



Talk of the Town

Bikes, Pedestrians and Cars... OH MY!

Eye contact saves lives, even when it's awkward!

As warm weather approaches and people venture outside to enjoy the blue skies and the great outdoors, what do we need to know to coexist on the sidewalks, trails and roadways of Parker? Parker is privileged to have one of the best sidewalk and trail networks in the region, so the Town wants to remind everyone of our roles and responsibilities for bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers as we share Parker's public rights-of-way.

For bikes, pedestrians and motor vehicles alike, remember CDOT's campaign with the tagline "Awkward Eye Contact Saves Lives!" Whether on bike, foot or in your car, look for the other people on the road, sidewalks and trails – and make that eye contact to ensure you're being seen, even when it's awkward!

Know Your Role & Responsibilities!

Bikes

Be alert!

- Make sure the driver sees you.
- Watch for turning traffic.
- Obey all traffic laws, including watching your speed. Observe posted speed limits and obey the basic speed law: Never ride faster than is safe under the existing conditions.
- Respect pedestrians' rights. Pedestrians have the right of way.

Be predictable!

- Never ride against traffic. Motorists aren't looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road.
- Obey traffic signs, signals and rules. Cyclists must act like motorists if they want to be taken seriously.
- Use hand signals. Hand signals tell other road users what you intend to do.
- Wear bright clothing. You don't have to buy a neon yellow jacket, but make sure you are visible, especially at night.



Pedestrians

Be alert!

- Don't get distracted by electronics or listening to music.
- Watch for turning cyclists and motorists.

Be predictable!

- Cross streets at crosswalks. This is what motorists and cyclists expect.
- Eye contact is important with both drivers and cyclists.

Drivers

Be alert!

- Assume pedestrians and cyclists are out and about at all times.
- Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks.
- Yield to pedestrians and bikes when making turns.
- Get off your apps! (Courtesy of CDOT) Don't text and drive.

Be predictable!

- Follow the posted speed limit.
- Slow down when in the presence of cyclists and pedestrians.

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From the Mayor and Town Council...

Join Us in Helping to Prevent Suicide in Our Community



*The Parker Town Council.
From left to right, front row:
Josh Martin, Joshua Rivero,
Renee Williams and John
Diak. Back row: Amy Holland,
Mayor Mike Waid and Debbie
Lewis.*

In recent months, Parker-area families, students and schools have been affected by suicide. The Parker Police Department and the Parker Town Council would like to provide some information on how to recognize potential warning signs of suicide and how to get help for you or your loved one. Warning signs that someone may be thinking of suicide can include:

- Talking about death or suicide
- Feeling hopeless, helpless or worthless
- Not enjoying things one usually enjoys
- Feeling tired or sleeping all the time
- Not having an appetite or overeating
- Unusual neglect of personal appearance
- Crying or being angry a lot
- Having difficulty concentrating
- Giving away possessions and special things
- Using drugs or alcohol

- Withdrawing from friends and family and increasing social isolation
- Sudden increase in self-destructive behavior
- A sudden sense of calm and happiness after being extremely depressed

Children and adolescents are a special population at risk for suicide, and they face additional risk factors. These can include in-person or cyber bullying, relationship problems, parents not getting along, anger at or wanting to “pay back” parents when they are mad at them, as well as the fact that other kids they know may have committed suicide.

If you think a friend or family member is considering suicide, talk to them openly about their thoughts and feelings. Take any suicidal talk or behavior seriously. It's not just a warning sign that the person is thinking about suicide – it is a cry for help. If you are concerned about somebody, seek professional help immediately. You can play a role in suicide prevention by pointing out the alternatives, showing that you care and getting a doctor or psychologist involved.

National suicide hotlines are available 24/7. You are encouraged to call if you have thoughts of hurting yourself or know someone that may be considering suicide. The National Hopeline Network can be reached at 1.800.SUICIDE (800.784.2433) and the Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1.800.273.TALK (1.800.273.8255). If you feel someone is in immediate danger, call 911 to reach the Parker Police Department.

Annual Household Chemical Roundup Set for May 9

Douglas County will hold a Household Chemical Round-Up in Parker on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Parker Joint Services Center, located at 17801 E. Plaza Drive. This event is open to all Douglas County residents; participants are asked to bring a proof of residency, such as a drivers' license, and \$25 per vehicle to offset the high cost of hazardous waste disposal. To decrease wait time at the event, residents are encouraged to register in advance online at: www.TCHD.org/250/Home-Chemical-Waste.

Acceptable Items:

House and garden chemicals
Passenger vehicle and pickup truck tires*
Paint and paint products**
Automotive fluids
Fuels
Propane tanks
Vehicle and household batteries
Items containing mercury
Fluorescent light bulbs, including CFLs
Fire extinguishers

*Tires removed from rims.

Unacceptable Items:

Business waste
Radioactive waste
Smoke detectors
Electronics of any kind
Scrap metal
Oil drums
Asbestos
Explosives

**Latex paint can be safely disposed of in regular household garbage IF it is completely dried out. To dry out latex paint, mix kitty litter, sand, sawdust, dirt or any other absorbent material with the wet paint and allow it to dry in an area inaccessible to children and pets.

The Heat is On in Parker

The Parker Police Department has dedicated the month of May as Impaired Driving Enforcement Month. The department will work to reduce the number of alcohol and drug-related driving incidents through enforcement, education and prevention.

With graduation celebrations and the warm summer months approaching, the Parker Police Department is stepping up its impaired driving enforcement efforts. Between April 15 and June 5, the department will conduct 10 dedicated periods of strict impaired driving enforcement. A sobriety checkpoint will be conducted in Parker on June 5.

A recent study conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found the following:

- Alcohol poses the greatest crash risk on the road. A two-year crash causation study in Virginia Beach found that drivers impaired by alcohol at a .08 BAC level were four times more likely to be in a crash.
- The presence of marijuana in drivers has risen in recent years. In 2014, 13 percent of nighttime weekend drivers tested positive for THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, versus eight percent for alcohol.

The Parker Police Department encourages you to follow these simple tips to ensure that your graduation celebrations and summer parties are safe and enjoyable:

- Designate a sober driver before celebrations begin.
- Plan safe parties, including providing non-alcoholic drink options to guests and not serving alcohol the last hour of the gathering.
- Never serve alcohol to those under the age of 21.
- If you've been drinking, use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member or use public transportation.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, don't hesitate to contact local law enforcement.
- If you know someone who is about to drive or ride with a driver who is impaired, take the driver's keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

Remember, impaired driving crashes are 100 percent preventable. Do your part and choose not to drive impaired and help others do the same.

Parker to Celebrate National Police Week 2015

National Police Week, which occurs each year during the week in which May 15 falls, recognizes the service and sacrifice of U.S. Law Enforcement. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. Last year, 117 law enforcement officers lost their lives while protecting our country.

The Parker Police Department will participate in the national campaign along with thousands of other agencies across the United States the week of May 10-16. During this week, the organization will be handing out blue ribbons. We encourage citizens to show their support for law enforcement by displaying the blue ribbons on car antennas. Blue ribbons can also be worn on clothing as a lapel during the campaign as a show of support.

Blue ribbons can be located at various Town of Parker buildings during police week, including Town Hall, the Recreation Center, Fieldhouse and Police Department.

We will be celebrating throughout the week with various events, including:

Tweet-Along: Participate in this virtual ride-along on our Twitter page, www.Twitter.com/ParkerPolice, on Tuesday, May 11, from noon to 4 p.m.

Coffee With a Cop: Please join Police Department members Wednesday, May 13 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. for a cup of free coffee at the Starbucks located at 9700 S. Parker Road. Blue ribbons will be available at the event.

Ask a Recruiter: For those interested in a career in law enforcement, join us on Thursday, May 14 on any of the Police Department social media sites from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Ask a Recruiter. Police Recruiters will be standing by to answer all of your questions about law enforcement during this live event.



Parker Civic Academy Returns this Fall

The Town of Parker is pleased to once again offer residents the opportunity to learn more about their hometown while engaging with local government at the fourth annual Parker Civic Academy.

This informational eight-week program allows members of the Parker community to participate in weekly classes aimed at increasing knowledge about the Town of Parker. At the direction of Town Council and administration, the academy encourages participation by Parker residents in local issues with the goal of improving the understanding and awareness of how local government works.

The 2015 Parker Civic Academy will be held Wednesday evenings this fall. Please visit the Town's website at www.ParkerOnline.org/CivicAcademy for more information about this upcoming program.



Traffic Light to be Added Near New King Soopers Site

Due the redevelopment of the future King Soopers MarketPlace site in the Cottonwood neighborhood, the Town will be signaling the intersection of Cottonwood Drive and Cottonwood Way, pictured above, during the summer of 2015 to meet the needs of the projected increase in traffic.

Funding for this Town of Parker capital improvement project was provided by the redevelopment of the King Soopers site. For more information, please contact the Town's Public Works Department at 303.840.9546.

Senior Source: 2015 Senior Stroll

On Wednesday, May 27, an estimated 100,000 individuals will participate in local fitness activities throughout the country as part of the 22nd annual National Senior Health & Fitness Day® (NFSH), the nation's largest health promotion event for older adults.

To celebrate this day, Parker Parks and Recreation will host the seventh annual Senior Stroll at 10 a.m. at O'Brien Park, 10795 Victorian Dr. This free event features a one-mile fun walk on the paved Cherry Creek Trail followed by a tasty breakfast, socializing with friends and exciting prize giveaways. Registration for the event is not required.

For more information on programming and the Senior Stroll, please call Hillary Roemersberger at 303.805.3278 or visit us online at www.ParkerRec.com.

Thank you to Great Grinds Ltd, 2015 Senior Stroll sponsor.



Work Continues at EastMain Development Project Site

Grading and regional drainage improvements are nearing completion on the Town properties located adjacent to Pine Drive north of Mainstreet. These improvements allowed the site west of Pine Drive to be leveled for development. We appreciate your patience through the traffic impacts this work required! The next phase of improvements on this site will begin in the coming months, including utility work, the construction of a roadway through the site and associated lighting and landscaping. This work will be ongoing through the summer and is scheduled to be completed in the fall. Please visit www.ParkerOnline.org/EastMainDevelopmentProject for more information on the project.

Warm Up to the Spring Season with Parker Parks and Recreation

Youth Fitness Programs

Parker Parks and Recreation is offering fitness programs for youth this summer, including Zumba Kids®, Speed and Agility Camp, Strength and Conditioning for Teens, the Teen Fitness Challenge for Girls and Commit to Fit for Teens.

Zumba Kids gets kids ages 6 to 12 moving and grooving with this fast-forward fusion of the Zumba program's moves and high-octane workouts. Class meets Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Six-week sessions start May 13, June 24 and Aug. 12.

Speed and Agility Camp for ages 8 to 14 is led by nationally certified coaches and enables young athletes to develop explosive power and increase vertical jump, strength, flexibility and overall speed, while decreasing the risk of injury. Classes are held Monday through Thursday from 8 to 10 a.m. at Salisbury Park. Four-day camps begin June 15, July 20 and Aug. 3.

Strength and Conditioning for Teens ages 13 to 16 can improve self-esteem, help your child maintain a healthy weight, boost metabolism and strengthen bones. Class runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

The Teen Fitness Challenge for Girls ages 13 to 16 is an innovative program designed to encourage teens to increase their levels of physical activity. The next session runs from June 9 to July 23 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

The Commit to Fit for Teens program gives youth ages 13 to 18 an eight-week training program designed to increase physical activity and provide professional guidance and accountability for developing healthy lifestyle habits. The schedule is flexible and sessions can be held at either the Recreation Center or the Fieldhouse.

Fun in the Kids' Zone

Kids' Zone classes, held at the Recreation Center, are a great way for your youngsters to express themselves, improve motor skills and learn new things!

Bricks 4 Kidz is a program offered to preschool children ages 3 to 5 and their parent or caregiver. The program focuses on learning colors, shapes, letters, numbers and vocabulary, all while playing with LEGO® Duplos. Class is held on Thursdays from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Four-week sessions begin May 7, June 4 and July 9.

Paint and Play for ages 3 to 6 will nurture your child's creative spirit and sense of fun. Kids will make arts and crafts and burn off extra energy with sports and games in the gym. Class is on Tuesdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. beginning May 5.

Kids ages 3 to 6 will have a blast in Sports Zone! Introduce your boy or girl to the fundamentals of soccer, basketball, baseball and football without the competition. Class is on Wednesdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. beginning May 6.

Summer Girls' Fastpitch Softball Clinic

Parker Parks and Recreation has teamed up with the Chaparral High School softball coaches to offer an inexpensive pitching clinic teaching the fundamentals of pitching, focusing on form, technique and accuracy. The clinic is geared toward pitchers of all abilities. Summer volunteer coaches are encouraged to attend! The clinic will be held on Sunday, May 17 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at O'Brien Park.

Summer Camps for Kids

Parker Parks and Recreation has fun and exciting summer offerings for kids ages 3 to 18! Kids will have a blast learning new things, improving their skills and bettering their overall fitness level.

Fitness and Wellness offerings include Kids' Triathlon Training, Speed and Agility Camps and the Run Club for Girls. The Kids' Triathlon Training for youth ages 6 to 12 will give kids the chance to improve their swimming, biking and running skills, as well as teach the process of transitioning from one area to the other. The Run Club for Girls ages 10 to 16 is for beginners and designed to help girls get fit and feel great.

Kids ages 3 to 11 will love Kids' Zone camps. Your child can improve cooking skills with Restaurant Cooking Camp or Professor Chef Food Lab Camp or learn about creatures who live deep in the jungle with It's a Jungle Out There Camp. At Champ Camp, kids will play soccer, T-ball and learn track and field.

Does your child love to play sports? By signing up for a summer camp, kids ages 4 to 18 can learn about sportsmanship, build social skills and stay active during summer break. Camps include basketball, fencing, lacrosse, skateboarding, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball. Jedi Training Camp will teach trainees how to wield a lightsaber, fight off the evil Sith warriors and save the universe! The Chauncey Billups Basketball Academy gives young players a chance to take part in a camp led by five-time NBA All-Star Chauncey Billups and his camp coaches.

Visit www.ParkerRec.com or call 303.841.4500 for information or to register for these programs.

Parker Arts in May: Onstage and Outside!

The Marshall Tucker Band

We've added a second performance of The Marshall Tucker Band, May 7 at 7:30 p.m! Get your tickets now!

Visions from Cape Breton and Beyond

• May 13; 7:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand, Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy have created a new show to bring their fans the next chapter in their musical and personal journey. For the first time on stage, they'll feature their children alongside dancers and singers from their hometowns of Cape Breton and Lakefield, Ontario. The evening will highlight the talents, influences and stories of the first family of traditional fiddlers through dancing, singing and, of course, world-class music-making.

PACE Center Art Exhibit

The PACE Center is proud to host the 2015 Douglas County K-12 Art Exhibition in the Belco Credit Union Art Gallery. This annual exhibit will showcase over 1,500 pieces of art created by Douglas County student artists in grades K-12. The creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking skills learned and applied in art classrooms throughout Douglas County will be on display May 2 through 25. There will be an Awards Ceremony on May 11.

This year's show is dedicated to the memory of Kyle Macintosh, son of DCSD art teacher Nancy Macintosh, who recently succumbed to cancer after a valiant fight.

Parker Symphony Orchestra

• May 15; 7:30 p.m.

The Parker Symphony Orchestra is serving up Latin flavor for your ears' enjoyment with the spicy sounds of world-class composers from Spain, France and the United States. For this special performance, PSO is joined by Extasis, a four-piece ensemble that was founded in 1998 by bandoneonista Evan Orman and violinist Erin Furbee.

PACE Patio Parties

• Last Wednesday of the month

• May through August; 6 p.m.

PACE Patio Parties are free events held on our beautiful West Patio. Guests can bring a picnic dinner or purchase snacks and drinks while enjoying the sunset in a laid-back atmosphere. Space is limited to the first 200 people and we recommend that you bring your own lawn chairs. The patio opens at 5 p.m. and seating is first-come, first-served. Mike Massé kicks off this entertaining summer event on May 27. An acoustic guitarist and singer, Massé performs all of your favorite cover songs from The Beatles, Billy Joel, The Rolling Stones, U2, James Taylor and much more.

West Side Story

• July 17 to Aug. 2; times vary

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is transported to 20th-century New York City, as two young idealistic lovers find themselves caught between warring street gangs, the "American" Jets and the Puerto Rican Sharks. Their struggle to survive in a world of hate, violence and prejudice is one of the most innovative, heart-wrenching and relevant musical dramas of our time.

For tickets and more information, visit www.ParkerArts.org or call 303.805.6800. Register for camps and classes by calling 303.805.3363 or online at www.ParkerArts.org/Education.

New Summer Masters Classes Offered

Parker Arts is proud to announce new Master Classes being offered in conjunction with our upcoming Art Gallery exhibits. In June, G. Russell Case will offer a four-day workshop on techniques for successful painting out on location (also known as en plein air). In late July, Deb Bays will offer a weekend workshop on setting up, lighting and painting still-lives. We invite you to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work alongside these renowned artists and hone your creative skills. Visit www.ParkerArts.org/ArtGallery to learn more.

Registration Open for Kids' Summer Classes & Camps

Parker Arts is offering a variety of camps and classes this summer for kids ages 5 to 18. (Yes, even teens!) New this year, families have the option to register for both a morning and afternoon camp combo with a supervised lunch. Get more for less! Register for the camp combos and get a \$25 discount. Please call 303.805.6800 to register and receive the discount.

Our summer camps include:

- Shutter Bugs Photo Camp
- Kids Cooking Camp
- KidzArt Clay Explorer Camp
- All-Girls Engineering FUNdamentals using LEGO
- Construction Vehicles and Machines using LEGO
- Pullback Car Frenzy (with Banbao building blocks)
- Mission to Mars Camp
- Mad Science
- Shakespeare in the Park
- Broadway Bound
- Ticket to Scussville

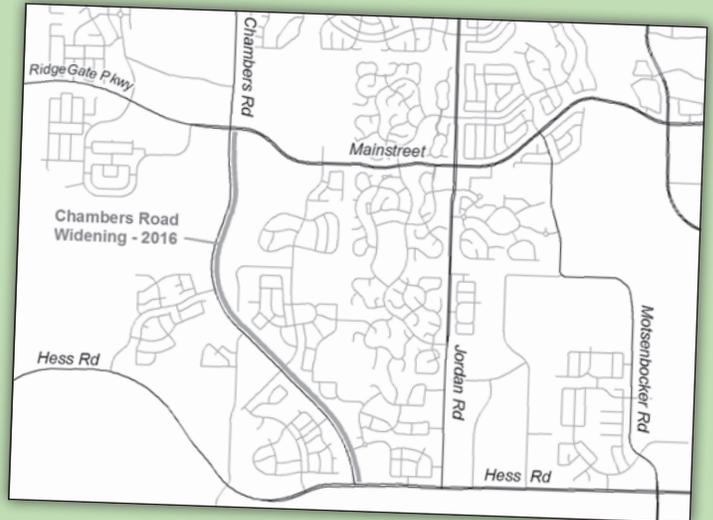
...just to name a few!

You're Invited: Chambers Road Widening Public Open House

Join the Town of Parker to view the design and find out more information about the planned widening of Chambers Road from Mainstreet to Hess Road. The construction of this project is anticipated to begin in 2016. Meeting attendees will have a chance to review the project plans and speak to the design consultants and project managers regarding this important Town roadway project.

- **Tuesday, May 19 • 4:30 to 7 p.m.**
- **Gold Rush Elementary School**
- **12021 S. Swift Fox Way, Parker, CO 80134**

For more information, please contact the Parker Public Works Department at 303.840.9546.



Community Development Corner

Planning and Building a Healthy and Sustainable Parker!

Building Division Update

The Building Division is off to a very busy start this year with several residential and commercial construction projects. The following permits were issued January through March:

- 92 – Single family dwellings
- 101 – Commercial (new, tenant finish and remodel)
- 422 – Residential (decks, basement finish, window replacement, etc.)

Permits were issued for a total of \$41,327,879 worth of construction work (construction valuation) in Parker in the first three months of 2015, and more are coming. Along with those permits comes building inspections. The Town's building inspectors completed 6,313 building inspections in the first quarter of this year, averaging nearly 100 per day. All inspection requests received prior to midnight are completed the following business day.

Don't Forget the Permit

It is always good to remember that most home improvement projects require a permit. The Town does receive inquiries from homeowners who own a home in which improvements were made that required a permit, but no permit was issued. You

can call the Town's Building Division at 303.841.1970 to verify if a permit was issued for your home. We can also discuss the best path to building code compliance through issuance of a permit and field inspections.



Applying for a Permit

Permit applications could not be any easier now that the entire process can be completed online. Applications, attaching plans, making payments, scheduling and seeing field inspection results can all be done from the comfort of your favorite easy chair. Visit www.ParkerOnline.org and look for the Online Permits & Applications button on the home page. Need help? Feel free to call us and we will walk you through the online process!

Plan Review Time

Review time varies on the type and scale of projects. Generally, we can provide these turnaround times:

- Commercial Projects, Single Family Master Plan: 10 working days
- Single Family Permits (master plan has been reviewed and accepted): two to three working days
- Residential Projects (basement finish, decks, sunrooms, etc.): two to three working days

The Town of Parker's Community Development Department consists of four divisions (Building, Comprehensive Planning, Development Review and Neighborhood Services) and can be reached by calling 303.841.2332. Visit the department's website at www.ParkerOnline.org/CommunityDevelopment.

20120 E. Mainstreet
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303.841.0353

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**Produced by the
Communications Department**

Elise Penington, Director
Andy Anderson, Coordinator

To: Parker Resident

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May 2015 Community Calendar

Town Council Meeting

May 4 & 18; 7 p.m.
Parker Town Hall

Town Council Study Session

May 11; 5:30 p.m.
Parker Town Hall

Planning Commission

May 14 & 28; 7 p.m.
Parker Town Hall

Special Licensing Authority

May 21; 7 p.m.
Parker Town Hall

Meetings are occasionally canceled or rescheduled. Call 303.841.0353 for more information.

Town Hall

20120 E. Mainstreet
303.841.0353

Public Works

303.840.9546

Economic Development

19801 E. Mainstreet
303.805.6260

Fieldhouse

18700 E. Plaza Dr.
303.805.6300

PACE Center

20000 Pikes Peak Ave.
303.805.6800

Police Department

18600 E. Lincoln Meadows Pkwy.
303.841.9800

Recreation Center

17301 E. Lincoln Ave.
303.841.4500

Upcoming Community Events

Almost Maine - A Romantic Comedy

May 2; 2 & 7 p.m.
Lutheran High School
Go to www.TicketPeak.com/LHSTheatre or call 303.841.5551 for more information.

The Family Corporation: Planning for College, Real Estate and Retirement

May 5; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Parker Library
Call 720.355.9590 for more information.

Night of Flourish

May 8; 6 to 9:30 p.m.
PACE Center
Go to www.FlourishWomen.co or call 704.737.9373 for more information.

Household Chemical Roundup

May 9; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
17801 E. Plaza Drive
Go to www.THCD.org for more information.

Lessons & Lemonade and Teen Art Studio

May 9; 9:30/11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Hobby Lobby (Parker & Mainstreet)
Go to www.parkerartistsguild.org or call 720.542.8187 for more information.

Parker Farmer's Market Begins

May 10; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Mainstreet in Old Town Parker
Go to www.ColoradoFarmersMarkets.com for more information.

Parker Area Historical Society Lecture:

Rocky Mountain National Park
May 12; 6:30 p.m.
Ruth Memorial Chapel
Go to www.ParkerHistory.org for more information.

Coffee with a Cop

May 13; 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Starbucks - Parker Gateway Marketplace
Go to www.ParkerPolice.org or call 303.841.9800 for more information.

Parker Library Groundbreaking

May 18; 10 a.m.
20105 E. Mainstreet
Go to www.DouglasCountyLibraries.org for more information.

H2O'Brien Pool Opens

May 23; 10 a.m.
Go to www.ParkerRec.com or call 303.841.4500 for more information.

Memorial Day Veterans' Service of Remembrance

May 25; 10 a.m.
Parker Cemetery
Call 303.841.2405 for more information.

**Town Closures
May 25; Memorial Day**

Town Hall closed all day; Recreation Center and Fieldhouse close at 6 p.m.; Police operations open; H2O'Brien Pool open; PACE Center open.

Did You Know...

The Town is looking for support from local businesses and organizations for the 2015 *Let Freedom Sing!* Independence Day Celebration at Salisbury Park! If you're interested in giving back to the community while earning positive exposure for your organization, visit www.ParkerOnline.org/LetFreedomSing.