



Boulder County Kids celebrating 25 years



Courtesy photo

Founder of Boulder County Kids magazine, Jennifer Martin along with Steve Carr of Premier Credit Union presented Niwot Elementary School student Emmy Pridgen with a "Picture Perfect Award" and a \$50 check. Pridgen received the honor because her artwork was selected for the cover of BCK's spring 2019 issue.

BY VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Going strong 25 years after its debut, Boulder County Kids (BCK) magazine is the area's comprehensive guide for all things family oriented. The brainchild of Jennifer Martin, BCK is about to celebrate the publication of its 100th issue.

"It's been a joy to do this over the years," Martin said. "Boulder County is extremely lucky to have the kind of facilities and diversity of activities for kids. There's everything from paleontology to aerial dancing."

Quarterly, Martin puts together a 40 to 65 page magazine with cover art created by a local student containing articles on education, health, travel, art, and advice on how

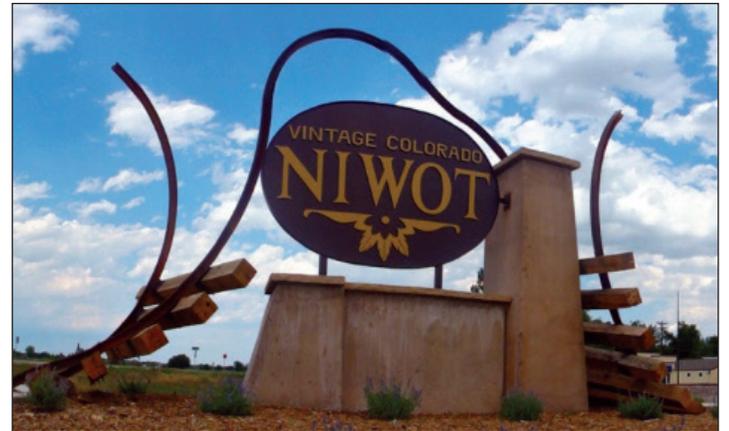
to parent well. That means every February, May, August, and September 20,000 copies of BCK hit the stands.

Martin and her brother Mark Martin started Lincoln Kids in their hometown of Lincoln Neb. after hearing about similar magazines in other parts of the country. A year later, Jennifer Martin made the move on her own to Boulder and discovered a need she could fill with BCK. Her only investment was a computer she'd bought on credit. After just eight months of publishing BCK, the computer was paid off, Martin was able to quit her traditional day job, and the publication has been her career ever since.

"I sort of thought I was out

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Incorporate Niwot? NCA hears from exploratory committee



Courtesy Photo

An informal committee is exploring whether to incorporate Niwot.

BY KIM GLASSCOCK
Editorial@lhvc.com

Two members of the informal committee exploring whether it is feasible for Niwot to incorporate gave a presentation to Niwot Community Association Board members at the board's Sept. 4 meeting.

Mary Coonce and Anne Postle spoke to the NCA about the work being done by the informal committee. Members of that committee are Niwot residents Tony Santelli, Cotton Burden, Robert Discipio, Ron Bernal, Lane Landrith, Coonce and Postle.

Committee members had suggested that an NCA board member be added as a member of the informal committee. Instead, after discussion, NCA board members elected to add the group to its monthly agenda and ask the informal committee to either send a liaison or a written progress report to the NCA meetings. NCA area representatives also will gather opinions from residents in their areas to transmit to the informal committee.

"We function as a neutral information source for our members and we relay con-

cerns and questions from them to the appropriate group," said NCA President David Limbach. "We work to increase communication and transparency."

At the NCA board meeting, Coonce said the informal committee rose from concerned residents and business owners. "We have heard this incorporation idea bubble up over the years, and we wanted to find out if it was even feasible," Coonce said. "We wanted to find out one way or the other. But what we have found is that we need a lot more data to even evaluate the idea."

Coonce explained that the committee wants to do a cost-benefit evaluation for incorporating Niwot. "We don't really know if this is a good idea, because of the costs our town would face," she said. "The committee wants actual data about costs so that our information is accurate."

"This group has a commitment to follow the data wherever it leads, pro or con," Postle said. "We don't have a predetermined stance."

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Niwot organization offers peace of mind



Courtesy photo

Prisoners at the Fremont Correctional Facility in Canon City, CO participate in a Mindfulness Peace Project activity.

BY VICKY DORVEE
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Note: September 12 is National Mindfulness Day, a day set aside to promote and explore the physical and emotional benefits of being present and regulating emotions and behavior.

Nearly 2.2 million individuals are incarcerated in the US, according to The Sentencing Project organization. Within those populations 80,000 to 100,000 people are being held in solitary confinement. Some of these prisoners have discovered a Niwot-based nonprofit

program that moves them toward a sense of peacefulness and control, and prepares them for a new life outside of prison.

The Mindfulness Peace Project (MPP) was founded by Niwotian Margot Neuman in 2004. Ten years before the formal organization came about, Neuman worked with one prisoner she'd been introduced to through a mutual friend. Requests for the knowledge she imparted grew and gradually she developed a study course. Now there are several programs under MPP each with the core goal of supporting veterans and prisoners who want to find and follow a path toward sanity and composure through mindfulness and meditation.

Mindfulness and meditation

Continued on Page 4

Community Calendar

HOMECOMING PARADE

The Niwot High School Homecoming Parade returns to the streets of downtown Niwot on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 3:30 p.m. To participate in the parade, contact the Niwot High School Student Council at 303-652-2550. Niwot plays Fort Lupton on Friday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. at

Everly-Montgomery Field in Longmont.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Alzheimer's Association Dementia Caregiver Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Niwot United Methodist

Church (7405 Lookout Road). This free service is for family members and friends who care for and care about people with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia.

"THE MIND OF THE ELEMENTARY CHILD"

Free presentation by internationally known educator Jodi Perry. Ms. Perry is now teaching at Mountain Shadows Montessori School and is looking forward to sharing her insights with the community. Thursday, Sept. 12, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Mountain Shadows, 4154 63rd St., Boulder. This event is free and open to the public.

FUNDRAISER FOR FLAGSTAFF ACADEMY

Flagstaff Academy is holding a restaurant fundraiser at Smashburger (950 Hover St.,

Longmont) on Monday, Sept. 16 from 10a.m.-9p.m. Proceeds will benefit student activities and organizations including Robotics, Student Council, Future Problem Solvers, and National Junior Honor Society. Mention Flagstaff Academy to have 20% of your bill go back to the school. To learn more about Flagstaff Academy, visit www.flagstaffacademy.org

SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Superintendent of St. Vrain Valley Schools Don Haddad, Ed.D. is hosting a community discussion at Niwot High School on Tuesday, Sept. 24 from 5:30- 6:30 p.m. The meeting will focus on the educational priorities in the community, including student achievement, infrastructure and growth, financial accomplishments, school safety, and local

and national trends in education. Childcare is available for children aged 4-12, with registration. Visit svvsd.org for more information.

EXPECT DELAYS ON 75TH STREET

Boulder County Transportation will begin a pedestrian access improvements project on 75th Street at South Heatherwood Drive at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 11. The project will require lane closures on 75th Street, so travelers can expect daytime, weekday delays.

Delays may also be experienced on South Heatherwood and Ashfield drives. Working hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Work is anticipated to be complete by early November, weather permitting.

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COMMUNITY PET SPOTLIGHT

Sponsored by Niwot Rental & Feed



Bringing a little balance to this canine-dominated spotlight is Mocha, the feline companion of Niwot residents Joan, Sharon, Jacob and Savannah. Writes Joan, "Mocha is of unknown age, but for years we've said he's between 10-12. He's a snowshoe breed, loves dogs that like cats and will accompany us on neighborhood walks. We also understand that our role in the house is to serve at the pleasure of the Mocha. We think he's the best pet ever and we want him to live forever."

We look forward to seeing your pets in our spotlight. Please email your photos and captions Editorial@lhvc.com



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Family Village Co-op reopens its doors

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Family Village in Longmont is modeled on a communal premise which many societies depended on only decades ago. In the past, families relied heavily on near-by friends, neighbors, and relatives for social connection and support with life's daily tribulations. As we've progressed scientifically, we've become more isolated socially, relying on devices to help raise, rear, nurture, or connect.

Founder of Family Village of Longmont, Melanie Piazza, believed there was a disconnect occurring, in part due to the abundance of technological connectivity. We are no longer able to reach out to our community and many have to shoulder heavy burdens all on their own. During her own personal struggle to take care of her sick mother while raising kids, she realized that it truly takes a village, one that she didn't currently have. So, she set out to make one.

"It became really clear to me that I didn't have what I needed to feel supported during that time. A lot of parents that I knew also felt the same way. Given the way that our society is, we move where the jobs are. That often means leaving family history and lots of layers of relatives behind."

Now, 16 months after its opening, Family Village of Longmont is seeing success and finding footing in the Boulder County community. In May, the co-op moved and is now based out of St. Stephens (1303 S Bross Ln). What was formerly a preschool is now utilized as a coworking space, daycare center, gathering place, and more. Piazza said, "The whole thing is a modern take on the village concept of what life used to be and what still exists in some cultures."

Now, Family Village's facility boasts an entire wing, complete with two playrooms for children and five rooms for their adult counterparts. The new grown up spaces offer a quiet, co-working area, a courtyard, wellness room, a meditation room, and a kid-working room. Fitness classes are held on the lush lawn when weather permits.

When speaking about future plans for the coop, Piazza cites specific changes she hopes to implement in the coming months. "We're missing part of our village. We became a group of parents that came together to support one another. But the whole village concept is multigenerational." She envisions adding members from various age groups, including senior citizens and highschoolers.

She also wants Family Village to act as an inspirational pilot, prompting other communities to create their own cooperative communities. "The hope is that this can be a pilot. This is a coop. Everyone involved is an equal owner in the business. There's one full-time childcare provider but everyone else provides care when needed." Members don't just get affordable childcare, they get a built-in support network, a space to create, and a tribe for life.

On Sept. 21, Family Village of Longmont is hosting an event to celebrate the new space. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and include a cupcake walk, food, scavenger hunts, and more. Prospective members can tour the facility, meet the childcare provider, and talk to current members about the group. The event also acts as a fundraising opportunity for Family Village as they charge on, full steam ahead, adding to the village and spreading the true meaning of community.



Photos by Abigail Scott

A welcoming testament to Family Village's ethos hangs at the entrance of the kids' classrooms.

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Colorado or New Mexico – Hatch chiles are the best



Photo by Mary Wolbach Lopert

Wednesday, Sept. 4 saw a bit of the authentic Southwest at the Niwot Market. Shaun Albert of SpartanNash was roasting Hatch chiles in front of the store. "We sell him the Hatch chiles, from (supplier) Melissa's. They're the ones who get them from Hatch, NM. They bring them in. We help them roast." It doesn't matter that there's a bit of a friendly rivalry between Colorado and New Mexico, because the one-day event brought out the chili lover in all of us.

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MINDFULNESS

Continued from Page 1

are interlaced concepts. Mindfulness is defined as nonjudgmental in-the-moment awareness – gentle consciousness of thoughts, feelings, sensations, and the surrounding environment. Mindfulness often includes meditation practice as a tool to foster well being, often using breathing techniques to center and calm the mind and body.

Under the umbrella organization of MPP there are The Ratna Peace Initiative, a Buddhist study program for incarcerated prisoners, Veterans Peace of Mind, a secular program for incarcerated vets, and Solitary Confinement, a program specifically intended to support prisoners who are isolated for what may be years.

MPP offers prison visits and provides inmates with reading sources, workbook materials and steady correspondence with educators and meditation instructors to guide people behind bars across the nation toward calmness and strength.

Often inmates choose to work with MPP because they're at a loss as to how to deal with their lives, or they may have learned a little about mindfulness and now want to be more immersed. Difficulties with anger, trauma, and impulsiveness are paramount and the desire to be happier can lead prisoners to be open

to learning how to be mindful.

"The reason mindfulness is in the mainstream is because there's so much science on it. There's solid research that shows meditation has a positive effect on every organ in the body, especially the brain," Neuman said.

For veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder this is an especially important consequence of meditation. Research shows that white matter in meditators increases in density and activity around the prefrontal cortex, the area of the brain in charge of emotions and decision making. At the same time, gray matter around the amygdala, where emotional trauma is held, becomes less compact and lit up through meditation, thereby helping relieve the fragmented images that trigger episodes of PTSD.

Working in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Corrections, veterans in prison facilities such as Buena Vista Correctional Complex can opt into a weekend program presented by MPP staff where they're given instruction on meditation practice. Margot and her husband Cliff Neuman go to the Sterling Correctional Facility once a month to work with prisoners. Twice a month education director Gary Allen and volunteers go to Limon, Canon City, and other correctional facilities to work with Buddhist groups.

Control over emotions can be one of the biggest takeaways from the program. One of the things Neuman said she hears the most is that participants are able to give themselves more time to consider how to behave rather reacting and making poor decisions. "Those few seconds make all the difference in the world," Neuman said.

Aside from visits to prisons, prisoners participate independently by reading material and responding to study questions. Their responses are mailed to MPP and every one of them -- hundreds that is -- are read by an instructor who writes pertinent comments back to the prisoner. Mindfulness students earn certificates along the way marking the milestones in their journey and also verifying to parole boards that they've been intentional with self-improvement efforts.

Solitary confinement adds

another layer of emotional distress while incarcerated. Allen said being sequestered is a terrible experience and, even with his extensive training it would be psychologically trying. "But those guys, they don't know how to deal with their minds. That's why they're in prison to begin with." MPP course work and communication with the organization are life-centering in these instances.

"It's been so successful," Neuman said. "We've been writing to some people over 20 years and the changes are profound."

One participant said, "Awareness helps us to notice things. It helps us to notice when we are being a jerk. There was a situation about six months ago between me and my friend in class where he flipped out. He was ready to fight. Since I've started meditation, I am more calm. Instead of flying off the handle I was able to maintain my calm because of my awareness."

The organization is focused on providing quality experiences with the inmates and that can take time. "To develop a practice, you have to understand these things in a personal way and you need someone else to talk to you about it who's more experienced," Allen said. The back and forth communication between student and instructor is a major element in grasping concepts and getting out of ruts.

Some prisoners simply want to learn by following the course materials and others engage by sending long letters. Along with the changes that learning and practicing meditation can bring, there's the act of being treated as a valuable human being. For that, Neuman said, prisoners have expressed huge gratitude.

"Most people in prison will be released at some point, and be back in our communities. We feel that we are performing a meaningful service to society by helping former prisoners be good neighbors by providing tools to work with their emotions," Neuman said.

Mindfulness Peace Project is located at 6800 N 79th Street, Ste. 200, Niwot CO. For more information and to donate to the organization, visit www.MindfulnessPeaceProject.org.

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LID sees revenue growth in first half of 2019

NIWOT LID ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ITS MONTHLY MEETING ON SEPT. 3

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bruce Rabeler presented the LID's latest revenue report from Boulder County, which showed that the district has collected \$92,571 in revenues through June 2019, up 3% from the same period in 2018 (\$89,844). However, the growth was concentrated in just a few sectors, most notably retail, where revenues were up nearly 7% (to \$36,131 from \$33,842). Revenues were down for the Accommodation/Food Service (to \$32,937 from \$33,575, or -1.9%) and Professional/Tech sectors.

Rabeler reported the LID has approved \$127,266.79 in expenses through the end of August, including amounts approved in August of \$1,071 for Dancing Under the Stars and \$6,500 for Enchanted Evening. With September's pending requests, the total rises to \$138,586.79, about \$5,700 over the LID's 2019 budget. However, the year-to-date figure was later revised to \$126,086.79, after an error in the report came to light.

Funding Requests

The LID fielded two funding requests for the month, the first from Pat Murphy of Niwot Real Estate on behalf of the Niwot Business Association, who asked for \$3,640 for expenses related to the Great Pumpkin Party.

Now in its 26th year, the 2019 event is slated for Saturday, Oct. 26, and will feature carriage

rides, a haunted house, and a trick-or-treat parade through Cottonwood Square and Old Town. Murphy estimates the Halloween celebration will attract nearly 1,000 visitors to the town's business districts

"It's a great event," LID member Mary Coonce said. "It brings a lot of people into Niwot, and the nice thing is, it brings a lot of people into businesses."

Murphy's budget for this year's event is about 10% higher than in 2018 (\$3,335) due to additional costs for security and entertainers. After a brief discussion, her request was approved unanimously.

Keeping on the holiday theme, the night's second request came from Chuck Klueber, head of the Niwot Business Association's Streetscapes committee, who requested \$7,680 for Christmas decorations and lighting, the same amount as in 2018. This projected budget includes lighting and installation services for selected trees in Whistle Stop Park and along 2nd Avenue, as well lighted snowflakes on 30 lampposts in Old Town. Installation will take place the week before Enchanted Evening, which is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 29. Bucking tradition, this year's request did not generate much discussion, and was approved unanimously.

Old Business

There was no new business, but in old business, Postle updated the committee about efforts to build a permanent concession stand in Whistle Stop Park. Plans for the small structure are currently being reviewed by the Boulder County land use staff, which is going about as well as usual, according to Postle.

"It's been kind of an arm

wrestle for the last month to get lighting over the line area so that people can check IDs. ...We were told no, but today we did just hear that we would be allowed the dark-sky compliant lighting for the concessions line."

With that hurdle cleared, Pos-

tle said she is expecting formal approval of the full plans in the next month.

The meeting wrapped up after some information discussion about 2nd Avenue real estate, new development processes in the wake of the updated land use

code and the process for making a supplemental budget request to cover any potential budget overrides.

The committee will meet next at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at the Mountain View Fire Station.

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BoCo KIDS

Continued from Page 1

of my mind for a while there because moving to a new community, not knowing anyone, and starting a new business is scary. But Boulder has been extremely kind to me," she said. "It's been a very nice way to be a part of the community."

Using the phone book,

Martin found businesses that worked with children and families. She filled them in on the goal of BCK and advertisers signed on. Many calls and issues later BCK doesn't need an advertising department because, as Martin puts it, "the product kind of sells itself."

In the beginning Martin would pick up and deliver the two tons of quarterly papers across the county. Nowadays she has a distribution company

that takes each issue to more than 400 locations.

"You know, you just kind do what you need to do to make it work," Martin said of getting the paper up and running. There were significant contributions by early employees she said, and today the staff is very small with Martin wearing most of the hats. A proofreader does a once over before it goes to press, but Martin does the entire layout of the magazine and works with advertisers.

It's also been "magical" that there's never a shortage of important content coming in. Guest experts offer to write about an array of topics including alternative health care, education for children with disabilities, and kid-friendly recipes.

Regular local contributors include ecologist, Dr. Oakley Thorne II of the Thorne Nature Experience, childcare consultant Jennifer Rodehaver, personal and organizational specialist Jessica Dancingheart, and play therapy expert Tatum Ohman Uhrick.

Every issue holds a three month calendar of family events. Timely directories are also regularly included. Fall 2019 features an index of area childcare and preschool options, afterschool programs, and birthday party venues. Spring issues are super-sized owing to a camp



Courtesy photo

The spring 2019 issue of Boulder County kids featured art by Niwot Elementary School third grader, Emmy Pridgen on the cover.

\$50 check and a gift bag.

Martin flashes back to her 10-year-old self when a poem she penned was accepted for publication in a local paper. It was a big deal she said because it gave her a sense of hope for what she could become in the future and sure enough, parents of cover artists have told Martin that their child's Picture Perfect Award resulted in self-esteem and confidence.

These days, thanks to technology, Martin, who lives in Longmont, is able to relax and travel for two months between issues and then work hard the month before it goes to print. She's conducted business while traveling to Japan, Africa, and India.

Because the paper is a resource that's often retained, Martin is cognizant of being environmentally conscious and to that end prints each issue with soy ink and undistributed issues make their way to recycling facilities.

To celebrate the big anniversary, the cover of the 100th issue of BCK is a collage of past covers and there's going to be a public party at Mud Lake in Nederland from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. For more information on Boulder County Kids, the anniversary celebration, and to submit cover art, visit www.BoulderCountyKids.com.

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NCA

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So far, the informal committee has had a summer intern research what other communities have done and what the process might be for Niwot to incorporate.

"The work done by the intern is just the start of the research that we need to do. It is by no means final or finished," Coonce said.

According to Coonce, the towns surveyed in the report said they were happy that they had pursued incorporation. But there were some absolute must-haves, Coonce said.

"They all cautioned that any incorporation exploration requires 'lots and lots of community outreach along with the need to keep a good working relationship with the county. They all also emphasized that the devil is in the details," she added.

Niwot likely could contract for road maintenance and snow removal, police or sheriff's protection and fire protection, Coonce said. "But will the county rebate anything to us? Probably not," she said.

Looming over the incorporation process also is the cost for fixing Niwot's subdivision roads. Boulder County provides some maintenance for those roads, fixing potholes and removing snow. However, it is the county's position that homeowners are responsible for paying to reconstruct the roads.

"We have received conflicting information from the

county about the state of our subdivision roads and what's needed to return them to good shape," Postle told NCA members. She said the informal committee is contacting Jacobs Engineering Group and Brennan Gravel to help them get data on what the current state of the subdivision roads is, and what those roads may need in five, 10 and 20 years.

"This is a cost we really need to pin down so our data is accurate," Postle said.

Both Coonce and Postle stressed that the informal committee is exploring incorporation for Niwot, but not trying to force it on the town.

"We know that we have to talk to residents many times and do surveys and get feedback from our community," Coonce said. "We want community input on this. We don't want to force this on anyone. We just want to find out if it is even feasible."

Postle suggested that each Niwot neighborhood could evaluate what works best for them and whether they want to be part of any incorporation. But she also added that not enough data has been gathered to determine if it is even possible or feasible to move ahead with incorporation.

If the informal committee does decide to propose incorporation, it is "a very long process" to implement, Coonce said. It would likely take a year to get a petition for incorporation put together and then at least two or more years to put any ballot issue together, she said.

There are many more issues than just the cost of fixing roads to consider, commented NCA area 3 representative Pat Murphy. "What about zoning and planning? We know now what the county regulations are, but incorporating could mean that those regulations could be changed."

NCA Area 5 representative John Barto pointed out that the semi-rural designation for Niwot could change. "I think that designation is important to many of us who live in Niwot," he said. Incorporating also could mean that more tax revenue is needed, which bur-

dens property owners, small businesses and residents, he added.

Postle said the committee is trying to analyze the incorporation pros and cons using no additional growth in Niwot as the baseline.

NCA board member Mark Brigham pointed out that the informal committee needs to share the information it gathers with the community. "I realize that this is an evolving process, but not sharing any of the information starts up the rumor mill," he said. "It's always better to be transparent and give complete access

to information."

Audience member Surinder Dahiya of Niwot agreed. "This is a group that is gathering data and is not officially sanctioned. The more you communicate with Niwot residents, the more you decrease the rumor mill and the level of fear that residents may have."

Coonce said the informal committee is hoping to be able to hold "the first of many" informational meetings in October or November to hear from residents and talk about the process up to that point.

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Committee seeking more sculptures to expand Community Corner

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot's Community Corner Sculpture Park at the crossroads of Niwot Road and 79th Street has imbued the town with creative inspiration. A meandering sidewalk bordered by ornamental shrubs and colorful perennials, metal benches, a whimsical Little Free Library, a pair of painted Left Hand chairs and nine captivating sculptures have resulted in a peaceful oasis to stroll through and a sanctuary to relax in.

The Niwot Sculpture Park Committee is putting out a call to artists for more sculptures to be on display. The last day to submit a proposed new piece of artwork for the corner is Oct. 31.

"We are delighted at the response we had to the sculpture park's first year," committee member Catherine McHale said. "This little corner of Niwot has really come alive with the beautiful landscaping starting to mature and these wonderful artworks."

Artists may submit up to three pieces for consideration, each must be durable enough to withstand whatever weather Colorado can throw at them. Any theme or material is welcome. Submission forms and requirements are online at www.niwot.com/call-for-artists.

According to the online information, "Selection criteria include quality and innovation, compatibility with the site, and public safety."

The Niwot Sculpture Park Committee is comprised of seven locals representing the Niwot Community Association,

Niwot Business Association, Niwot Cultural Arts Association, Niwot Future League, Cottonwood West Homeowners Association, artists and Niwot residents. The members are Laura Skaggs, Chuck Klueber, Anne Postle, Lisa Rivard, Scott Deemer, Asher Panian, and Catherine McHale.

Newly selected sculptures will be joining Feather, Aviator, Peacemaker, Three Graces, Ocean Embrace, Desert Visions, Winot Bronze, Waco Curves II, and The Spirit of the River Does not Live Long in a Drainage Pipe. The collection includes pieces with Asian, Native American, natural, and adventure inspired themes. Bronze, wood, marble, stainless steel, concrete, and stone are some of the materials used.

"It looks as though all of our current sculptures will be staying, but we are looking for more," McHale said. "The plan will be to add to the existing set and potentially create some more landscaping as well in a few months. We don't have a specific limit on how many pieces we will take. It may depend on how they fit with the existing space and collection."

The committee will select the new art pieces by Nov. 15 and a timeline calls for installation in February 2020. One of the artists of the newly chosen pieces will be awarded a stipend of \$750. A second stipend for \$250 will be given to the winner of the annual People's Choice Award.

The sculptures are for sale at the end of the one year installation period. Interested parties may contact Osmosis Art Gallery for additional information. Last year, the piece titled Waco

Curves II was purchased by the Burrell Family Foundation with a donation of \$10,000 to the Niwot Cultural Arts Association. The piece was then given as a donation to town, so it will remain a permanent piece at Community Corner.

The other sculpture that will be a permanent installation is "Spirit of the River Does Not Live Long in a Drainage Pipe," which was donated to the Niwot community through the NCAA by the family of artist Scott Reuman, who passed away in 2013.

For additional information regarding submitting a sculpture proposal to the project, visit www.niwot.com/call-for-artists or write to publicart@niwot.com.



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Niwot's Sculpture Park Committee is accepting artists' proposals through Oct. 31 to add more pieces to Community Corner at Niwot Road and 79th Street.

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Lefty's Pizza hosts weekly movie night



By Abigail Scot

Owner, Lefty Harris, aka Lefty, in front of giant inflatable projector screen.

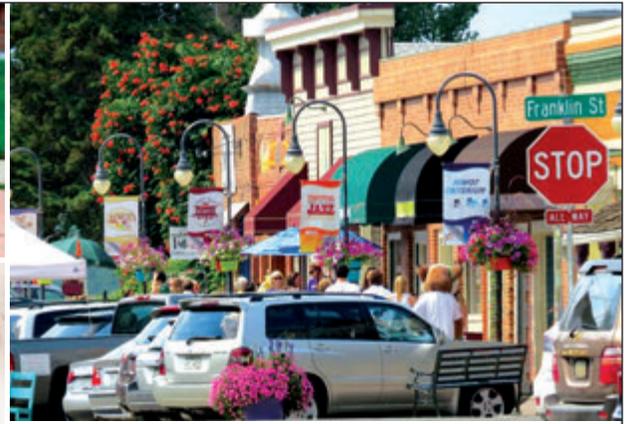
BY ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Lefty's Gourmet Pizza and Ice Cream has been a staple of downtown Niwot for over 25 years. This summer, the eatery added a new event to the docket - a community movie night. Each week, Lefty's shows kid-friendly classics like Aladdin or romantic comedies like Serendipity.

Movie night comes with a wealth of other additions to the pizza parlor. A new front deck, new tableware, renovated bathroom, and landscaped front and back yards were recent updates completed throughout the summer. Out back, a giant inflatable projector screen stands 12 feet tall and 20 feet wide on a brand new wooden deck.

Owner Lefty Harris is also gearing up to add "Astronomy Night", where guests are invited to visit the restaurant and take a look at the stars, planets, and the moon through his telescope. Additional information and dates for this event will be on the restaurant's website. Lefty explains the catalyst for this event, "I love educating people and expanding people's minds to the greater universe, rather than limiting it to what they see with their eyeballs on Earth."

So far, the largest movie night at Lefty's hosted around 30 guests and doesn't show signs of slowing down. This week's screening, scheduled for Sept. 11, is the *The Princess Bride*. Guests are encouraged to bring their



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own folding chairs and kick back under the late-summer sky. Also, Lefty's offers a "dinner for 2" or "dinner for

4" special. The movie is set to begin at dark, which is currently around 7:35 p.m. After this Wednesday's

showing, Lefty's will switch to Saturday-only screenings. On Sept. 14, catch the exciting thriller *National Treasure* or

stop by the weekend after, Sept. 21, and sing along to *Chitty-Chitty Bang Bang*.

Remember in September



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Two stages were rockin' a full line-up of bands all afternoon at the third annual Remember in September music festival on Saturday, Sept. 7. While Sunsleepers (left) played on one stage, Janis Kelly and Global Soul Experience (right) also entertained festival-goers. The festival culminated with Face Vocal Band on the main stage in the evening. The free family event was put on by the J.A.R.E.D. Foundation which offers musical instruction scholarships to area children. Visit www.EducateDrummers.org to learn more about the organization.



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SPORTS

Niwot beats Fairview in thriller

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Niwot boys tennis team went 21-0 over its first three matches of 2019, but it was the narrow 4-3 victory over Class 5A powerhouse Fairview that head coach Miikka Keronen called his "favorite" of the still young season.

"These are the kinds of matches we need," Keronen said after the tense Sept. 5 bout with the Knights, who finished third at last year's 5A state championships. "If you want to win the state title, you have to play this caliber of teams. ... People think winning 7-0 is good, but it's not always good for teams."

Despite a prolonged lighting delay, a robust crowd was

on hand to see Keronen's squad inaugurate Niwot High's newly constructed tennis complex, which features eight playing surfaces and three spectator areas. Junior Neil Wilcox led the Cougars on the day with his fourth straight-sets win at No. 1 singles, defeating Fairview junior Luke Silverman 6-1, 6-2.

At No. 3 singles, senior Ben Bicknell dispatched his opponent 6-1, 6-4, then hurried off to auditions for Niwot's fall play. A talented performer and singer, Bicknell is currently starring as Enjolras in Jesters Dinner Theatre's student production of "Les Misérables," and sang the national anthem before the match got underway.

Continued on Page 14



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

The 2019 Niwot boys tennis team hosted the Fairview Knights on the school's newly constructed tennis courts on Thursday, Sept. 5. From left Ben Bicknell, Neil Wilcox, Sam Keronen, Anton Lavrouk, Ivan Calderon, Luke Webber, Xavier Moy, Maia Heather, Hayden Stoltz, Alan Wilcox, and Reeves Moor.

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Niwot comes up short against Greeley Central



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Junior Dylan Sims tackles Greeley Central quarterback for a loss in the Cougars 17-14 loss to Greeley Central on Sept. 6.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot generated more than 300 yards of offense against Greeley Central in week two, but football games are often won or lost over much shorter distances. Un-

fortunately, the Cougars had to contemplate that painful lesson on a long bus ride home after falling 17-14 to the Wildcats thanks to some untimely miscues.

"Football is an interesting game in the sense that the

little inches that you need are all over the field," Niwot head coach Jeremy Lanter said after the narrow loss. "There were times when we took advantage of those inches and did what we were supposed to and there were sometimes when things just didn't bounce our way."

That was literally true in the closing seconds of the third quarter, as the Cougars drove for their second score in the half. As senior running back Liam Flanagan crossed the goal line, the ball popped free and was recovered by the Wild Cats for a touch back. That gave Greeley Central a much needed momentum boost, and a long run on their next possession would seal Niwot's fate.

"If we score walking into

the fourth quarter and take a two score lead, then that game looks a little bit different, but we made a mistake," Lanter said. "The cool thing to watch from a coaching perspective is to watch just how much fight our kids have despite those mistakes. And mistakes happen all over the field. If you watch any NFL or college or high school game you're going to see mistakes. Those mistakes hurt us tonight, but we did a ton of really, really great things."

One of those great things was the performance of junior quarterback Ayden Bartko, who went a career-best 14-for-24 with 200 yards and two touchdowns on the night. Though he wasn't quite able to engineer a Cou-

gars' comeback on their final drive, Lanter was heartened by the clear strides the 11th grader has made since 2018.

"Ayden managed the clock 1,000 times better this year," he said. "We didn't have any timeouts, and he managed the ball all the way down. He knew what we were looking for throughout that whole drive. We had a couple of dropped passes that stopped it, but I thought his choices were great."

Junior Isaac Fisk was on the receiving end of both of Bartko's touchdown passes, and it's hard to decide which was more dramatic. In the first, he leapt over a defender to nab a 21-yard pass in the end zone, putting Niwot ahead 6-3. In the third, he took a 20-yard pass from Bartko in stride, and scrambled another 53-yards down the sidelines to give the Cougars a 14-10 lead.

"That wasn't even me, that was my teammates," Fisk said of his long touchdown. "They were blocking for me like crazy. They got the guy behind me, and then Noterman came up and blocked a guy so I could cut back, so that's all them."

Niwot also got key receptions from senior Blake Bair and Julian Bell. On the ground, five rushers combined for 113 yards, including Flanagan (13-for-55) and senior Julian Molina, who went 8-for-34 in his season debut.

"Julian runs in a very different style than Liam does, and we knew coming into this game that we were going to try to give them both touches and kind of see how that unfolded," Lanter said of the running back tandem. "I think they both did a great job sharing that workload tonight."

Aside from an unfortunate lapse on the Wild Cats' last touchdown, Lanter couldn't find much to criticize in Niwot's defensive performance. The Cougars held the Wild

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FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 12

Cats to less than 300 yards of total offense, and made at least three key stops in the red zone. Niwot's linebackers kept steady pressure on Wild Cats' quarterback Nathan Escobar, whose 116 passing yards came almost entirely on a single play.

"Those kids have done a really good job getting better and better every week," Lanter said. "Our defense gave us tons of inches tonight because they gave us chances." Niwot will be back on the field against Fort Lupton at home on Friday, September 13. Lanter is optimistic that the Cougars will be able to

pull off a win for the homecoming crowd for the second year in a row.

"I really do think it's just a matter of time. I talk to the kids all the time about what we call 'pounding the stone'. A stonecutter picks up a hammer and starts swinging it at a stone. How many swings will it take before he breaks the rock? I don't know, but we have to keep swinging it. They're so close."

Greeley Central 17, Niwot 14	
Cougars (1-1)	0 6 8 0—14
Wild Cats (1-0)	3 0 7 7—17
Niwot Individuals	
Rushing—Flanagan 13-55, Molina 8-34	
Passing—Bartko 14-24-200-2-1	
Receiving—Fisk 2-94-2, Bair 3-50, Bell 3-27, Flanagan 4-25	



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STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Liam Flanagan

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot running back Liam Flanagan made a splash in the Cougars' season opener against George Washington, rushing for a career-best 210 yards and three touchdowns. And that game was no fluke. In 2018, he rushed for more than 100 yards three times, and was indisputably Niwot's offensive leader. While Flanagan is quick to give credit for his productivity to the offensive line and his coaches, it turns out that he also has some specialized training in his background that has paid off in unexpected ways.

"I did gymnastics for five years, and it's helped me so much with football. I wish I'd continued to do it because it helped with balance and vision."

According to Flanagan, it's that "vision" that has helped him gain an edge as a rusher for the Cougars.

"Since I was a sophomore, Coach Byers has taught me to keep my eyes up and always look for that hole. Because I always want to run down and barge my way in. But he's always taught me to have vision, and I respect that. It's helped me a lot."

Flanagan took up both gymnastics and football at age 9, and he finally chose the gridiron over the mat in middle school. Coincidentally, that was also when he switched from linebacker to running back, "because I wanted to be the one scoring touchdowns."

For the past two seasons,

Flanagan has been the one scoring touchdowns for the Cougars. As a junior, he ran for five, including three in Niwot's win 26-13 win over Fort Lupton that snapped the Cougars' 17-game losing streak. In all, Flanagan had close to 900 all-purpose yards for the Cougars in 2018, and is well on pace to break that as a senior. In Niwot's slim loss to Greeley Central on Sept. 6, he added 80 yards to his 2019 total, including 25 yards receiving. He's hoping his strict summer training regimen will help put him over the top.

Yet, for all of his personal success as a running back, the program's recent success has been even more gratifying. For that, he cited major changes in team culture under head coach Jeremy Lanter, who joined the team in 2017 when Flanagan was a sophomore.

"If I was a freshman this year, compared to when I was a freshman, you can totally tell how we as a team are bonded," he said, recalling the program under Coach Hollingsworth, who was fired in 2016. "My freshman year, there were groups, but this year we're all together. We used to, if some team would make a big play, we'd just hang our heads and quit, but I haven't seen that from this team yet."

That new attitude is why Flanagan is optimistic about Niwot's outlook for continued success in 2019. He's also excited about having more contributors to help carry the load on offense, such as



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Niwot running back Liam Flanagan has rushed for 265 yards and three touchdowns in two games so far in 2019.

junior Isaac Fisk, who had two receptions for 94 yards and two touchdowns on the night. He is also getting help in the run game from fellow senior and summer training partner Julian Molina, who ran for 34 yards against Greeley Central.

"As a team, we're good at doing 50-50 run/pass, and I think we're going to keep doing that and just keep pushing."

Flanagan spends his time off the field with friends or volunteering with the team. Until last year, he was also an avid rugby player, a sport he hopes to take up again in the future. After high school, he plans to go to college and pursue a tech-related degree, though he hasn't settled on any particular institution. He also hopes to play football, and is pursuing a few opportunities.



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Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior Anton Lavrouk jumps for the ball in his No. 1 doubles match against Fairview on Sept. 5.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 11

The Cougars' pair of Xavier Moy and Luke Webber were winners in three sets at No. 2 doubles, 6-3, 3-6, 6-0. Webber, a freshman, has been among the early surprises for Keronen, as well as his teammates.

"Shout out right now to

Luke Webber. He's amazing. He's so good, it's insane," senior Anton Lavrouk said when asked about the first weeks of the Cougars' season. Lavrouk has been impressed by how well the team's newcomers have "gelled" with the veterans this year, and helped the Cougars pick up where they left off after going 10-1 in 2018. "We're pretty lucky in that regard—every-

body's just kind of embraced them, and we just started getting better together."

Two of those newcomers, junior Maia Heather and senior Hayden Stoltz, picked up their fourth straight win at No. 3 singles against the Knights, winning 6-2, 6-4, to seal the Niwot victory.

"I was really proud of how everyone played, especially 2 doubles and 3 doubles—they really pulled through," Lavrouk said. "And even everyone who lost. Even if the score was down, everyone was cheering. At the end of the day, scoring and getting better are important, but energy is also really important."

Unfortunately, the highest energy match of the day did not result in a Niwot victory. At No. 2 singles, junior Sam Keronen came from behind to win the first set 7-6 (8-10) against Fairview senior Adam Heilbronner. The two then battled for more than an hour, but Keronen finally fell 4-6 in the second set and then 8-10 the tiebreaker for his first loss of the season.

Also posting their first loss of the season for Niwot were Lavrouk and junior partner Ivan Calderon at No. 1 doubles (4-6, 3-6), and sophomore Alan Wilcox and junior Reeves Moor at No. 4 doubles (0-6, 2-6).

Still, Coach Keronen couldn't find much to criticize in his team's play against the Knights.

"Today was perfect. It was money," he said. "When you play a big school like this, they're super deep, so you've got to find those four or five spots where you win, and we were able to find four of them today."

Niwot will have to find at least four more on Sept. 12 when they go up against Mullen, another contender for this year's Class 4A crown. However, both Keronen and his team are feeling up to the challenge after their slim win over Fairview.

"We're just going to keep practicing as hard as we can, keep focusing, and learn from our mistakes," Lavrouk said.

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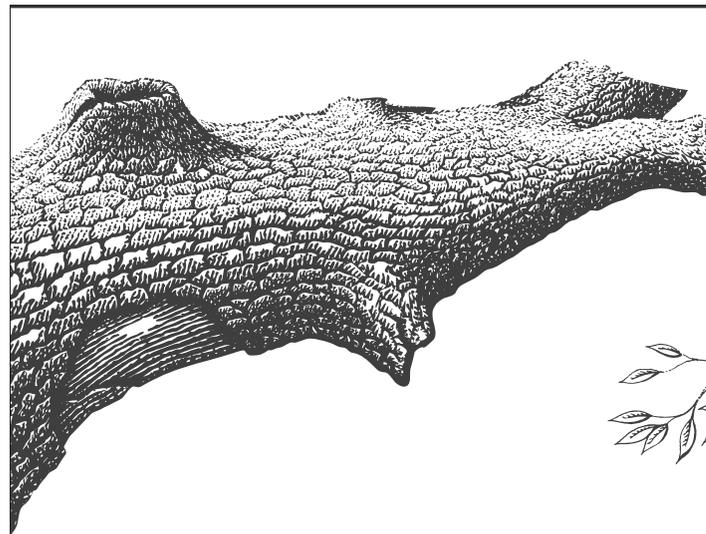
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New faces grace Niwot gymnastics roster in 2019

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Niwot gymnastics program isn't exactly starting from scratch this season, but after graduation and other pursuits lured away much of last year's varsity roster, fourth-year head

coach Marisa Purcell knew that picking up where the team left off after winning the 2018 state title was an unlikely scenario. Instead, she is looking forward to molding a new generation of Niwot gymnasts into state champions, even if she has to be patient in the meantime.

"It's very exciting to have a new team and some new adventures," she said after their first home meet of the season on Sept. 4. "We always enjoy newcomers. They bring a fun spark to the team, and it always changes things up. It's nice to have the challenge of finding

what works for them and having them experience high school and being part of a team."

That new energy was on display during the tri-meet against Thornton and Elizabeth, but, unfortunately, it didn't translate into many medals for Niwot. The home team finished third, with 169.50 points, which wasn't exactly a surprise to their coach. However, she was pleasantly surprised by their performance on the beam, which has emerged as a strong event for the youthful team.

"We see that as ahead of the other three right now," she said. "When I say it's a different year, that's a difference this year."

Purcell's cupboard isn't completely bare. Returning to the team this year are Mallory Christopher, a state qualifier, and Zoey Stowe, who Purcell will be relying on for leadership and mentoring. Also back with the team are Mia Curry and sophomore Olivia Sroka, two more state competitors in 2018. Among the host of newcomers

is freshman Savanna Slater, who Purcell expects to compete in the all-around competition.

Otherwise, Purcell is finding herself navigating a new landscape.

"There's a lot more preparation going on behind the scenes that you don't see," she said of her young team. "I feel like right now we're really trying to get these routines down and get them the skills they need, versus perfecting and critiquing their routines to a T. I'm starting a little further back than I have before."

Which is not to say she doesn't have high expectations. They're just not state championship expectations.

"It's really hard to teach what winning looks like," Purcell said. "When you lose a big bunch of girls that know how to win, the new ones don't have any idea what it takes or what that feels like. I am hoping to teach them what state champions gymnastics is all about."



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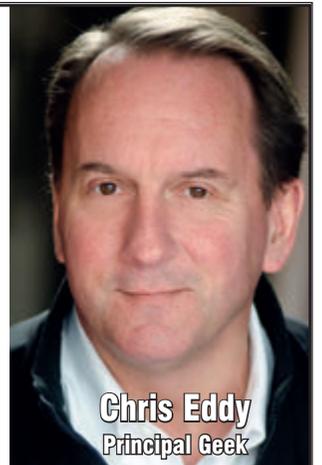
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