

The Ridge Reporter

The monthly homeowners association newsletter for the residents of Summit Ridge

Local Corn Mazes

CHATFIELD FARMS

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 15-Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Chatfield Farms Location

8500 W Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton

It's time to "seas" the day as you dive in to explore our seven-acre corn maze. This year's maze has a sea-creature theme for fun twists and tricky turns. The maze can be viewed from a 15-foot-tall bridge. Visitors under the age of 10 can explore the corn mini-maze. General admission tickets are not available Friday – Sunday during Corn Maze. Last entry is 5 p.m. Halloween masks and costumes are not permitted on the premises. Tickets must be purchased in advance for a specific time.

ANDERSON FARMS

6728 County Rd 3 1/4, Erie

The maze at Anderson Farms is open day and night and is never haunted. The maze is divided into four sections; they will be indicated on your punch card. Do one section or complete all four! There are six checkpoints hidden in each of the three larger sections of the maze, totaling 18 checkpoints.

THE PATCH IN ELIZABETH

Opens Sept. 23, 2023

39980 Fox Trot Cir, Elizabeth

Our maze is carved into a whopping 4 acres of tall corn stalks! We put activity stations along the paths with fun facts and quizzes to help you choose a direction for your exploration. Besides the large maze, we plant a mini-maze for younger guests.

COTTONWOOD FARMS

Sept. 23 - Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

10600 Isabelle Rd., Lafayette

Bring the whole family for a walk in the corn maze. Our two acre corn maze provides the real feel of being on the farm. Cut by hand, not by tractors, it allows our paths to be narrower, and the experience more personal. Listen to the corn rustling in the breeze as it dries down in preparation for harvest. Hear how the corn mutes the sounds of the outside world. Let your little ones lead the way as you try to find the exit. Many people value the experience so much that they turn around and go in again.

September 2023

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Fall Festivals & Fall Drives: Perfect Colorado Pair

Surrounded by leafy beauty and residents who share a healthy appetite for a good time, Coloradans have no choice but to join the gold rush and celebrate every autumn weekend. Pair one of our fall festivals with a dazzling fall drive to find yourself wealthy with good memories and loads of stunning photos. Here are a few combos to keep in mind.

Autumn Gold Festival + Peak-to-Peak Scenic Byway

Beer, brats, local musicians and some of the most kaleidoscopic foliage on the Front Range make adding Estes Park's Autumn Gold Festival (Sept. 23-24) to your autumn itinerary a no-brainer. Scarf down comfort fare like funnel cake and corn on the cob and listen to the sounds of bugling bull elk, who gather in the area annually during the start of the rutting (breeding) season to show off for their entourages. Meanwhile, the deciduous beauties that populate the Continental Divide douse the Peak to Peak scenic byway in gold and auburn. Travel from the former mining enclaves of Black Hawk and Central City to Estes Park, the eastern gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park.

Salida Bike Fest + Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway

Known as a utopia for cycling devotees, Salida has some of the most diverse and challenging biking terrain in the Rocky Mountains. And the town's rad tribute to biking, the Salida Bike Fest (Sept. 16-17), offers several ways to experience what the area has to offer, including The Salida 76 (a 76-mile gravel-bike ride), the Monarch Crest Crank mountain-bike challenge, kids' bike decorating, cruiser rides and so much more. Surrounded by a dozen of the state's 58 fourteeners (peaks higher than 14,000 feet), Salida represents some of our highest country — and has spectacular scenery to match. The aptly named Collegiate Peaks scenic byway meanders below fourteeners like mounts Princeton and Yale and through the towns of Buena Vista, Salida, Nathrop and Poncha Springs. Look for large stretches of remaining summer greenery flecked with bits of sunny yellow foliage, making the peaks look like they've been sprinkled with gold.

continued on page 2

Exciting Announcement From Your SR ARC Committee!

We are excited to introduce the new paint book for Summit Ridge. The designer we hired included roof and brick suggestions. You can find this, along with updated forms for paint and home improvements, on our Facebook page or please reach out to Kevin for assistance.



Festivals & Drives, *continued from front page*

Chili & Beer Festival + West Elk Loop

The intoxicating sights, smells and flavors of autumn shine at Crested Butte's Chili & Beer Festival (Sept. 9), when locals celebrate the arrival of fall with steaming pots of chili and Colorado beer (Is there any better way?). The price of admission includes unlimited tastings of hearty stews made by local chili experts and drafts from breweries like Durango's Steamworks and Denver's Jagged Mountain. Take a break from feasting and hop on the West Elk Loop, a journey through Paonia, Gunnison, Crested Butte and Carbondale. View glittering aspen stands in three national forests, and secure a new background pic for your phone on McClure Pass, where fiery scrub oaks contrast with yellow and orange shrubs.

Morrison Ciderfest + Lariat Loop Scenic & Historic Byway

The residents of Morrison hope for a bountiful apple harvest to facilitate their growing cider festival (Sept. 30), which has encouraged families to sip from steaming mugs together and partake in activities like horseshoe tournaments and pony rides since 1989. Minutes from Denver, Morrison is a lovely gateway to the foothills. The city is connected to Golden, Idledale, Kittredge and Evergreen via the Lariat Loop, which offers easy access to mountain foliage near the Mile High City, as well as delights like Buffalo Bill's Museum and Grave, the Coors Brewery tour and Golden Gate Canyon State Park.

—<https://www.colorado.com/articles/fall-festivals-fall-drives-perfect-colorado-pair>

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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

To find ad rates and discounts, go to www.ColoradoLasertype.com and click on the "Advertising Rates" link.

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Colorado Wildlife Events and Festivals

FALL BIRDING FESTIVAL AT BARR LAKE

Barr Lake State Park, Brighton

(early-September)

Fly over to Barr Lake State Park to celebrate the fall bird migration, an experience worth sharing with others. Be entertained at this festive community event filled with food, fun, and lore—something for everyone. Plan for a day packed with free food and activities. The Fall Birding Festival is free, but a valid parks pass is required for each vehicle that enters the park.

For more information about the Fall Birding Festival, call Barr Lake Nature Center at 303-659-6005 or send an e-mail to barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us.

LIVING HISTORY DAYS

AT STAUNTON STATE PARK

(early-September)

Meet at the Group Picnic Area (10am-3pm) to view the local historic group's displays and try square dancing! From there, embark on a treasure hunt to find the Reynold's Gang's gold! The treasure hunt meanders through the historic Cabin District and ends at the original Staunton Cabin (35min. hike). Folks dressed in historic garb will greet visitors with cowboy music and Johnny cakes with lemonade. Enjoy demonstrations such as a Mountain Man campsite, trapping and hunting, medicinal and edible plants, as well as games, crafts and blacksmithing.

ANNUAL CELEBRATING BIRD MIGRATION

Waneka Lake and Greenlee Wildlife Preserve, Lafayette

(late-September)

Explore the wonderful world of birds in a beautiful place! See a live hawk and other birds of prey up close and view birds in the wild through spotting scopes and binoculars. Learn about migration, marshes and the role avian friends play in our lives. Enjoy art projects and a scavenger hunt.

The 1/3 mile walking path between the parking area and Greenlee Wildlife Preserve will feature several local organizations with great activities and displays to offer! This free, public event is suitable for all ages and will also feature an array of fine door prizes.

This program begins at the Waneka Lake East parking lot, where Emma St. ends at Caria Drive in Lafayette. For more information, contact Martin Ogle at Martin@EntrepreneurialEarth.com or 720-612-0506.

ESTES PARK ELK FESTIVAL - Estes Park

(late-September/early-October)

A two-day festival, as described on the event's website: "Elk Fest offers visitors a chance to view elk during the rutting season in the wild, as well as expand their knowledge of elk. Learn more about elk, their habitats, and how to observe them in the wild. Held in Bond Park, located in downtown Estes Park, Elk Fest will offer bugling competitions, educational areas, seminars, music by the Elktones, Mountain Man Rendezvous, Native American storytelling and music, guided elk viewing tours, and vendors that offer art from oils and pastels, hand made elk-ivory jewelry, scrimshawed antler knives, elk antler lamps and chandeliers, elk hide pillows, silver and gold jewelry, and elk antlers." Find out more from the Estes Park Elk Fest website, including schedules and costs (for elk viewing tours), or write to the event organizers.

— <https://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo>



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METRO DENVER FARMERS' MARKET
MARKET ON YOUR CALENDAR

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

Check out our great recipes online!

For more information call the
Metro Denver Farmers' Market Hotline
303-887-FARM
www.denverfarmersmarket.com

SNAP, Facebook, CREDIT UNION COLORADO

Palisade Fruits and Produce

Colorado peaches are most famously grown in the town of Palisade, and they are known for being extra juicy and extra sweet, thanks to the long sunny days and cool summer nights in Colorado, which help all those delicious fruity sugars develop. Palisade peaches have a long history as a Colorado classic, and it all starts with a man named John Harlow. After the Ute tribe were forcibly removed from their ancestral home in the Western Slope in 1881, colonizers began developing a town known as Palisade. The farmers there quickly realized just how rich and nutrient-filled the soil was, but while it was great for vegetables and grains, there wasn't nearly enough rainfall or water for fruit trees, which shriveled up and died very quickly. But John Harlow, who planted some of the area's earliest peach trees with his wife in 1882, was a determined man. He spearheaded a canal project to divert water from the Colorado River and irrigate the region, and though it took years for his project to come to fruition (pun intended!), it worked. By the beginning of the 20th century, more than twenty-five thousand pounds of peaches were being shipped from Palisade to regions across the country each year.

Once they figured out irrigation, farmers began planting more fruits, like apples, pears, grapes, apricots, and cherries, cementing Palisade and the surrounding area as Colorado's most famous and most productive agricultural hub. Today, Palisade is home to orchards, farms, and vineyards galore.

—<https://www.coloradoinfo.com/blog/>



The Best Homemade Applesauce

After tasting the pure apple flavor of this homemade sauce, you just might never go back to the store-bought kind. Supermarket applesauce can be loaded with added sweeteners and flavorings. We use only a little sugar, plus lemon juice, salt and cinnamon, providing a balanced flavor and the perfect amount of sweetness.

Ingredients:

- 4 lbs assorted apples, (Golden Delicious, Honeycrisp, Gala or McIntosh - about 8), peeled, cored & chopped
- 1/4 cup sugar
- Kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions:

Combine the apples, sugar, 1 cup water and 1/2 teaspoon salt in a large pot. Bring to a simmer over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally. Reduce the heat to medium-low. Cover with a tight-fitting lid and cook until the apples are very soft, 18 to 20 minutes.

Stir in the lemon juice and cinnamon. Let cool for 5 minutes or so, then transfer the apple mixture to a blender, filling no more than halfway. Remove the center cap from the lid and place it on the blender. Cover the lid with a folded kitchen towel to catch splatters and pulse until smooth. Alternatively, puree in the pan with an immersion blender.

Transfer the applesauce to a bowl and refrigerate until cool, about 1 hour. Store leftover applesauce in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 5 days.

— <https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/>



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38th Annual Sunset Festival

Come out and join us on September 16, 2023 at Clement Park for one of the longest standing, family-fun community events – the Sunset Festival. Celebrating our 38th anniversary, Sunset Festival is one of South Jeffco's largest community events to help support our local Foothills Parks & Recreation District. A fun and exciting lineup of local food and culture, family fun, kids activity fair, business and craft expo, car show, craft beer tasting and more.

–<https://summersetfest.com/>


Teen After Hours:

Lights Out Glowstick Games

Friday, September 15, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Columbine Library

These after-hours events are for the 12-18 crowd, with loads of activities and a chance to hang out with friends. There's always something fun happening when the library shuts down! Registration is required. Registration opens September 1 at 12:00 a.m.


–<https://jeffcolibrary.bibliocommons.com/v2/events>



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REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

AUGUST 2023

The typical Summer slow down in July and August in the Denver Real Estate Market, has many Buyers and Sellers concerned about the overall health of this market! This Summer slowdown is very common, and happens almost every year, however this one is also driven by the increase of Mortgage Interest Rates to around 7% for a 30 year fixed rate mortgage. Several factors in our National Economy and World events may also bring some pause to buyer activity, but we have some good news as well for Buyers and Sellers. Most Economists agree that the Housing Market is more likely to correct itself from the double digit price jumps in home prices over the past few years rather than a crash. Our prediction is the Housing Recession may be over, and the recovery is very close. Quick Facts: Active Inventory is growing and currently at 6,300 residential homes. Buyer demand is still very high, with Buyers anxious to find the right home at the right price with an affordable payment. Single Family Homes average price in July was \$782,624 which is .41% higher than July 2022, and Attached Homes were at \$484,000 which is 1.73% higher than July 2022. Buyers, this is your opportunity to find a great home at a fair price and terms and realize that prices are not coming down like many expected. Lock your price in now, and you can always refinance as Interest Rates lower in the near future. Sellers, the buyer demand is real so this is the right time to price your home competitively, prepare it to show very well, and consider offering a 2-1 Buydown on interest rates to attract the best buyers and increase affordability. The Spring market was slower than expected, and the Summer market is crawling, we expect a very healthy Fall Market! Enjoy the fast moving Summer! Buyers Get Ready, Get Set, Go!

AVG DAYS ON MARKET JULY 2023



23 DAYS

2022: 14 DAYS
UP 64.29%



25 DAYS

2022: 13 DAYS
UP 92.31%

ACTIVE INVENTORY JULY 2023



4,597

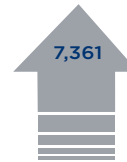
2022: 5,650
DOWN 18.64%



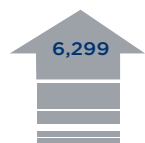
1,702

2022: 1,711
DOWN 0.53%

ACTIVE LISTINGS



JULY
2022



JULY
2023
DOWN 14.43%

AVERAGE SOLD PRICE (YEAR OVER YEAR)

+1.73%

CONDO 1 YEAR

+0.41%

SINGLE FAMILY 1 YEAR

AVERAGE SALES PRICE (HOUSES & CONDOS - JULY 2023)

\$693,449

LAST YEAR:

\$688,742

+0.68%

TOTAL # SOLD (HOUSES AND CONDOS)



3,677

2022: 4,510
DOWN 18.47%

SOLDS JULY 2023



2,579

2022: 3,163
DOWN 18.46%



1,098

2022: 1,347
DOWN 18.49%



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