



PARKER
C O L O R A D O

TALK OF THE TOWN

January 2017



Put Your Christmas Tree to Work

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The Town of Parker will host its annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program from Dec. 26 through Jan. 22. This year's drop-off site will again be the west paved Salisbury Park ballfields parking lot, at 11920 Motsenbocker Rd.

The drop-off is available solely for Parker residents to recycle their Christmas trees. Additional yard waste and tree branches are not permitted. No commercial tree lot disposal is allowed as our elves have a hard time removing all of the tags. Both green and flocked **REAL** trees

are accepted. Before dropping off any Christmas trees, please remove all plastic tarps, tree stands and nails, ornaments, lights, garland and tinsel. No artificial trees, garland or wreathes with wire backing will be accepted.

Please drop off during park hours only, 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., and do not illegally dump any other items at the drop-off location.

The trees collected by the program will be chipped into mulch, which will be available at the same site at no charge to residents. Remaining mulch will be utilized throughout the Town and not discarded in a landfill.

Residents should not place Christmas trees in garbage containers. Keeping trees out of landfills helps extend the life of landfills and produces a useful resource. The annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program is just one of many ways that Parker residents can reduce, re-use and recycle.

Please contact the Town of Parker at 303.840.9546 with further questions.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Don't forget to shovel this winter! It is the homeowner's responsibility to remove snow and ice from all sidewalks adjacent to their property within 48 hours of the end of any snow, sleet or freezing rain. Failure to do so in the specified time frame is a violation of the Town's municipal code and can result in a fine to the homeowner. Help us keep Parker's sidewalks safe for travel this winter!





From the Mayor and Town Council
**VISIT THE NEW PARKER ICE TRAIL
 AT DISCOVERY PARK!**

The Town of Parker and Parker Parks and Recreation are pleased to announce the opening of the Parker Ice Trail at Discovery Park. We celebrated the beginning of winter with the official opening in late December!

The new Parker Ice Trail, located next to Douglas County Libraries in Parker on Mainstreet and Pine Drive, is one of the only ice trails in the country. The ice trail meanders through the park, reminiscent of a frozen river or canal. Skaters or spectators can stay warm next to one of the fire pits adjacent to the ice, or enjoy hot chocolate and other concessions while delighting in the sights and sounds of the new community park.

Discovery Park will feature additional amenities such as a large, interactive fountain with programmable water jets and color changing LED lights, as well as a performance stage equipped with sound and lighting to feature live entertainment. There will also be a large lawn allowing for casual seating. The entire park is expected to be complete this spring.

PARKER ICE TRAIL - GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours

Mondays - Thursdays - 3 to 8 p.m.

Fridays - 3 to 10 p.m.

Saturdays - 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sundays - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission and Rentals

Children 10 and under - \$6

Adults - \$8

Skate Rental - \$4

Ice Skating Aid - \$5

Group Rate (10 or more guests) -
 \$10/each, includes skate rental

For additional information about the Parker Ice Trail at Discovery Park, visit www.ParkerIceTrail.com or email info@parkericetrail.com.



THANKS TO OUR HOLIDAY EVENT SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS

The holiday season has come and gone, but the memories of our Town's festivities and events live on. From enjoying the Mayor's Holiday Lighting and Holiday Carriage Rides to the annual Christmas Carriage Parade, our community came together to celebrate the holidays!

We want to take this time to thank all of the generous sponsors that helped make the Town of Parker's annual festivities possible: Xfinity; Huntington Learning Center; Swingle Lawn, Tree and Landscape Care; Kneaders Bakery & Café; Douglas County Libraries in Parker; Christian Brothers Automotive; Parker Flats and Park 64 Apartments; Parker Station Professional Offices; Escalade Financial Partners; and Spradlin Printing.

Our holiday events also would not be possible without our many volunteers who assisted us, including: the Colorado Driving Society; Parker Trail Riders; Joy Lutheran Church; Rob Sanchez and Dave Rey; the Rotary Club of Parker; the Girl Scouts of Parker; Troop 88 Boy Scouts; individual community members and high school volunteers; and, last but not least, the Parker Volunteer Unicorns, our "Santa's Helpers!"

RESTORING A HISTORIC PARKER ICON

The Parker Consolidated Schoolhouse became a century old in 2015. For decades, The Schoolhouse served as the area's only K-12 school. In recent years, it has been known as the Mainstreet Center and served as downtown Parker's educational and cultural center. To honor the building's heritage, the Town of Parker has rebranded the structure as "The Schoolhouse."

The Town was awarded two grants from the Colorado State Historical Fund to support restoration work on The Schoolhouse with the Phase I grant being \$100,275 and Phase II being \$198,045. The first phase of construction, with a price tag of \$213,975, restored the Mainstreet-facing windows and entrance. In addition, the principal's office above the main entrance, added in the 1950s, was removed which opened up the entrance restoring it to its original impressive appearance.

Phase II construction, at a cost of \$849,218, was completed in late fall 2016. It included replacement of the



outdated and inefficient heating system with two hydronic boilers; creation of an enlarged dance studio in the lower level; addition of an elevator shaft; window rehab; and exposing and restoring the beautiful wood trim and flooring throughout the lower level.

More recently, the Town was awarded a third \$200,000 grant for Phase III work. This final phase is slated to begin later this winter with completion planned for early fall 2017. The project will include restoring the first floor and converting it into a flexible gallery/event space; an elevator addition; exterior brick restoration; a new roof; and restoration of the rooftop cupola. Contract price negotiations are underway with the contractor for this final phase.

NEW PUBLIC ART IN DISCOVERY PARK



The larger than life "Ball and Jacks" sculpture has been completed and installed in Parker's new Discovery Park. The whimsical and iconic structure will act as a gateway to the east end of downtown Parker. The mammoth steel jacks are accompanied by a similarly massive red ball and are illuminated in the evening with RGB/LED lighting that rotates through the color spectrum. The artist, Christopher Weed of Colorado Springs, says the sculpture, like the park itself, speaks to a simpler time of connection to friends, family and community.

HELP CELEBRATE THE STATE OF OUR TOWN

The Rotary Club of Parker is honored to host the 2017 Parker State of the Town on Feb. 21 at the PACE Center and the Mayor's Ball on Feb. 25 at Douglas County Libraries in Parker.

The eighth annual State of the Town will begin at 3 p.m. with a keynote address by Mayor Mike Waid followed by the Rotary Club of Parker's recognition of individuals who consistently make valuable contributions to the community, capped by the presentation of the Parker Impact Award.

The fourth annual Mayor's Ball begins at 6 p.m. This black-tie/cocktail attire event will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, dancing to the band Funkiphino and a silent auction for a variety of fantastic items.

Net proceeds from these events will be used for local and global Rotary Club community service projects supporting those in need. Make your reservations early, as these events sold out last year.

To purchase tickets or become a sponsor, visit ParkerRotary.org or contact Larry Brutlag (brutlagl@gmail.com; 303.947.9136) or Bill Shriver (bcshriver@comcast.net; 303.913.1135).





ENJOY LIVE PERFORMANCES THIS WINTER WITH PARKER ARTS

For information about these programs or for registration/tickets, visit www.ParkerArts.org or call 303.805.6800.

EDUCATION

Art from Ashes - Phoenix Rising

Phoenix Rising is a FREE poetry and spoken word workshop where symbolism and metaphors come to life through writing and storytelling. Participants will express their creative voice and process emotions, allowing them to embrace a new perspective on life experiences.

Art from Ashes - Drawing on Air

Drawing on Air is a FREE workshop rooted in poetry and combined with visual arts projects to reveal the power of expression. Participants will receive guided poetry and visual arts prompts to employ core principles of expression, connection and transformation through the use of metaphors, while holding a safe and non-judgmental space for youth to freely express their creativity and share experiences.

Spanish Language and Culture

Get ready to enhance your language skills, increase your opportunities at work, traveling and developing new personal connections. You will be familiarized with Hispanic culture and traditions and enjoy your ability to communicate in Spanish with new friends. Classes are casual and encourage conversation in Spanish for beginning and intermediate students. Please see course level descriptions at www.ParkerArts.org.

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING PERFORMANCES!

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Jan. 20 to Feb. 12 • PACE Center
The Academy Award-winning film comes to life in this enchanting musical of a Tale as Old as Time!

Friday Night Jazz:

Phröntrange - Acoustic Fusion

Feb. 17 • The Schoolhouse
Founded by Maynard Ferguson alum, this critically acclaimed group combines the funk of Trombone Shorty with the elegant jazz of The Yellowjackets.

Wonderbound:

"A Dangerous Liaison"

Feb. 18 and 19 • PACE Center
Sensuality mingles with decadent humor in this provocative production that blends baroque music with contemporary dance. Featuring the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado.

Comedy & Cocktails:

Karyn Ruth White

Feb. 18 • The Schoolhouse
Wit meets heart, meets hilarity, meets gentle sarcasm...and wisdom always tags along.

The Berenstain Bears LIVE! in Family Matters, the Musical

Feb. 23 • PACE Center
Adapted from the classic children's book series, everyone's favorite bear family comes to life in a thrilling theatrical experience that kids and parents alike will enjoy!

Parker Symphony Orchestra: Celebrating Black Composers Throughout the Centuries

Feb. 25 • PACE Center
In honor of Black History Month, PSO performs pieces by composers from the late 1700s to the late 1900s.

NEW PACE CENTER ART INSTALLATION: ELEMENTAL

In the course of a year, five artists completed a total of seven works, one for each traditional Element of Design, while also completing a work that would represent their typical process.

The traditional Elements of Design included are Line, Shape/Form, Color, Space, Texture and Time.

Gravity, an exciting element not usually outlined in course textbooks, was added as

an additional challenge to the artists. Don't miss this unique exhibit, which will run from Jan. 12 through Feb. 27 at the PACE Center's Bellico Credit Union Art Gallery. A special exhibit reception will be held Feb. 17.



KEEP YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS WITH PARKER PARKS AND RECREATION



For information about these programs or to register, visit www.ParkerRec.com or call 303.841.4500.



A New Year, A New You!

The Commit to Fit Weight Loss Challenge will help you lose inches and pounds and gain new friends! Teams get the opportunity to work with a personal trainer twice a week, receive nutrition counseling, pre- and post-fitness testing, weekly group boot camp classes, weekly weigh-ins and more! Applications are available until Jan. 16 at the front desk of the Recreation Center and Fieldhouse or online at www.ParkerRec.com



Parker Triathlon Team Training

The Parker Triathlon Team is looking for adult athletes who consider themselves beginners and are interested in completing their first triathlon in 2017. Athletes will meet with other like-minded participants three days per week for swim, bike and run workouts led by a USA Triathlon Certified coach. Upcoming sessions begin Jan. 9 and April 17. Discounts are available with a 6-Month or Annual Membership.



Love 'em or Leave 'em Valentine's Day 5K/10K

Register online now for Parker Parks and Recreation's annual Love 'em or Leave 'em Valentine's Day 5K/10K on Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. at Bar CCC Park. The professionally timed event features a FREE Kids' Dash, as well as a long-sleeve T-shirt and post-race pancakes for all registrants.



Cheer Central Suns Team

Your cheerleader age 5 to 13 will love this high-energy cheer team that consists of learning dances, arm motions, jumps, cheer chants and stunts. Squad will perform at the end of the session. Six-week sessions run on Wednesdays from 5 to 6 p.m., beginning Jan. 11 and March 8. Sessions are held at the Recreation Center.



Parent/Child Time in Kids' Zone

Parent/Child classes like Toddler Music Makers (ages 18 months through 3 years), My Baby's Got Rhythm Music and Sign Class (ages 6 weeks to 18 months) and Baby OM Yoga (ages 6 weeks to 1 year) help you and your young child bond and learn together! Classes are held at the Recreation Center. Six-week sessions begin Jan. 23 and March 27.

Scratch Coding and Sport Stacking

Sport Stacking with Speed Stacks for kids ages 6 to 12 is a hands-on teaching and learning experience that will teach competitive stacks and patterns and engage kids in team building activities. Six-week sessions for both home school and after school students run on Fridays, beginning Jan. 6 and Feb. 24. The 10-week Scratch Coding Club for kids ages 6 to 11 will teach children how to create their own video games, animations and digital art using the MIT-developed language, Scratch. Sessions for home school and after school run on Thursdays beginning on Jan. 5.



PARKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Keeping Our Community Safe

NEW MOUNTED PATROL UNIT MAKES PARKER DEBUT

The Parker Police Department's new Mounted Patrol Unit made its debut leading the Carriage Parade in downtown Parker on Dec. 10. Sergeant Joe Cummings was riding Alaska and Officer Troy Gordon was on Bobby Sue.

In an effort to provide our community continued outstanding police services, the Parker Police Department has created a Mounted Patrol Unit for parades, community policing events, crowd control, crime prevention, park and trail patrols, and to assist with searches of lost persons.

Parker has always taken a proactive approach to community policing and building partnerships with its citizens.

The addition of a mounted unit will continue to build on the culture of the department by allowing officers to utilize horses as another means to connect with the public in a positive manner.

The mounted officer is truly one of law enforcement's most versatile resources. The horse is a magnet, drawing crowds everywhere it goes. People love to meet and greet not only the horses, but also the officers who ride them. People are naturally drawn to the animals and love to strike up conversations with the officers. People are often amazed at the level of training and ability the officer and horse team possess.



Regardless of the activity, whether it is community policing, special events, park and open space/trail patrol, crowd control or search and rescue operations, mounted units are an integral part of today's law enforcement. Many urban municipalities and counties have reaped the rewards and benefits of maintaining a Mounted Patrol Unit.

POLICE DEPARTMENT TIDBITS

Cops Fighting Cancer

Parker Police Officers were part of the Long Blue Line at Children's Hospital last month. The Parker officers joined more than 300 officers from 18 different agencies statewide and delivered Christmas presents and smiles to the many children spending part of the holidays in the hospital.

New Recruits

Five individuals have received their Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Trainings certification and are now Parker Police Officer trainees: Troy Brienzo, James Cambria, Marcus Gwaltney, David Herrera and Gregory Moreno. They are now in our training program and will work with a training officer until July.

Chaparral Class Visit

Sergeant Steve Tarr and Crime Scene Technician Maria Pettolina spoke to Mrs. Gappinger's Government class last month at Chaparral High School. The students learned about crime scene investigations and investigation processes and asked great questions when the presentation was over.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Parker 2035 Master Plan - Its Purpose and How It's Used

The Parker 2035 Master Plan, also known as the Town's Master Plan (MP) or Comprehensive Master Plan, was first developed in 1985 with the citizens of Parker. As a living document, periodic updates are needed to keep the Plan current with changing times and public participation is always encouraged. Parker's Master Plan was developed per state statutes, as a policy document to guide the physical development of our community.

The Master Plan is Parker's foundational planning document that represents goals and strategies to guide the Town over the next 15 to 20 years. This plan is the community's vision and the first document consulted for any future development or capital improvements and has a direct relationship to our citizens – whether you live, work or own a business in Parker!

THE MASTER PLAN

What it is:

- A statement of Town policy
- A guide to decision making
- A framework for more specific planning
- A tool for education and communication
- A way to provide a long range perspective
- A way to improve our quality of life

What it isn't:

- A Zoning Ordinance
- A Land Development Code
- A rigid or static document
- A Capital Improvements Plan or Town budget
- A specific development plan for a project

Why Do We Need a Master Plan?

The Master Plan establishes a shared community vision and set of goals for the future of the Town. Colorado statutes give the authority and responsibility to municipalities to adopt master plans for physical development that best promotes the health, safety, prosperity and general welfare of that community.

How Are Master Plans Used?

The Master Plan is used by Planning Commission and Town Council to evaluate and make decisions regarding regulatory and policy changes, proposed annexations, zonings and budgeting. Proposals should be compliant with the Master Plan. Citizens and neighborhood groups use the Plan to understand the Town's long range vision and plans for different geographical areas of Parker and to encourage plan implementation.

Why Should a Master Plan Be Important to You?

The simple answer is that a Master Plan is important because it affects the things you do and see every day. The Master Plan guides planning decisions on important issues such as:

- Where certain types of land uses, such as residential, business, industrial and institutions, should be allowed
- Community appearance and design
- Housing and neighborhoods
- Jobs and economic vitality
- Transportation, public services and facilities
- Open space and recreation

For more information on the Parker 2035 Master Plan, visit www.ParkerOnline.org/Parker2035.

SENIOR SOURCE

Arthritis Exercise Program

Parker Parks and Recreation is excited to continue offering Arthritis Foundation exercise programs, which are proven to reduce the pain of arthritis and improve overall health.

The Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program is a low-impact physical activity class that includes gentle range-of-motion exercises suitable for every fitness level and ability. Class begins Jan. 9 and is held Mondays and Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Fieldhouse. The cost for a twelve-week session is \$60 for Parker residents and \$66 for non-residents.

The Arthritis Foundation's Walk with Ease program is a six-week class that teaches participants how to safely make physical activity a part of everyday life. Participants meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. at the Fieldhouse. The cost is \$45 for Parker residents and \$50 for non-residents. New sessions begin Jan. 9 and Feb. 20.

The Arthritis Foundation's Aquatic Program is a low-impact water exercise class for those with arthritis and related conditions. Registrants meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Twelve-week sessions are \$60 for Parker residents and \$65 for non-residents. A new session begins Jan. 10.

Register at www.ParkerRec.com. For additional information about these and other senior fitness and wellness programs, contact Deni at 303.805.3208 or email djacobs@parkeronline.org.



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TALK OF THE TOWN

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*******ECRWSS*******
**To: Parker Resident
Local Patron**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Tree Recycling

• Dec. 26 to Jan. 22; 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Salisbury Park ballfields parking lot
Go to www.ParkerRec.com or call
303.840.9546 for more information.

Parker Town Council Meetings

• Jan. 3 and 17; 7 p.m.
Parker Town Hall
Go to www.ParkerOnline.org or call
303.841.0353 for more information.

Parents' Night Out

• Jan. 7; 6 to 10:30 p.m.
Parker Fieldhouse
Go to www.ParkerRec.com or call
303.805.6300 for more information.

Parker Planning Commission Meetings

• Jan. 12 and 26; 7 p.m.
Parker Town Hall
Go to www.ParkerOnline.org or call
303.841.0353 for more information.

Lessons & Lemonade - Free Art Lessons

• Jan. 14; 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.
Hobby Lobby (Parker & Mainstreet)
Go to www.ParkerArtistsGuild.com/
Contact for more information.

Saturday Skate Night

• Jan. 14; 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Parker Fieldhouse
Go to www.ParkerRec.com/SkateNight
or call 303.805.6300 for more information.

Princess Ball

• Jan. 20; 6:30 to 8 p.m.
PACE Center
Go to www.ParkerRec.com/PrincessBall
or call 303.805.3281 for more information.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

• Jan. 20 to Feb. 12; times vary
PACE Center
Go to www.ParkerArts.org or call
303.805.6800 for more information.

Sales Tax Taxpayer Seminar

• Feb. 2; 10 a.m.
Parker Town Hall
Go to www.ParkerOnline.org or call
303.805.3228 for more information.

Love 'em or Leave 'em Valentine's Day 5K/10K

• Feb. 11; 10 a.m.
Bar CCC Park
Go to www.ParkerRec.com/VDay5K10K
or call 303.805.6304 for more information.

TOWN HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Jan. 1

• New Year's Day
Recreation Center
and Fieldhouse
closed.

Jan. 2

• New Year's Day
Observed
Town Hall closed.

Jan. 16

• Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Town Hall closed.