

# The Ridge Reporter

The monthly homeowners association newsletter for the residents of Summit Ridge

October 2023

Vol. 20 No. 10 • Circulation: 135

## Pumpkin Bread

Fire up your coziest playlist, grab your baking gear and get ready for the most incredible homemade pumpkin bread of your life.

### Ingredients

- 1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1 2/3 cups sugar
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 3 cups all-purpose or whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped nuts
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves



### Steps

1. Move oven rack to low position so that tops of pans will be in center of oven. Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottoms only of 2 loaf pans, 8 1/2x4 1/2x2 1/2 inches, or 1 loaf pan 9x5x3 inches, with shortening.
2. Stir together pumpkin, sugar, oil, vanilla and eggs in large bowl. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into pans.
3. Bake 8-inch loaves 50 to 60 minutes, 9-inch loaf 1 hour 10 minutes to 1 hour 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes. Loosen sides of loaves from pans; remove from pans and place top side up on wire rack. Cool completely, about 2 hours, before slicing.

—<https://www.bettycrocker.com/>

## All Aboard!

## Colorado's Top Train Rides

### Georgetown Loop Railroad and Mining Park

Originally completed in 1884, the Georgetown Loop Railroad was used to transport people from one mountain mining town to the next. Passengers can now ride the route between Georgetown and Silver Plume to experience the entire scenic area. Enjoy the train in coach class or go fancy in their parlor car.

Alternatively, ride in the ultimate VIP section known as the Presidential/Waldorf Car. Passengers will have a dedicated attendant and their choice of special holiday drinks and snacks (only available during November and December months). Choose from special events during this timeframe such as Santa's Lighted Forest, Haunted Mine Adventure, Pumpkin Fest, and more.

### Royal Gorge Route Railroad

The two-hour ride aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad offers beautiful views and delicious food. Choose your level of class and comfort ranging from their Coach Class up to the Vista Dome Class, which offers the most breathtaking views of the Royal Gorge and the Arkansas River. They also offer several themed rides such as Oktoberfest and Santa Express experiences.

### Leadville Colorado & Southern Railroad

Travel to the Continental Divide aboard the 2.5-hour ride on the Leadville Colorado and Southern Railroad. Meander through the San Isabel National Forest that's filled with stunning Colorado scenery. The most popular times to visit are in the summer and fall to view wildflowers and fall leaves.

### Durango and Silverton Train and Railroad

The Durango and Silverton train is a coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive that rides 200 feet above the Animas River through the San Juan National Forest. The views from this ride fall nothing short of beautiful, with majestic peaks and a babbling river. It was voted as the #1 train for two years in a row by USA Today. With popular events including The Polar Express train ride, D&SNGRR Brew trains, and Wine and Rails, there is something for all ages to choose from throughout the year.

### Cripple Creek and Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad

Without a large time commitment, step aboard the Cripple Creek and Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad for a fun 4-mile, 45-minute ride on a historic steam locomotive. Discover old mines and beautiful scenery, all while listening to fully narrated stories from the conductor about the history of the Cripple Creek area.

### Tiny Town and Railroad

Tiny Town and Railroad is a unique park filled with children-sized replica buildings for the entire family to explore. It might not be the typical train ride you are thinking of, but Tiny Town offers a miniature 10 minute train ride that takes passengers around the park. Depending on when you are there, visitors can ride behind one of the two real steam engines or the Rio Grande F7 diesel replica. The park is open seasonally from May through October.

—<https://www.uncovercolorado.com/best-train-rides-in-colorado/>

## National Pumpkin Day

October 26th

National Pumpkin Day recognizes a favored autumn decoration and food on October 26th. Not only do they make great fall decorations, but the pumpkin also completes a variety of tasty recipes. Join a pumpkin competition or visit any of the many fall festivals featuring the beautiful gourds.

## Summit Ridge Board of Directors

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## News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next month's issue. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits.

## Advertising:

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.

To place an ad, call **Colorado Lasertype, 303-979-7499**

Email: [getinfo@coloradolasertype.com](mailto:getinfo@coloradolasertype.com)

To find ad rates and discounts, go to [www.ColoradoLasertype.com](http://www.ColoradoLasertype.com) and click on the "Advertising Rates" link.

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| <p><b>Saturdays</b><br/> <b>SOUTHWEST PLAZA</b><br/>         MAY 6 - OCTOBER 28<br/>         Southeast Parking Lot<br/>         Wadsworth &amp; Bowles<br/>         8am-2pm or Sellout</p> | <p><b>Saturdays</b><br/> <b>LAKEWOOD</b><br/>         JUNE 10 - SEPTEMBER 30<br/>         Mile Hi Church<br/>         9077 W Alameda Ave<br/>         10am-2pm or Sellout</p>  |
| <p><b>Sundays</b><br/> <b>HIGHLANDS RANCH</b><br/>         MAY 7 - OCTOBER 29<br/>         HR Town Center<br/>         9288 Dorchester St.<br/>         10am-2pm or Sellout</p>            | <p><b>Wednesdays</b><br/> <b>LITTLETON</b><br/>         JUNE 14 - SEPTEMBER 27<br/>         Aspen Grove<br/>         7301 S. Santa Fe Dr.<br/>         10am-2pm or Sellout</p> |

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 Metro Denver Farmers' Market Hotline  
**303-887-FARM**  
[www.denverfarmersmarket.com](http://www.denverfarmersmarket.com)

  



## Local Pumpkin Patches

### Anderson Farms, Erie, CO

Known as one of Colorado's longest-running corn mazes and pumpkin patches, Anderson Farms has become a northeast Colorado favorite fall attraction. Located in Erie, Anderson Farms not only boasts the biggest pumpkin patch in Colorado but also has gourd launching displays, pony rides, a playground, and a farm stand. Take a hayride to the pumpkin patch where you can choose from over 26 varieties of squash, pumpkins and gourds. And for the thrill-seekers they have Terror in the Corn where you can explore 10 acres of fear.

### Cottonwood Farms, Lafayette, CO

Cottonwood Farms not only has a well-stocked pumpkin patch but also features a corn maze, farm animals, straw-bale maze and hayrides. This farm, which offers free admission during weekdays and \$5 on Saturday and Sunday, is a destination for both fall produce and Christmas trees from Thanksgiving to Christmas.

### Colorado Pumpkin Patch, Monument, CO

The Colorado Pumpkin Patch, a family-friendly farm, provides families with a stellar pumpkin patch, outdoor laser tag, gourd target practice, a petting zoo, mazes, and of course a hayride. This pumpkin patch recommends choosing pumpkins Oct. 1-20, ensuring that you get the best selection. Guests will not find scary activities on this farm, making it perfect for a fall family outing.



### Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms, Littleton, CO

At Denver Botanic Gardens, Chatfield Farms boasts a 10-acre pumpkin patch and an seven-acre corn maze. A mini-maze is even offered for small children to enjoy. Guests can drop their pumpkins off at the pumpkin daycare while they enjoy the rest of Chatfield Farms.

### Rock Creek Farm, Broomfield, CO

Rock Creek Farm in Broomfield wows guests with a 100-acre pumpkin patch and six miles of corn mazes. But that isn't all: Rock Creek also has a petting zoo, pumpkin carving, straw bales and more. After a few hours of fall fun at Rock Creek, don't forget to snack on their famous caramel apples and pumpkin desserts.

### Mile High Farms, Bennett, CO

Mile High Farms impresses guests with not just its eclectic pumpkin patch, but also the farm's two corn mazes, a petting zoo, inflatable bounce castles, hayride and even face painting. Find pumpkins in wide variety, from baking pumpkins to whimsical Cinderella pumpkins. This Bennett farm is perfect for fall family fun.

### Miller Farms, Platteville, CO

A family-run business for generations, Miller Farms offers a pumpkin patch, petting zoo, corn maze and hayrides through 180-acres of fields where you can pick your own vegetables. Guests can also learn about the true nature of farm life with their farm tours. The Annual Fall Festival is a popular time to visit this Platteville farm.

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## Haunted Houses

### Slaughter Gulch, Franktown

Wander through the chilling corn maze and find your way down to Slaughter Gulch. What will be lurking around each corner and watching each step you take as you make your way through the haunted trail.

### The Frightmare Compound, Westminster

The oldest and longest-running haunted house in Denver, for the last 28 years The Frightmare Compound has been scaring the socks off Front Range residents. There are two haunted experiences featured here, both located in Westminster.

Frightmare Compound Westminster LogoFrightmare Compound—Founded in 1983 by Brad Holder, this Westminster haunted house was the first. He painstakingly crafted the compound for 16 years before falling ill. They say his body is buried deep within the haunted house, making this one of the most authentic.

Lights Out – Hosted on special nights, you and your friends are alone in the compound, lost in absolute darkness!

### Terror In The Corn, Anderson Farms, Erie

Terror In The Corn is a 10-acre, mile-long attraction offering a terrifyingly immersive experience into a world of the unknown. You and your friends will wind your way through a massive corn field filled with your darkest fears... leading to the town of Raven's Gulch where you will make your way through its abandoned buildings and darkened streets to face the nightmares that greet you at every turn.

### 13th Floor, Denver

The 13th Floor boasts over 15 years of scaring Denver and has a good reputation as one of Denver's scariest. It's open for two weekends after Halloween and is recommended for children over 11. This year's attractions include Primal Fear, Midnight Mania, and All Hallow's Eve.

### City of the Dead Asylum, Henderson

Now situated in the City of the Dead, The Asylum dubs itself as "Denver's Favorite Haunted House". It's interactive and places you into a make-believe scenario. It's not recommended for children under the age of 12. Situated north of Denver in Henderson, there are a few attractions all in one place.

Scared crazy patients inhabit The Asylum. Visitors here are welcome to roam the grounds on their own and partake in the recreational amenities. But be careful not to venture too far or chance vanishing into the void. Watch out for the delusional patients and the terrifying world in which they reside.

### The Ritual Haunted House, Englewood

The Ritual begins inside a rickety shack, held up solely by the souls of the damned. You will be pushed through the murky swamp, carried on the tails of an equal sense of dread and wonder as you battle your way through the choking despair of a bloody cannibal's lair. If you make it out, be careful not to slip down the banks into the water where victims doomed to an eternity thrashing around the very swamps that stole their souls await to claim you as one of their own.

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- Should you stay on your employer group plan?
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We represent 14 organizations which offer 113 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 choices.

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### **Current Medicare Members:**

**Annual Enrollment Period is almost here!  
October 15 - December 7. Don't miss this  
opportunity to have your plan reviewed!**



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## 3rd Annual Pup Strut!

**Saturday, October 14, 2023, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.**

Help Us Save Precious Lives! Benefits the Humane Society of The South Platte Valley. Bring your family, friends and of course your dog!

- 1.4 Mile Walk around Johnston Reservoir + Food + Drinks + Entertainment + Activities
- Dog Walk - gather at 11:30 am by the reservoir
- Costume Contest - gather at 12:30 pm by the Adoption RV

- Small and Senior Dog Races - following Costume Contest (approx. 1:15 pm)

We will be located on the west side of Clement park, in the pavilions closest to the reservoir (O,P,Q). To get to those pavilions, enter the park at the library (Bowles and Long). Please do not park in the library parking lot. Please pass this info on to your guests! Can't make it to the event but still want to help the animals? Check out our virtual ticket option and still receive a super cool Pup Strut T-shirt!

— <https://e.givesmart.com/events/xHx/>



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# FALL MARKET REPORT

Hello Friends, The fall market after Labor Day, and right up to the holidays is a busy time of year for Buyers and Sellers alike! The spring and summer markets were less active than normal with a shifting market and mortgage environment. The demand for buying homes remains strong, in fact Denver still ranks as the fourth-strongest housing market in the Nation! Here is some great news if you are a Buyer: Active inventory is now at 6,858 single family and attached homes, which is almost two months of Inventory and 9% higher than last month. This is the new definition of a balanced market, and to many Buyers it will feel a little like a Buyer's market. Homes are sitting on the market for longer periods of time before receiving competitive offers, but Buyer's beware, the good houses that show well and are priced correctly are still selling quickly, so be decisive! Seller's there is good news for you as well: the market is full of buyers that didn't buy over the spring and summer, and want to buy a home before the snow falls! If you need to sell, please prepare and price your home correctly and it will sell in this fall market! We are experts in this arena, and ready to help you have a successful transaction.

And if you know of anyone interested in buying or selling, Please let us know. We promise to take care of them as only The Riss Team can. Have a great start to Fall!

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## WHEN IT'S TIME TO MAKE A MOVE CALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERTS, DAN RISS & JIM RISS

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