admission: \$2**  
 (Kids 10 and under FREE)

# Minutes For Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District

Board Meeting Minutes: October 8, 2025

The meeting of the Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Board was called to order at **6:02 p.m.** by President Carole Gottlieb.

**Board Members Present:** Carole Gottlieb (President), Jesse Opgenorth, and Zack Sack. **Others Present:** Ken Leaf (Park Manager), Judy Anderson, and Vicki Graves.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

### Treasurer's Report (Carole Gottlieb)

- The **Denver Water** bill for September was noted as being higher than in any previous month.
- The Board is awaiting the signatures of Carrie and Kyle to finalize the **2024 audit**.
- New bid for **dog waste pickup services** that is anticipated to **reduce current costs by 40%**.

## PARK MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

### Public Comments

- **Weaver Pavilion Electrical Outlets:** Jesse Opgenorth reported that the electrical outlets at the Weaver Pavilion require locks.
  - **Motion:** A motion to purchase **two combination locks** for the Weaver electrical boxes **passed 3-0**.
- **Graffiti:** The ongoing issue of **graffiti under the bridge** was discussed. Park Manager Ken Leaf was tasked with **investigating anti-graffiti paint solutions**.

### Park Manager Report (Ken Leaf)

- Rebar was cleared and collars were removed.
- Dog waste stations were cleared and serviced.
- The Benton flower bed was cleaned up, and the **purchase of mulch was approved**.
- New timbers for the playground swing set were installed by Brother's Landscape.
- A resident, Sheridan T-Trac, emailed the District regarding soggy turf and expressed interest in **splitting the cost of replacement trees**.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS AND LONG-TERM PLANNING

### Trees, Dams, and Stream Management (Zack Sack)

- Zack Sack is including commercial arborists in the search process for a **replacement firm** for Cox Landscaping
- Two arborist reports were received from **Jeffco**, both identifying **major issues** due to a lack of tree care, necessitating significant **removal, trimming, and replacement**.

*continued on page 5*

Reach your community with targeted advertising that connects! Showcase your business in our trusted newsletter. IT'S EASY TO GET STARTED!

December deadline: November 15th. Locally owned & operated.

January deadline: December 5th.

**NEWSLETTER CONNECTIONS**

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I've got 4 amazing group trips planned for 2026 and 2027!

If any of these adventures spark your interest, don't hesitate to reach out - I'd love to share more details with you.

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May 8 - 14, 2026: Holland, Michigan  
Tulip Festival w/ Mackinac Island

Aug. 2026: Scotland Experience  
featuring the Military Tattoo

Feb. 2027: Egypt with Collette

Aug. 2027: Victory Cruise on the Great Lakes

**BAM BROADBAND**

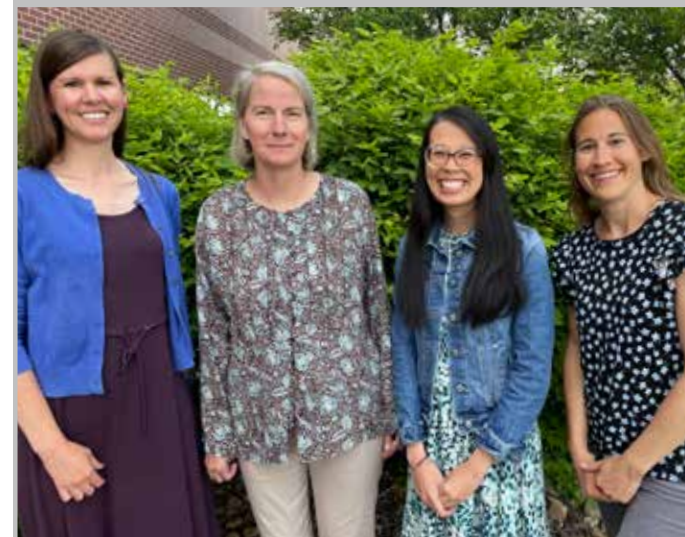
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We are accepting new patients and take most commercial insurance and Medicaid plans

# LMPRD Minutes, *continued from page 4*

- Another large tree fell along Weaver Park and has been removed.
- The Board plans to **move quickly** on the removal of compromised trees and to implement a replacement plan.
  - **Significant costs are anticipated**, with an initial estimate of **\$200,000+**.
- Initial arborist meetings revealed **conflicting views** on which trees to remove. Zack Sack will schedule **meetings** with both maintenance/arborists for a final determination.

## Sprinkler Systems (Zack Sack, Steve Wall, Vicky Graves)

- **Year-to-Date (YTD) irrigation costs** are more than double the prior year's costs.
- A **complimentary audit** of the Weaver system by **Resource Central** noted **major issues**.
- The Board will collaborate with the new maintenance firm to **determine necessary upgrades**.
- Steve Wall and Vicky Graves will research potential **grants or awards** available to fund the system upgrades.

## Beds and Signs (Judy Anderson)

- **New signs** detailing rules and prohibitions for the **tennis court** have arrived.
- Judy Anderson will continue her **bed improvement plan** in the spring.
- Will from **Creekside Gardens** has offered to provide **free design plans**.

## Insurance and Claim (Carole Gottlieb)

- Carole Gottlieb completed a full review of the insurance package with the agent (CSD).
- The Board unanimously agreed that an **insurance claim is warranted**. A successful claim would help **offset the estimated \$200,000+** needed for dead tree and shrub removal and replacement.
- The claim is scheduled to be filed in **Q4 2025**.

## Maintenance Firm Replacement (Zack Sack)

Zack Sack is currently scheduling meetings with **Sundown by Design** and **Lawncare Solutions** as candidates to replace the former firm.

## NEW BUSINESS

The following proposals were made by Tom Bryant:

Project	Vendor	Cost	Action
Flagstone Steps lift and repair (Weaver Park)	Wilderness Construction	\$1,900	Approved (3-0)
Woodbridge Railing repair (36 feet, both sides)	Wilderness Construction	\$2,500	Approved (3-0)

— Minutes Respectfully Submitted  
by Carole Gottlieb President/Treasurer

**(Clip AD & Save For Later)**



## HELPING HANDS

### Compassionate Care

**"We are given two hands. One to help ourselves – the second to help others."**

**"My focus is on the aging population needing assistance with the activities of daily living. I aim to make a significant difference, enhancing the lives of our elders, and their families, while helping each individual retain as much independence as possible." –Vickie**




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Vickie.HelpingHands.LLC@gmail.com



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contact@key2medicare.com



Currently we represent 13 organizations which offer 138 products in the state of Colorado. You can always contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for help with plan choices.

# The 15 Must-Dos Of Fall Yard Cleanup

**1. Clean out debris.** Clear out flower beds of leaves, etc. to keep the critters away from your house. Pay special attention to rose beds, as their foliage can foster disease over the winter.

**2. Clean up the vegetable garden.** After the final harvest, pull out old vegetable plants and remove debris. Now is the time to prep your soil for maximum yield next season.

**3. Trim rogue branches.** Trim up dead, damaged, or diseased branches. Prune out-of-place tree branches that may cause trouble during the winter.

**4. Clean out the gutters.** Before the rain and snow start falling, clear out the leaves and other debris from your home's rain gutters. Check for proper drainage, clear out any blockages with a small garden trowel, and rinse with a hose.

**5. Dry everything out.** Drain all water from hoses, fountains, drip irrigation, and other water features, and store them in a dry place. Don't forget to blow out those sprinklers!

**6. Aerate the lawn.** Break up soil to keep water from pooling and guarantee that nutrients will reach the roots over the winter.

**7. Feed the lawn.** Send your yard into winter with the nutrients it needs to survive the long, cold sleep. Add a fall lawn fertilizer with high phosphorous content to encourage root growth and enjoy a lush, green lawn come spring.

**8. Rake and mulch.** Left alone, leaf litter can suffocate the grass. So, rake them up, shred them, and use them as mulch for young trees, shrubs, and flower beds to provide a boost of nutrients, help with weed control, and keep roots warm. You might even be able to skip the raking part if you use a lawn mower to mulch the leaves in your yard.

**9. Prune trees and shrubs.** Trim any dead branches and cut back overgrown trees and bushes during your fall clean up routine. For fall bloomers, you may want to wait until they've stopped flowering, which can be late winter or early spring.

**10. Give it one last mow.** Set your mower to a low setting and give the lawn a close buzz before winter sets in.

**11. Divide and cut back perennials.** Divide plants and add them to other beds where they will also do well. This saves money and time in the spring. Fall-blooming perennials like chrysanthemums shouldn't be divided now—wait and divide them in the spring.

**12. Protect cold-sensitive plants.** Keep sensitive perennials, shrubs, and roses in top shape through the cold days of winter. Add mulch to the base and wrap plants in cloth barriers to prevent damage from freezing.

**13. Plant bulbs, shrubs, and fall annuals.** If you want to add new shrubs or spring bulbs like hyacinth, now is the time to get them in the ground. Fall annuals are also a great addition to keep some color in your yard as other plants go to sleep.

**14. Protect the deck.** Prevent mold and mildew by giving the deck a good power wash. Once the deck is clean and dry, add a weatherproofing stain to protect the wood from moisture damage over the winter.

**15. Clean tools and store them.** Plants get diseases just like humans and animals. All-purpose cleaner or rubbing alcohol can disinfect small tools like pruners and loppers while you can use bleach for larger metal tools like shovels.

—<https://www.safewise.com>



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**A&M Lawn Service: Fall Specials! Sprinkler Blow-Outs,** Sprinkler & Landscape repair. Lawn Aeration \$75 (5000 sf), Fall Fertilization \$50-130, Weekly Mowing \$30-\$130, Yard Clean Ups \$130 (hourly plus dump costs). Serving Jeffco/Littleton 45 yrs. 303-946-6995.

**Highlands Pride Ptg, Inter/Exterior- 303-738-9203**

**Remodel Contracting & Handyman Services.** JP construction. Lived & worked in the LW neighborhood since 1976. Tim Peterson 720-404-4522.

**Tutoring** - provides homework help, strengthens skills, and/or enrichment. Call/text Nancy, licensed teacher K-6, 303-932-9745 for availability.

**OB PAINTING.** \$500 off exterior/ 10% off interior. Free Estimates. Rob: 303-908-9063.

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**CLEARANCE/BLOWOUT ON NEW QUEEN AND KING ADJUSTABLE BEDS!** 50 year Leewood resident & manuf. Rep has blowout prices on NEW Top Quality Adjustable beds. Available now in Littleton at 50% below retail prices! All sizes, all features (ZERO GRAVITY, MASSAGE, LIGHTS Etc.) 303-929-6612. Also **NEW mattresses at 50% to 80% below retail.**

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**Haul It 4 Less.** All junk removal and hot tubs. Furniture, yard debris, garage, rental & estate clean outs. Peter 303-249-1980. www.haulit4less.com

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Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Newsletter Connections at 303-979-7499 or info@newsletterconnections.com to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at NewsletterConnections.com. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

**School News**



**Leewood Elementary School**

November 23rd-30th: No School



**Ken Caryl Middle School**

November 24th-30th: No School



**Columbine High School**

November 24th-30th: No School

**This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services**

*Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough.*

*—Oprah Winfrey*

**LCA Balance Sheet Sept. 2025**

CHECKING .....	DEBIT .....	CREDIT .....
9/1 Beginning Balance.....		\$9,069.91
9/2 Check: Picnic Supplies .....	459.33	
9/3 Check: Bounce House for Picnic.....	409.07	
9/8 Ionos: Email Hosting .....	4.00	
9/11 Check: Picnic Gift Cards .....	50.00	
9/11 Check: Picnic Drinks, Ice, Etc.....	108.33	
9/19 Reporter Postage .....	273.00	
9/23 Check: Xcel Energy .....	14.23	
9/27 Deposit: Picnic and Bake Sale.....		502.30
TOTALS.....	1,317.96	502.30
<b>Ending Balance .....</b>		<b>\$8,254.25</b>
<b>SAVINGS</b>		
9/1 Beginning Balance.....		\$1,026.89
Interest.....		\$0.04
8/31 Ending Balance .....		\$1,026.93
<b>TOTAL ASSETS .....</b>		<b>\$9,281.18</b>

**Duane sells more homes in the Columbine area than any other broker!**

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 Call Duane for a market analysis or any real estate questions you may have!

## LeaWood Statistics for October 2025

### Current Homes FOR SALE in LeaWood

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$700,000	\$700,000	1
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	\$660,000	\$850,000	2
Bi-level	None	None	0

### Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in LeaWood

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$698,999	\$698,999	1
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	None	None	0
Bi-level	\$815,000	\$815,000	1

### Homes SOLD in LeaWood (Mar. 1, 2025–Oct. 15, 2025)

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$570,000	\$570,000	2
2-story	\$645,000	\$725,000	5
Tri/Multi-level	\$520,000	\$900,000	12
Bi-level	None	None	0

The statistical information is based on MLS data Oct. 15, 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.*



**Realtor with  
 real estate law  
 background**



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