



# The Leawood Reporter

Published by the Leawood Civic Association

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October 2025

Vol. 59 No. 10 • Circulation: 925

## Dates To Remember:

### Upcoming Events: Leawood Civic Association

**October 14th:** LCA Board Meeting,  
Leawood Elementary, 6:30pm

**October 26th:** Halloween Decorating  
Contest vote

### Upcoming Events: Rec & Park District

Thursday, October 9, 2025,

6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary

Thursday, November 13, 2025,

6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary

Thursday, December 11, 2025,

6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary

## LCA Platinum Members & Board Dinner

This year's board dinner will be in October to encourage attendance and avoid holiday rushes. If you are a Platinum Member, look for an RSVP; We'd love to see you there!

## We Loved Seeing You At The Picnic!

Thank you for all who attended this year's annual picnic. It is a great opportunity to meet neighbors you may not otherwise run into.

## 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.



## Halloween Decoration Contest!

The LCA board is happy to announce we will be doing the Halloween Decoration contest again this year. Decorations must be up by October 20th so the Leawood Board can judge the houses; judging occurs on the 26th. Winners announced in Reporter and online. There will be 3 winners this year. 1st Place Winner must be a LCA Member and will receive a gift card; 2nd will receive a gift card and '26 LCA membership; 3rd will receive '26 LCA membership.

## Littleton Craft Fair

Mark your calendars for the Littleton Craft Fair on Saturday, October 4, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the scenic grounds of Ketring Park.

Since 1971, shoppers have browsed over 250 booths of hand-crafted items and purchased snacks from the nonprofits running food concession stands.

Due to high attendance, shoppers are asked to observe all parking signs and directions. Littleton Craft Fair parking is prohibited in the Bemis Public Library lot as spaces are needed for Library patrons. The Littleton Museum parking lot is used for Museum visitors, staff, and as accessible parking for shoppers.

Proceeds from booth fees are used by the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum organization to sponsor programs at the Littleton Museum and Bemis Public Library.

—<https://www.museum.littletonco.gov/Events-Programs/>



## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month on the National Day Calendar. The entire month is a reminder that there is a gruesome disease that effects 1 in 8 women and 1 in 1000 men in the United States. We are reminding people to be proactive about fighting this invasive disease and not to forget to support those who are suffering from breast cancer.

Breast cancer is a terrible disease that will develop into invasive breast cancer over the course of a lifetime for millions of men and women. Being proactive in this fight is crucial. During the month of October, there are reminders everywhere saying "hey, don't forget to examine your breasts, get your doctor to check them out too, and schedule your mammogram."

## Fall Clean-up To Prevent Disease

Fall garden clean-up is an important step to help prevent disease and insect problems next spring. Some organisms (like pathogens and insect eggs) overwinter on plant vegetation.

After a hard freeze, remove plants such as tomato and pepper plants, squash and cucumber vines, and dig potato tubers. Pick up and dispose of fallen apples.

Powdery mildew is generally prevalent on vegetables and herbaceous plants most seasons. Cut back and throw away these plants to reduce infection next spring. If there was pronounced black spot damage on roses, rake and throw away leaves.

It is suggested that infested plants not be composted. Home compost bins rarely reach temperatures that would kill disease (140 degrees F). Instead, throw plants in the trash.

Rake or mulch leaves on the lawn. A thick layer of leaves acts like insulation and can encourage diseases like snow molds.

—<https://planttalk.colostate.edu>

*I have been younger in October  
than in all the months of spring.*

—W.S. Merwin



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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.

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.



## LCA Minutes

Tuesday, September 9th

Attending: Nancy Bock, Paul O'Connor, Paul Klinger, Chip Langowski, Desiree Robinson, Dave & Lauri Sarno, Jesse.

### DISCUSSION:

Treasurer: Paul reported residents are still having trouble using Stripe to pay for membership. Three new members were added after the picnic. As of now we have 135 paid members. Paul will explore moving LCA finances to a bank or credit union that accepts Venmo, since the current bank does not.

Picnic last month was a success. 110 people attended. The picnic expenses decreased after the board chose to provide chicken and sub sandwiches instead of having it catered. The total spent was \$1,225 and that included food, music, bouncy castle, snow cone machine, and door prizes. Thanks to Jeffco sheriff for sending six motorcycle officers. Unfortunately, the fire department had to respond to a call and could not lead the parade.

Halloween decorating contest with prizes will happen again. To be eligible decorations need to be up by October 20th.

Santa party will take place at Leawood Elementary on December 10th.

Many thanks to Desiree, current editor of the Leawood Reporter. She is stepping down after the October Reporter comes out. Desiree will leave a big hole to fill on the board. Her attention to detail and creative ideas improved each issue. Plus, her enthusiasm was always appreciated. We will miss you!

Meeting ended at 7:15pm

## Kiwanis Club of Columbine

Coming up: We can use help with Meals on Wheels, Sheridan Food, Bank, Action Center Clothes Sorting, blood drive, ushering at the Jeffco Symphony, donating toys to local hospital, and others. We will need a lot of help in December with our Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army, we will ring for about 2 weeks at two King Soopers stores.

If you are looking for a good hands-on service project or would like to meet other active people, check us out.

Details about our upcoming projects and social events are in our weekly newsletter, contact [news@columbinekiwanis.org](mailto:news@columbinekiwanis.org) to get added to our newsletter email distribution. To learn more, visit our website at [columbinekiwanis.org](http://columbinekiwanis.org), or join us for a free breakfast at our weekly meeting any Wednesday at 7 am at 4Gs restaurant, 5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton.

The Kiwanis Club of Columbine is a group of volunteers (70 members) dedicated to improving the lives of children and families in our community. We are serving our community with volunteer hours on some fifty active projects and making philanthropic gifts to over twenty different organizations throughout the year. All are welcome to help with any of our projects or attend any of our social events. You do not need to join the club to participate. We have fun, meet new people, and do a lot of good things for our community.



**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.*

**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

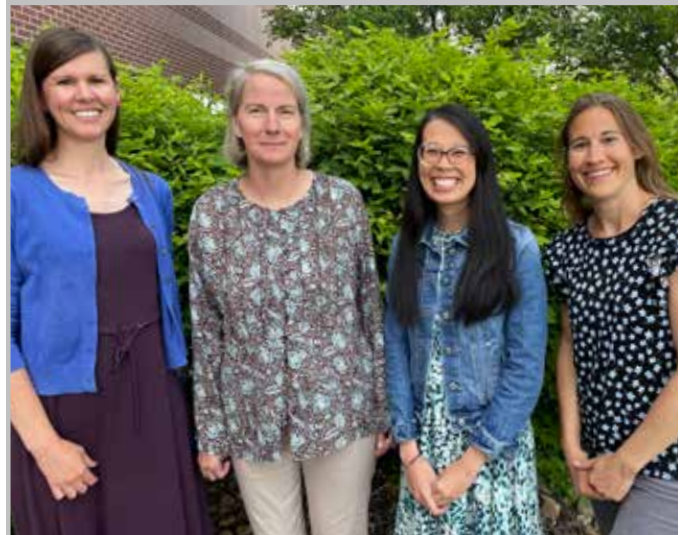


**Barbara Rudolf**, Affiliate Travel Advisor  
[Barb@All-InclusiveVacations.com](mailto:Barb@All-InclusiveVacations.com)  
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# Minutes For Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District

Regular Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Leawood Elementary School, Littleton, CO 80123

**Attendees:** Board Members Zach Sack, Jesse Opgenorth, Marci Turaga and Residents Steve Wall, Tom Bryant, and Laurie B.

Meeting was called to order at 6:10pm

## Resident Comments

- \* Long time resident near Raccoon Hollar expressed concern about landscaper maintenance in Raccoon Hollar, specifically cut out natural grasses and cattails. Reported that Cox was weed whacking right down to the creek.
- \* Comments submitted by community members shared by Zach - disapproval of cutting sunflowers, currant bush was reported to have been significantly cut back, low hanging plums possibly contaminated by Roundup were picked to prevent children from picking/eating fruit, drip irrigation in xeriscape is not working, leak reported near Raccoon xeriscape area.

## Park Manager Report by Ken Leaf

- \* 57 hours month of August.
- \* Work for the month of August primarily focused on pruning and cleaning up trees and waterways, overseeing Brothers Landscaping replacing of landscaping timbers, sidewalk clean up, and pavilion painting.
- \* Replacement of spring toy in Leawood Park to cost \$600 approved by board.
- \* Spoke with Zach Smith of Jefferson County Engineering regarding beavers. They are willing to remove the dams but beavers must be relocated first. Can remove ourselves but it is a significant challenge.
- \* Upcoming spraying. Signs to be posted in parks by Friday from spraying. Ken to monitor application. Marci to email the football group using Leawood Park.

- \* Scheduled meeting with Resource Central to help with the irrigation system.
- \* Zach Sack voted to position on the Board with unanimous approval.

## Cox Replacement

- \* Cox will no longer be servicing the parks at the end of current contract in Spring 2026. Search to replace contractor begins now.
- \* Zack meeting with Designs By Sundown, waiting to hear from Design Scape and one other contractor. Meeting with them throughout the month of September.
- \* Suggestion made to meet with Weston made due to their familiarity with parks.
- \* Dog Poop pickup – Carole asked for bid proposal from Sarah (Poopless Yards) to replace Cox and Doggy Walk bags.

## Sprinklers

- \* Ken and Zach to continue effort to figure out where all the lines are and which ones need repair.
- \* Jesse suggested we ensure everything that belongs to our property with respect to sprinkler system, timers, passwords are recovered from Cox prior to end of contract. Includes task to go through invoice to see if timers were paid for by us.
- \* Carole apple with Denver Water and Platte County. There is no water program for us.

## Beavers

- \* Carole spoke with John Barkman (MHFD). John has visited largest dam and believes we are ok for now but has put us on their list as well as contacting Jeffco to put on their list as well.

*continued on page 5*

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## LMPRD Minutes, *continued from page 4*

- Discussion was held to take action to maintain tree health in the area. Ken to research options.

### Website

- Marci shared that Ken Leaf has set up email. Treasurer and generic park emails to remain the same. Remaining board members (Marci, Zach and Jesse) to set up board emails to be added to website.

### Beds & Signs

- Judy has ordered new plants for Ken to install in beds.
- Tennis court sign was ordered and will be installed prior to next board meeting.
- Bid was provided by Cox to replace main Weaver Park sign. Approx \$15k. Board to research options for replacing sign.
- Bid was provided for replacement of metal signs in all parks. Board to review and discuss in upcoming meetings.

### Trees/Dams/Stream

- Walk through for Raccoon Hollar is planned for Saturday, September 13th with Karim Gharbi from CSU Jeffco/Denver Extension Office.
- Marci to review walk through reports and provide to-do list based on priority items and budget with goal to start getting bids for work in October.

### Security cameras

- Jesse to source cameras for installation in parks.

### Bylaws

- Tom provided draft of Bylaws to every member of the board. Not interested in further effort aside from revision.
- Marci to add section on records retention.
- Tom advised that he received an email from Ann Terry from SDA with potential to change the name to Policies and

Procedures to avoid legal requirement of sending to attorney.

- Steve shared recommendation to have rules the Board intends to enforce, and suggested Bob's Rules of Order may be too strict or unnecessary for board meetings.
- Board members to read through and make adjustments with goal to vote on and adopt rules in October meeting.
- Feedback and edits requested before 9/25/25.

### Concrete

- Tom requested approximately \$18,500 including contingency for concrete work in Raccoon, Weaver and Leawood.
- Steve expressed concern about patchwork concrete in Raccoon showing different finishes over path. Tom responded that Bill Cushman told him exposed aggregate is not standard procedure. Tom advised that we could install a crushed aggregate, but it will not match the original.
- Motion to approve bid for concrete repair was unanimously approved by the board with caveat that Tom will seek information about ways and associated costs of matching look of current sidewalks in Raccoon Hollar.

### Grants

- Steve shared several resources relating to grants applicable to our parks including Colorado Conservation Board water plan grant and the Northern Water Awards. Steve to continue work determining appropriate grants, requirements and application deadlines. Many deadlines are nearing expiration for this year. By way of announcement, Logan MacMillan resigned his position on the board effective September 10th, 2025. Meeting adjourned at 8:25

— Marci Turaga, LMPRD Secretary



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## Iced Pumpkin Cookies

### INGREDIENTS:

#### Cookies:

- 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cups white sugar
- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### Icing:

- 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Gather all ingredients. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease two cookie sheets.
2. To make the cookies: Combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, nutmeg, cloves, and salt in a medium bowl.
3. Cream together sugar and butter in a mixing bowl until fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes. Add pumpkin, egg, and vanilla; beat until creamy. Mix in flour mixture until combined.
4. Drop tablespoonfuls of dough onto the prepared cookie sheets; flatten slightly.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until centers are set, 15 to 20 minutes, switching racks halfway through. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool to room temperature, about 30 minutes.
6. Meanwhile, make the icing: Stir together confectioners' sugar, milk, butter, and vanilla in a bowl until smooth. Add milk as needed, to achieve drizzling consistency. Drizzle icing over cooled cookies with a fork.

## School News



### Leawood Elementary School

Oct 1st: PTSA Meeting  
 Oct 8th: Picture Retakes  
 Oct 10-13th : No School  
 Oct 16th: Trunk or Treat  
 Oct 24th: Leawood Eats at Qdoba



### Ken Caryl Middle School

Oct 1st: Picture Makeup Day, SAC Meeting, PTO Meeting  
 Oct 8-9th : Fall Conferences  
 Oct 9th: Best Day Ever Fall Fundraiser  
 Oct 10-13th: No School



### Columbine High School

Oct 1-3rd: Homecoming Week  
 Oct 4th: Homecoming  
 Oct 9th: Parent Teacher Conferences  
 Oct 10-13th: No School



### FRONT RANGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Oct 13-17th: Fall Break – No School  
 Oct 20th: Teacher in-service: No School  
 Oct 28th: PSAT for grades 7-11;  
 college work day for seniors



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## Youth Confidence Day

Building a framework of positive role models is vital to developing responsible, confident young adults. Incidentally, National Youth Confidence Day, on October 20, encourages us to connect and inspire today's youth for tomorrow's success.

National Youth Confidence Day celebrates the energy, spirit and potential of young people. The day is an acknowledgment of all they will accomplish, respectively. Guidance, leadership and mentors will help light the path, indeed. In addition, today's youth will navigate the obstacles that will inevitably lay before them.

*Ah, Lovely October, as you usher in  
the season that awakens my soul,  
your awesome beauty compels  
my spirit to soar like an leaf  
caught in an autumn breeze  
and my heart to sing like  
a heavenly choir*

—Peggy Toney Horton

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

## LCA Balance Sheet August 2025

CHECKING ..... DEBIT .....CREDIT

8/1 Beginning Balance..... \$9,800.34

8/7 Ionos: Email Hosting ..... 4.00

8/19 Check: Scholarship Winner ..... 500.00

8/21 Reporter Postage ..... 273.00

8/22 Deposit: Membership Drive ..... 60.00

8/22 Check: Xcel Energy ..... 13.43

TOTALS..... 790.43 ..... 60.00

**Ending Balance ..... \$9,069.91**

### SAVINGS

8/1 Beginning Balance..... \$1,026.85

Interest..... \$0.04

8/31 Ending Balance..... \$1,026.89

**TOTAL ASSETS ..... \$10,096.80**



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## LeaWood Statistics for September 2025

### Current Homes FOR SALE in LeaWood

	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>How Many?</i>
Ranch Style	\$740,000	\$740,000	1
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	\$675,000	\$975,000	2
Bi-level	\$815,000	\$815,000	1

### Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in LeaWood

	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>How Many?</i>
Ranch Style	None	None	0
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	None	None	0
Bi-level	None	None	0

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

	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>How Many?</i>
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 Sep. 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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