Celebrate the Start of Autumn in Parker

FALL FEST 2023

The Town of Parker is pleased to present the third annual Parker Fall Fest Sept. 23 through 30. This fun-filled week of free autumn activities includes Fun and Games in O’Brien Park, the Prowl for Pumpkins Scavenger Hunt, activities with Sam the Scarecrow and much more! Don’t miss this year’s drone light show finale Sept. 30.

Enter our Calendar Photo Contest!

The Town of Parker invites you to enter your best Parker photographs in our 2024 Calendar Photo Contest!

We are looking for striking images that depict life in Parker—natural landscapes, wildlife, events, facilities, businesses, architecture, weather or even people living life in our Town. Winning photos will be included in our 2024 Calendar and 2023 Annual Report that will be published in December.

If you have questions, contact Milisa Miller at 303.805.3113 or mmiller@parkeronline.org.

Contest Rules/Guidelines

• Participants may enter up to five photos taken within the 80134 or 80138 ZIP codes.
• Horizontal digital images with a 4:3 aspect ratio at 300 dpi resolution will be given highest consideration for selection. The largest, full-page photos in our calendar will be 12.5” x 9.5”.
• Submissions must be made by individuals at least 18 years of age. Youth who would like to participate should have a parent or guardian submit entries on their behalf.
• You do not need to reside in Town limits to participate.
• Please do not submit images with date stamps, watermarks or text.
• Entries will be accepted through Oct. 31, 2023; submit entries online at ParkerOnline.org/CalendarContest.

DID YOU KNOW?

Give the gift of life by volunteering to make a blood donation during the Town of Parker’s next Blood Drive on Tuesday, Oct. 3 (moved from Sept. 28) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Parker Town Hall (20120 E. Mainstreet). To set up an appointment time, contact Wendy Reedy at 303.805.3206 or wreedy@parkeronline.org. To find other donation opportunities near you, please visit Vitalant.org.
Just a little over one year has passed since the Town Council voted to form our newest advisory board, the Parker Youth Commission. This commission provides an excellent opportunity for our community’s youngest residents to get involved in and represent their peers in local government.

During the Aug. 7 Town Council Meeting, three Parker-area students were installed as new members, replacing outgoing commissioners who helped make up the group’s inaugural class. Joining the commission for new two-year appointments are Alisa Babić, Bella Harper and Izzy Sanchez. Harper was selected to serve as the group’s Vice Chairperson for the upcoming year. The trio will join returning members Amara Fantl (Chairperson), Carson Flowers, Sarah Goudjil, Noor Reslan and Aarav Varma to make up the 2023-24 class of commissioners. The Parker Town Council would like to thank outgoing members Joey Jung, Brayden Parsons, Iris Pixler (Chairperson) and Landon Schnell for their hard work over the past year in helping to launch this new commission into existence. These ambitious students did a great job in helping to set a successful future course for this advisory body. We know that big things are in store for each of them as they move on to their post-secondary-school lives.

There’s Still Time Left to Apply!
The Youth Commission is currently accepting applications for one remaining open position. Parker-area students in grades 9 through 11 who are interested in serving as advocates for their peers are encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted through Sept. 15. For more information, visit ParkerOnline.org/YouthCommission.

COLORADO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Good news! Those looking to start a business or small business owners looking for resources now have an option closer to home.

Thanks to a private–public partnership between the Aurora-South Metro Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Arapahoe Community College (ACC) and the Colorado State University System, a new SBDC office recently opened within the ACC Strum Collaboration Campus in Castle Rock. Learn about the new space, available programs and services at Arapahoe.edu/Workforce-Community-Programs.

The SBDC also has created the Colorado Business Resource Book, one of the nation’s most successful and comprehensive business books. Take advantage of the support, education and business information outlined in this book to assist your business with the progression through the various growth stages.

View this publication at ColoradoBusinessResourceBook.com.
PARKER FALL FEST TO FEATURE NEW ACTIVITIES, DRONE SHOW

Fall Fest returns to downtown Parker Sept. 23 through 30, and this year’s celebration is bigger and better than ever!

The Town of Parker invites residents and visitors of all ages to celebrate the start of autumn at O’Brien Park in downtown Parker. This year’s celebration will feature an expanded offering of free family-friendly events and activities.

Highlighting the weeklong celebration will be Fun and Games Day in O’Brien Park on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Kids can participate in the Colorado Avalanche’s Game On Street Hockey Program, lawn games led by Sam the Scarecrow, inflatables and carnival games with prizes. Adult-friendly attractions will include a beer garden (tickets available onsite) hosted by the Downtown Business Alliance, as well as an axe-throwing booth. Several food vendors will be on site for visitors to grab a tasty snack.

Capping off Fun and Games Day will be a drone light show that takes to the sky above O’Brien Park beginning at about 7:15 p.m.

Fall Fest will be more than just Fun and Games Day, as a handful of activities are also planned throughout the weeklong celebration. Kick off the festivities at O’Brien Park with giant table games and an appearance by Sam the Scarecrow and Parker’s Mayor and Town Council on Sept. 23 from noon to 1 p.m. A hay bale maze for young children will also be on display all week. Additionally, scavenger-hunt enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in our “Prowl for Pumpkins” contest. From Sept. 23 through 30, pumpkin signs will be hidden throughout Parker for residents to discover. Those who find a pumpkin and take a selfie can enter to win prizes!

For more information about this year’s Fall Fest activities lineup, visit ParkerOnline.org/FallFest.

BRADBURY RANCH DRIVE REPAIRS COMPLETE

The Town of Parker reopened Bradbury Ranch Drive in late July following the completion of emergency repairs.

The very challenging reconstruction of Keyser Creek Avenue from Red Rosa Circle to Motsenbocker Road is complete and opened in late July. The contractor, Elite Surface Infrastructure of Castle Rock, worked diligently, battling the spring and summer rains to complete the project just ahead of Legacy Point Elementary’s first day of school.
EDUCATION

Parker Arts Fall Classes Now Open for Registration!
Fall and Winter Break Camps will feature Music, Theater, Dance, Culinary, Art and Science! Highlights this fall include Missoula Children’s Theatre – The Secret Garden, our STEAM Discovery Series for the entire family, culinary classes for all ages, 5280+ Senior Chorale, and Rockin’ Abilities, designed for those with exceptionalities.

ART GALLERIES

Oh, Honey! The World of Encaustic Art
• Now–Sept. 10 | PACE Center

Duets: Pairs and Collaborations
• Now–Oct. 21 | Schoolhouse

FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREE Parker Quest (Presented by PAHS)
• Sept. 16 | O’Brien Park
• 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Using the TravelStorys app, explore the history of Parker with volunteers from the Parker Area Historical Society, who will offer guided walking tours through Downtown Parker’s historical sites.

OUR 2023/24 SEASON BEGINS!

Our new season of entertainment begins this month with the return of our popular Uncharted Music Series at The Schoolhouse on Mainstreet. Join us Sept. 21 for artist Adam Ezra, who brings his folksy sound and pop charm to the stage. This series takes place at the historic Schoolhouse, which offers the convenience of free parking, easy access to downtown Parker, a cozy outdoor fire pit and an option for a pre-show dessert and drink pairing!

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

Parker Arts Lecture: Creating Bird-Friendly Communities
• Sept. 6 | Schoolhouse | 6:30 p.m.

Member Event: Mindful Watercolor Doodling
• Sept. 7 | PACE Center | 6 p.m.

Friday Night Jazz: Songs of Brazil and the Music of the Bronx Horns
• Sept. 15 | Schoolhouse | 7:30 p.m.

Family Discovery Series: The Gingerbread Man
• Sept. 16 | Schoolhouse | 10 a.m.

The Comedy Zone
• Sept. 16 | Schoolhouse | 7:30 p.m.

Uncharted Music Series: Adam Ezra
• Sept. 21 | Schoolhouse | 7:30 p.m.

Michael Yo
• Sept. 30 | PACE Center | 7:30 p.m.

* Please note: Crime & Wine scheduled for Friday, Sept. 8 is sold out.
Enjoy the end of another Colorado summer out on the trail, and then reward yourself with pancakes and a beer! Parker Parks and Recreation’s So Long to Summer 5K/10K with RNK Running & Walking is on Saturday, Sept. 23 at Salisbury Park.

Part of the Parks and Recreation Run Series, the So Long to Summer 5K/10K is professionally timed. Registered participants will receive a race shirt, custom bib and a delicious post-race pancake breakfast from Flippin’ Flapjacks and tasty beverage (ages 21+) from Fiction Beer Company. The free Kids’ Dash for children 8 and under will follow the run; no registration necessary.

Find more information and register at ParkerRec.com/Summer5K10K.

Parker Parks and Recreation would like to thank our So Long to Summer 5K/10K Title Sponsor, RNK Running & Walking, and Finish Line Sponsors, CACC Physical Therapy, Century Communities, CORE Electric Cooperative, Douglas County Libraries, Fiction Beer Company, Macaroni Kid Douglas County, Parker Integrative Health, PetWellClinic and Search Parker Magazine.
National Night Out – Day Shift

More than 700 Parker residents joined officers and staff at O’Brien Park for National Night Out-Day Shift on Aug. 5. Kids interacted with our Mounted Patrol, the SWAT Team Bearcat and learned about many other aspects of the Department. Five local food trucks, a classic car show and Parker-area safety partners joined us for an amazing day.

THINK SCAM

Criminals continue to pose as Parker Police Officers and other government officials to try and scam people out of money. We want to remind everyone that the Parker Police Department will never call you demanding money to avoid jail time. When someone calls you on the phone posing as a government agency asking for money, think SCAM.

S - Stop
C - Call
A - Ask
M - Make an informed decision

- **Stop** – If someone is trying to convince you to give them money, stop. Don’t be rushed into a decision that could cost you thousands of dollars.
- **Call** – Call a family member, friend or the police department to figure out what is happening. A scammer isn’t going to want you to talk to others. If someone says they are calling from the Parker Police Department, hang up and call us at 303.841.9800. A scammer will object to you hanging up and calling the agency they claim to be with or want you to call a fake number they give you.
- **Ask** – Ask your friends, family members or law enforcement agency what they think about this phone call. Someone who is emotionally removed from the situation may be able to see warning signs that you miss.

- **Make** – Make an informed decision. Don’t be pressured into a decision based on emotions. They are playing on your fears and concerns about being in trouble with law enforcement.

Parker Police Officers and staff will never call demanding money. Scammers may even mask their phone number so that Parker Police, 303.841.9800, pops up on the caller ID.

No legitimate agency is going to accept gift cards as payment. We won’t call you and ask for money. The IRS won’t call you, nor will the Sheriff’s Office. Hang up and contact us at 303.841.9800 if someone represents the Parker Police Department and asks you for money.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Planning and Building a Sustainable Parker!

Managing Growth and Development in Parker

The Town of Parker has been a desirable place to live for many years. As a result, the Town is a popular place for people and businesses to move to. The Town's role in managing this growth and development includes many considerations and related issues such as:

- Preserving natural resources
- Open space and recreation
- Public facilities, municipal services
- Quality of life
- Economic development
- Private property rights

The Master Plan is the first document consulted to understand long-range goals and a framework for the future of Parker. The Town of Parker adopted its first comprehensive Master Plan in 1985. The current vision of the Parker 2035 Master Plan states:

“Our Parker community will have land uses that complement each other aesthetically, socially and economically and will be designed to enhance quality of life and ensure long-term prosperity. The Town is a community with a traditional form, with higher density uses located near downtown, along major highway corridors and at major intersections with lower densities near the fringes.”

The Master Plan's General Land Use Plan includes a ‘Planning Area.’ The Town limits planned growth to this boundary. Additional growth may occur beyond this boundary in the County and other jurisdictions.

A Few Tools Parker Uses to Manage Growth:

- **Planning Area Boundary** – The Master Plan's General Land Use Plan includes a ‘Planning Area.’ The Town limits planned growth to this boundary. Additional growth may occur beyond this boundary in the County and other jurisdictions.

- **Zoning** – Zoning regulates the way land and structures are used. Zoning guides future growth consistent with the Town's 2035 Master Plan.

- **Land Development Ordinance** – The Land Development Ordinance regulates the required review process for land uses and specific design requirements such as landscaping, park dedication requirements and open space.

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

STREET SWEETING

Have you ever noticed a street sweeper working to clean a Parker roadway and had questions pop into your mind? Our Town staff often receives comments and questions regarding street sweeping in the community, such as:

- Why does the Town sweep streets?
- Why do street sweepers move so slowly?
- When will my street be swept?

The Town of Parker performs street sweeping primarily to improve and maintain air and water quality levels in our community. Town crews remove over 1,500 tons of sediment and debris from our roadways annually. Street sweepers use mechanical brooms and/or suction and are most effective when operated at speeds of 3 to 5 mph. In addition to keeping the environment clean, sweeping keeps roads safer for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Street sweeping currently operates on a two-season schedule in Parker: the summer season (April to October) and the snow season (October to April). During the summer season, sweeping helps remove general debris (sand, leaves, etc.) from the roadways. In winter, the effort removes remaining ice mitigation materials after a snow storm. The Town is committed to improving our regional air quality through these efforts.

Learn more about how street sweeping is performed in Parker at ParkerOnline.org/Streets.
Town Council
Jeff Toborg, Mayor
Anne Barrington  John Diak
Laura Hefta     Todd Hendreks
Joshua Rivero  Brandi Wilks

Town Administrator’s Office
Michelle Kivela, Town Manager
Michael Lawson, Assistant Town Manager – Operations

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PARKER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Town Council Meetings
• Sept. 5 and 18; 7 p.m.
Planning Commission Meetings
• Sept. 14 and 28; 7 p.m.
Special Licensing Authority Meeting
• Sept. 21; 6:30 p.m.
For more information on how to view these meetings and participate and/or provide public comment, visit ParkerOnline.org/Calendar or call 303.841.0353. Live video of Town Council and Planning Commission public meetings can be viewed at YouTube.com/TownOfParkerCO.
Community Resource Fair for Older Adults
• Sept. 14; 9 a.m. to noon
• Parker Fieldhouse
Visit ParkerSeniorCenter.org or call 303.841.5370 for more information.
Mayor’s Day of Service
• Sept. 16; 9 a.m. to noon
• Bar CCC Park/Cherry Creek Trail
Visit JustServe.org or call 720.257.4506 for more information.
Parker Quest 2023
• Sept. 16; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
• O’Brien Park
Visit ParkerHistory.org for more information.
Parker Fall Fest
• Sept. 23 through 30
• O’Brien Park
Visit ParkerOnline.org/FallFest or call 303.841.0353 for more information.
Babysitting Preparedness
• Sept. 30; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
• Parker Fieldhouse
Visit ParkerRec.com/Enrichment or call 303.805.3281.
2nd Annual Parker Uncorked
• Hosted by the Rotary Club of Parker
• Oct. 7; 2 to 7 p.m.
• Vehicle Vault
Visit ParkerUncorked.org for more information and tickets.

TOWN FACILITY CLOSURES
• Sept. 4 - Labor Day
Town Hall and Fieldhouse closed. H2O’Brien Pool and Discovery Park Play Fountain close for the season at end of day.