



Patty Strecker named 2019 4th of July Grand Marshal

By KIM GLASSCOCK
Editorial@lhvc.com

Patty Strecker of Niwot is unabashedly red, white and blue patriotic.

The co-founder of the Niwot Patriotic Cookie Moms will serve as the Niwot July 4 parade Grand Marshal, an honor given by the Niwot Community Association board which sponsors and organizes the parade. She has asked the entire cookie moms group – about 40 strong – to walk behind the grand marshal’s car in the parade.

“I was just utterly shocked to receive this honor,” Strecker said. “I am not the only one who helps in this effort. It’s really a group effort, but the most important part is that we



Photo by Kim Glasscock

The Niwot Patriotic Cookie Moms, headed by longtime resident and volunteer Patty Strecker (kneeling in the flag apron), will lead Niwot’s annual 4th of July Parade this year.

do this for our men and women on military deployment.”

Showing love for the United States and supporting military

members is a top priority for Strecker. She likes to quote John Wayne’s words... “Sure I wave the American flag. Do

you know a better flag to wave? Sure I love my country with all her faults. I’m not ashamed of that, never have been and never

will be.”

Nominator Riki Frea called Strecker “the most patriotic woman I have ever met” and “devoted” to leading the group of generous cookie volunteers. “I can’t think of a better way or time to recognize her efforts to support so many service men and women than on our country’s birthday,” she wrote.

Strecker is being honored not only for her work with the Niwot Patriotic Cookie Moms, but also for her volunteering in the Niwot community. She has been a 4-H project leader for more than 30 years, where she taught pie baking, yeast and quick breads, cake decorating and entomology.

“I love teaching by doing,

Continued on Page 4

Sarah Cioni’s fortuitous florals



Photos courtesy of Sarah Cioni’s Instagram, used with permission.

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Upon first speaking with current Los Angeles resident Sarah Cioni, it becomes immediately clear that she still loves Niwot. In 2001, Cioni opened The Painted Primrose in Niwot. “It was always my childhood dream to be a shopkeeper, whatever that meant.” Cioni explained, laughing. She thought selling tulips on

Friday would make a nice addition to the shop’s current offerings, so Cioni purchased a floral cooler and did just that.

One fateful day, a customer came in and inquired about floral arrangements. Previously, Cioni had only designed flowers for one wedding – a wedding whose photos hung in The Painted Primrose. Cioni agreed to take on the job, which turned out to be one of the most serendipitous moments of her life.

She designed the floral arrangements for that wedding, and, tragically, three weeks later, the groom died, so she was hired to create the funeral floral arrangements. The same family hired her to do the flowers for a baby shower. After that, it was off to the races. Cioni was a shopkeeper and a florist.

After establishing her shop in Niwot and earning a loyal

Continued on Page 7

Pinocchio’s restaurant coming to life in July



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Restaurateur Annie Vick stands behind the newly remodeled bar at the eighth location of Pinocchio’s Incredible Italian, soon to open in Niwot at 105 2nd Avenue.

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Inviting tables covered in red-checkered linens, padded stools in a neat row at the renovated bar, and a pristine double-wide range and

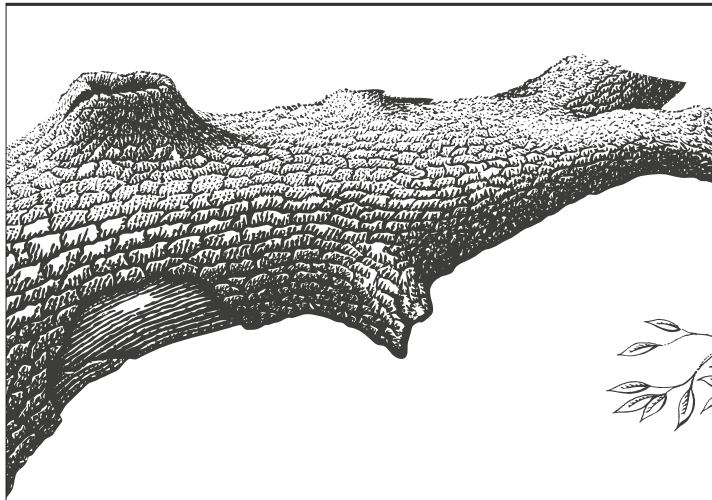
gleaming convection oven in the immaculate galley kitchen indicate the debut of Niwot’s Pinocchio’s Incredible Italian eatery is getting very close.

Restaurateur Annie Vick said to expect the enticing scents of garlicky marinara

and freshly baked cakes and brownies by the first week of July. Aside from a few finishing touches like the installation of back wall booths and hanging up the restaurant’s signature romantic black and white photographs, the next step before opening is for the health department to give its stamp of approval. After that, Vick said, things will quickly come together.

In the meantime, the establishment’s atmosphere is filled with anticipation even as the space sits empty, thanks to a facelift that included painting the walls an evocative red, installing fun faceted light fixtures overhead and laying new carpeting underfoot, enhancing the bar with decorative accents, creating a large workspace for servers, and

Continued on Page 5



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Bob Ross

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► Community Calendar

NIWOT HIGH TRACK CLOSURE

The track that launched two state championship teams in 2019 is getting a little TLC this summer. Starting on June 10, the 1,600 meter track at Niwot High School will be closed for resurfacing and restriping. Work is expected to continue through July 18.

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.

ROCK & RAILS

Niwot's summer concert series, Rock & Rails, continues its 14th season on Thursday, June 20, at Whistle Stop Park. The Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band opens at 5 p.m., with local favorites Last Men On Earth, featuring Niwot's Mike Holubec and Mark Trippensee, headlining at 6:30 p.m. The Niwot High football and cheer teams will receive donations to the tip jars for the evening. The Thursday night concerts in June, July and August are free and open to the public.

EDUCATOR VOLUNTEERS

Boulder County Parks & Open Space is looking for Educator Volunteers to lead pro-

grams at the recently restored one-room Altona Schoolhouse at Heil Valley Ranch. Applicants do not need to be teachers to apply. The deadline for applications is Monday, July 8. Minimum age is 14. Visit BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org/volunteer or contact Sheryl Kippen at skippen@bouldercounty.org or 303-776-8848.

GARDENTOUR

Byron Kominek will be holding a free tour of Jack's Solar Garden (8102 N. 95th Street) from 2-3 p.m. on Sunday, June 30. Reservations are recommended as space is limited. RSVP to Byron@JackSolarGarden.com. To subscribe and learn more about the project, visit www.JacksSolarGarden.com.

► COMMUNITY PET SPOTLIGHT

By STACY GORESKO, PH.D.
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The Lefthand Valley Courier is pleased to announce its new Pet Spotlight. Each week we are asking our readers to send in their cutest photos of their pet(s) accompanied by a short caption explaining what their pet(s) of choice are, what their names are and any other fun information you would like to share with our readers. We can only choose one photo per week for print, but we can display all the photos we receive on our online edition of the paper.

This week the Pet Spotlight goes to Simba the dog, and Lily the cat. Yes, for this week it pays to know our newest reporter. These are Stacy Goresko's furry children (not to be confused with her human children). Both Simba and Lily are rescue animals who now live happily in the heart of Niwot.

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



▶ FAMILIAR FACES

Victoria Keen and Mike Selak

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

If you were to do a time lapse video of the past 35 plus years of Niwot, it's guaranteed you will have crossed paths with Victoria Keen and her husband Mike Selak many times. The Colorado-bred couple has seen Niwot grow from a far-flung rural offshoot to a flourishing hamlet. Living in the area so long means they're waving and saying hello on a regular basis to folks they know from a multitude of settings. The Courier asked these familiar faces a few questions to shed some light on what makes them unique and integral members of our community.

LHVC- Where did you grow up and what brought you to Niwot?

Victoria Keen/Mike Selak - We were both born and raised in Pueblo, Colo. We moved to Boulder in 1977 after Vic-

toria was accepted at CU. We moved to Niwot in 1983 to the Countryside Condos. There were only two buildings then. We felt like we were moving to the ends of the earth - Niwot felt very remote and the town was quite sleepy. After a few days of getting settled, we stopped by El Castillo Mexican restaurant in Cottonwood Square, then owned by the Ochoa family. The Ochoa's were so warm and friendly, we instantly felt like we moved to the right town.

We moved to our home on 3rd Ave. in Niwot in 1985. It's a wonderful neighborhood of quirky, like-minded folks. We feel so blessed to be surrounded with neighbors and a network of friends who feel like family. We found our tribe.

LHVC - How did you meet and when?

VK/MS - We met 44 years ago in Pueblo when we were both attending Southern Col-



Photo by Tracey Snow

Familiar faces Victoria Keen and Mike Selak have been involved and caring members of the community for nearly four decades. Their faithful companion Roscoe posed with them in this family portrait.

orado State College which is now CSU-Pueblo. We got married in 1984.

LHVC - Tell us a bit about your background.

VK/MS - Victoria has a degree in anthropology, archaeology, and Latin American studies. Mike has a degree in history and education. Mike taught at the high school level briefly and then settled into a long career in the produce department at King Soopers.

Victoria did survey archaeology in southwestern Colorado and Utah and a few "digs" for site mitigation for the Colorado Highway Department. After that, she was self-employed for 30 years with various business incarnations. We are now both semi-retired.

LHVC - Where are we likely to see you around town?

VK/MS - Mike has been watering the beautiful flowers downtown during the summer - this is his second year. Niwotians probably most readily recognize us by seeing us walk our dogs. Dogs are our person-

al fitness trainers and walking meditation instructors. We have been on every trail and in every neighborhood in Niwot. We are partial to scruffy terriers and had several Scotties and a Westie, as well as numerous cats. All were rescues. Our current dog is Roscoe, a corgi-schnauzer mix. Otherwise you see us at the usual haunts - parades, coffee shops, restaurants, festivities, events, etc.

LHVC - What's your favorite thing about living here?

VK/MS - After dealing with traffic in Boulder, Longmont, and Denver, it's wonderful that our home base is less frenetic and so peaceful. We love going for walks and seeing horses, goats and chickens just a few blocks away. Niwot still retains a certain quirky charm and "heart" despite the growth we have witnessed over the past 36 years. The agricultural past

Continued on Page 11



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STRECKER

Continued from Page 1

and I've probably taught hundreds of kids some skills," Strecker said. "And many of those kids have won and gone on to compete in the Colorado State Fair." Strecker and her husband, Don, have lived in Niwot since 1978. She's pitched in at many community events and helped with the Niwot Easter Egg Hunt for many years. Her daughter was the Easter Bunny (shhh) for a few years. "It's so wonderful to see the kids find eggs and have fun!" she said.

In addition, Strecker is a member and volunteer with the Heart of Longmont Church, the Longmont Historical Society and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She participates in the Veteran's Day Longmont parade and participates in Memorial Day ceremonies at Longmont Cemetery.

Strecker is a former farm girl raised in Minnesota on the family homestead. She and her husband

were drawn to the Niwot area when he came to Boulder to work for Ball Aerospace. Boulder was "too much of a city" for Strecker, so they found a home in small town Niwot.

"All I needed to be happy was a kitchen sink that faced east, a half-acre lot so I could have a big garden, and a place for a clothesline," Strecker said. "I knew I was in the right place when my neighbor, a farmer, shared his rhubarb plants with me."

Strecker loves the people in Niwot too. "Everyone who lives here has lived someplace else, so they appreciate the small town feel and values of Niwot," she said. "Our July 4 parade is special because it brings out patriotic feelings in a non-partisan way. We need that, and we have it in Niwot."

Niwot Patriotic Cookie Moms

Strecker's involvement with cookies – lots of them – started in 2003 by sending goodies to her military daughters. All three have served or currently serve in the

U.S. Army and their husbands are officers currently on active duty. The Niwot cookie moms group began after Strecker's neighbor, Pat Murphy, found out she was sending those treats. Murphy's sister in Illinois was doing the same thing, and she figured she and Strecker could gather a group in Niwot, Strecker said.

"We started with about six or seven of us local gals, and we baked the cookies in Pat's kitchen," Strecker said. "Now we have an email list of about 45 women, and about 20 show up to pack boxes, depending on their schedules."

"We don't bake in Pat's kitchen anymore because it's grown so large," Strecker said. "Now everyone bakes at home and brings it in to fill the boxes." The group fills 25 to 30 boxes each time they send them. They try to get boxes shipped to the deployed military members five times a year near holidays.

"It's a lot like an old fashioned quilting bee, but without the quilt," Strecker laughed. "We talk and visit as we pack the boxes."

At a June 17 packing session, 25 boxes were laid out and women walked by, adding their donations to the boxes. Strecker, decked out in her signature red, white and blue apron, checked on progress and decided that the group could fill five more boxes. "We're definitely overflowing here," she said.

In addition to a wide variety of cookies, the boxes include gum, lip balm, candy, cracker snacks, beef jerky, nuts and dried fruit, playing cards and toothbrushes and toothpaste. Each box also contains a signed letter to the service men and women explaining the group and thanking them for their service.

Sometimes there are additions such as drawings and cards from Niwot Elementary Girl Scouts and children at local daycare centers, and a copy of the Left Hand Valley Courier newspaper. There is often a small flag included. Recently, the group has included small, individually packaged white stars that have been cut out of old, retired American flags, part of the Stars for Our Troops program. Two cookie moms have taken on the task of decorating the inside of every box.

In the beginning, the boxes

4th of July festivities



It will be a real hometown celebration in Niwot for the July 4th holiday.

The day's festivities will kick off with the annual pancake breakfast from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Niwot Market's parking lot in Cottonwood Square shopping center. The Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band will perform a rousing rendition of patriotic and fun songs from 9 to 10 a.m. to entertain those at the breakfast.

Bongo the Balloon Man will be on hand to entertain children (and adults) from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. during the pancake breakfast. The Mountain View Fire Protection District will have Sparky the Fire Dog and classic Engine #10 at the breakfast.

Children are encouraged to decorate their bicycles and tricycles and ride in the parade. A bike decorating station will be open from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Niwot Market. Children who want to ride in the parade will be able to line up at 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot.

Parade lineup begins at 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot at Cottonwood Square. The parade kicks off at 11 a.m. heading west on 2nd Avenue.

The Niwot Community Association sponsors and coordinates the July 4th parade.

went to deployed service members who the ladies knew. As the years passed many of those military members came home, but the mission didn't stop. Service men and women would pass on names and addresses of their friends in the units. The boxes are now sent to all branches of the military. Strecker is the keeper of the paperwork who collects all the military addresses and verifies them.

"We send to Afghanistan, Syria, Kuwait, Poland, Somalia/North Africa, Ukraine, South Korea and naval ships in the Middle East. I marvel that it only takes six or seven days to get to Afghanistan," Strecker said.

The June 17 packing session had additional meaning for Strecker. The group packed a box destined for Drew Achtermann, who is deployed in Afghanistan. He is the son of Karen Achtermann, who was in Strecker's 4-H pie baking class as a teen. "I love that connection," Achtermann said.

Strecker also takes the boxes to the Niwot Post Office herself,

where the postmaster is "really accommodating," she said. The boxes make it to the service men and women in "really good shape," she said. "But once we did hear that some of the peanut brittle melted in the desert heat. They just took it into the air conditioning and it hardened right up!"

"We receive lots of letters from service men and women thanking us for remembering them," Strecker said. "It really means a lot to them to be thought of and receive treats."

Funding cookie shipping

Shipping the boxes is expensive. It cost a total of \$981.20 for the last two shipments totaling 62 boxes. Donations raised by the tip jar at the July 4 pancake breakfast and at Rock & Rails (Aug. 8 this year) are used to pay for shipping.

"We really appreciate everyone who donates and helps out," Strecker said. "People are so generous and wonderful. That's what I love about this town and these people!"



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PINOCCHIO'S

Continued from Page 1

and setting up a dessert case that will magnetize customers as soon as they enter the bistro.

The restaurant feels very spacious and will comfortably seat 100 customers, including the outside patio. Vick said in addition to table service, carry out will be a big part of the business. Reservations will be accepted and one of the dining rooms may be closed off to accommodate private parties.

Niwot will be Pinocchio's eighth location - the others are in Longmont (2 locations), Broomfield, Brighton, Loveland, Frederick, and Superior. Vick created the Italian concept establishment in Longmont in 2003. With the launching of Niwot Pinocchio's, she and her family will be running five of those locations and remaining three are franchises.

Each location bakes its own desserts and cooks its dishes onsite, making for super-fresh offerings. There are no fryers in order to avoid the infusion of greasiness into the space, and tap beer isn't served because beer residue in the drains can also permeate. It's an intentional decision so that the restaurant has only the aroma of freshly cooked fare in the air.

The menu (online at www.EatAtPinochios.com) features appetizers, pasta dishes, garlic bread, salads, pizza, and made-from-scratch desserts. Traditional Italian dishes are available along with Pinocchio's own specialty entrées, a variety of light dishes, and gluten-free options.

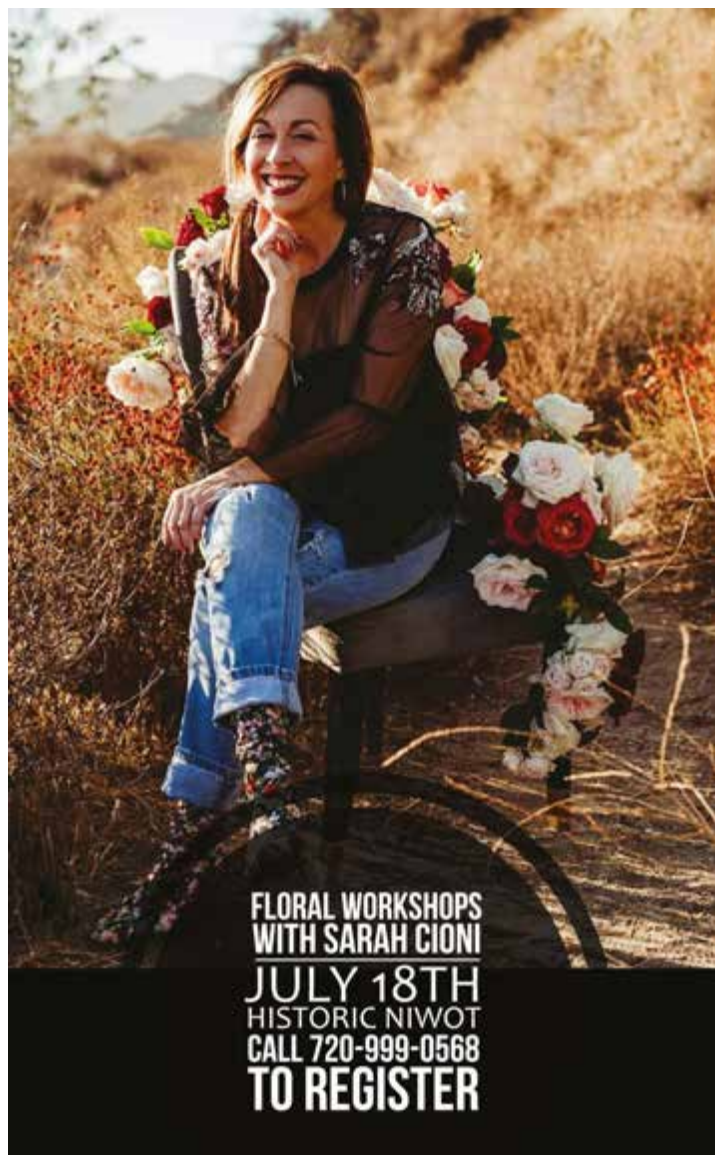
"No tip Tuesdays" have become a company-wide tradition for the restaurant. Every Tuesday Pinocchio's provides servers with 20 percent of guests' checks while any gratuities left by customers are put

toward a cause that varies from month to month. Tips given in May totaled \$5,000 and were donated to veterans' causes and in June, Tuesday tips are earmarked for suicide and

domestic violence prevention organizations.

Tuesdays through Fridays, the restaurant will open at 11 a.m. to serve lunch and dinner. On Saturdays and Sundays,

breakfast is served starting at 9 a.m. The restaurant is closed on Mondays. Watch for the restaurant to open in Niwot on or around Tuesday, July 2.



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- 8:00AM-Noon Pedicab Service**
- 8:30-10:30 AM Bike Decorating**
- 8:30-10:30 AM Bongo Balloon Man**
- 9:00-10:00 AM Band Concert**
- 9:00-10:30 AM Sparky & Engine #10**
- 10:30 AM Parade Line Up**

Parade is at 11:00 AM
from Cottonwood Square, west on Niwot Road,
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Jack's Solar Garden given (the green) thumbs up



Artwork by Jeff Slemmons

An artist's rendition of Jack's Solar Garden - a co-habitation of solar energy and agriculture. This month, the project was given the official go-ahead by Boulder County Commissioners.

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Jack's Solar Garden will now have its place in the sun. On June 13, Boulder County Commissioners unanimously gave their approval for co-owner Byron Kominek to commence with plans to build the county's first of its kind co-mingling of solar power and agriculture. The farm property, which has been in Kominek's family for three generations, is located at 8102 N. 95th Street,

Longmont.

Commissioner Deb Gardner was the first to move to approve the solar garden, stating, "This is certainly the direction we need to be moving if we're serious about meeting our goals around renewable energy and reduction in our carbon footprint."

"It's just the kind of project that we can be very proud of supporting here in Boulder County," Commissioner Elise Jones said. "It fits with our whole culture of innovation and trying to be on the cutting edge of some of the challenges facing our society and climate change." Commissioner Matt Jones also voiced his approval.

In reaction to the official 3-0 approval to move forward, Kominek said, "It felt like yet another weight was lifted from my shoulders. I felt very appreciative of the county commissioners having taken their time to consider Jack's Solar Garden and approve of our project in such glowing terms, especially from Elise Jones and Deb Gardner. Their words made me feel like I was on the right path."

Elise Jones also stated that aesthetically, Kominek's plans to forgo the usual chain link fence around solar panels in favor of vegetation, including a pollinator habitat, will go a long way in mitigating the visual impact of the project.

Researchers with Colorado State University, the University of Arizona, and the National Renewable Energy Labs will be partnering on the six-acre solar garden to monitor the effects of growing crops under the five acres of opaque solar panels. The benefits of their research

for future projects of this kind were a big positive to the commissioners.

The project will deliver 1.2 megawatts of power to the Xcel Energy grid. The endeavor is being hailed as a "community solar garden" because the public and schools will be invited to tour the grounds, local artists will be encouraged to display their works, and a percentage of the power generated will be donated to low-income households and organizations.

During the hearing, Kominek said, "In discussions with NREL, CSU, and the University of Arizona, my understanding is that we will be the largest agri-voltaic project in Colorado."

"As soon as we have enough interested subscribers, we'll sign an engineering, procurement, and construction contract to request a permit from Boulder County and then start to build Jack's Solar Garden," Kominek said. Subscriptions are limited by the number of solar panels - 3,000 to be installed on the property.

Subscriptions are available to individuals and businesses on the Xcel Energy grid in exchange for credit to their monthly energy bills. If all goes according to plans, construction will begin by the end of October, with the system up and running in early 2020, Kominek projected.

Kominek will be holding a free farm tour from 2-3 p.m. on Sunday, June 30. Reservations are recommended as space is limited. RSVP to Byron@JackSolarGarden.com. To subscribe and learn more about the project, visit www.JacksSolarGarden.com.

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FLORIST

Continued from Page 1



following throughout Boulder County, Cioni sold The Painted Primrose in 2017 and moved to Los Angeles to be closer to family. In an attempt to settle in to her new city and pay the bills, Cioni called around to local florists looking for work.

It wasn't long until she signed on with a local flower shop and was given the chance to do the floral arrangements for a high-profile, Malibu wedding. "Once I got a taste of that, of the excitement, of the large-scale project, I was hooked," she said. For Cioni, life had suddenly taken another interesting turn.

Over the past few years in L.A., Cioni, with her company Belle Terre, have earned opportunities to design floral arrangements for The Grammys, Adam Levine's Halloween Party, and other A-List extravaganzas. Her work has even made it into the pages of People Magazine.

Cioni says, "Flowers are my jam." Her favorite is a pale, pink peony. She often uses its fragrant, beautiful blooms in her arrangements because, she explains, "That's what a flower is all about."

On July 18, Cioni is hosting three classes at The Left Hand Grange. Each class will cover a different topic ranging from Hollywood Glam wedding arrangements, to large-scale floral installations, to still-life centerpieces that Cioni takes photos of and edits to look like Dutch Masters style paintings. For her large-scale design class, Cioni is planning to install a big pop-up arrangement somewhere around town, so keep your eyes peeled to see her beautiful work. Times vary but interested persons may email

ROCK & RAILS

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Legitimate By Friday

June 13 **Funkiphino (funk/dance)**
Dean Himes

June 20 **Last Men On Earth (rock)**
Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band

June 27 **Soul School (soul)**
Dustin Spencer

July 11 **Chris Daniels & The Kings with Freddi (funk/blues)**
Strangebyrds

July 18 **Rebecca Folsom Band (folk/rock)**
300 Days

July 25 **The Long Run (eagles tribute)**
Acoustic Soul

Aug 1 **Mojomomma/Brigitte Purdy & Bobby Messano Co-bill (blues)**

Aug 8 **Something Underground (joyful rock)**
Jackson Cloud Odyssey

Aug 15 **FACE (all vocal rock)**
Nalani

Aug 22 **Zimbira (afro fusion)**
Jenn Cleary

Aug 29 **Hazel Miller (soul/blues)**
Tim Ostdiek

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Cioni (sarah@belleterrefloral.com) with additional questions or to reserve a spot.

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Left Hand Animal Hospital included in LID

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

On June 18, the Boulder County Commissioners considered a petition from the owners of the property where Left Hand Animal Hospital is now located, 304 Franklin Street in Niwot, to be annexed to the Niwot Local Improvement District.

Mark Ruzzin, a member of the county commissioners' staff, presented the petition to the commissioners, noting that the business was formerly located on 2nd Avenue, an area included in the district, but had recently moved to a location that is outside the district.

The hospital's new location is less than a block from Old Town Niwot and sells some taxable retail goods associated with a veterinary practice. While a veterinary hospital is a non-traditional form of retail store, the owners realized the benefit of belonging to the LID and sought to be included once again.

Bruce Warren, a member of the Niwot LID Advisory Committee, explained that this inclusion would not have been possible if not for past efforts from the Niwot LID and the commissioners' staff. Both parties worked for several years to get a the LID statute amended. The original statute did not allow non-contiguous properties to belong to a LID and did not have a pathway to add new properties to an existing LID.

The inclusion of the Left Hand Animal Hospital passed with no objection. The approval of this inclusion was the second addition of property to the Niwot LID, and the first addition of non-contiguous property to the LID, which collects a one percent sales tax on goods sold within the LID boundaries. Last year, the LID sales tax generated approximately \$180,000 in revenue, which is used to fund events, promotional materials, and infrastructure projects, including maintenance costs, which benefit the LID.

Where in the world...



Photo by Nellie Nibnose

*Here comes the 4th of July, hurray,
With ice cream and parades, that day.*

*Flags and tractors will save the day,
If you see them, you're on your way.*

*Send your guess without delay,
To avoid a terrible fray.*

Email the Courier at Editorial@lhvc.com along with a picture if possible. Remember, smile.

It's A Laughing Matter

I Have A Wand And I Know How To Use It

By MARY WOLBACH LOPERT
Special to the Courier

I am not a princess. Really - despite any rumors you've heard to the contrary. My problem is that I'm just not a handy person. I don't sew, decoupage, scrapbook, paint, refurbish or generally do crafts.

Oh sure, when I was little, during the holiday season, my mother and I would make little things. One year I remember making a kaleidoscope, which consisted of a decal gingerly placed at the bottom of a baby food jar with some glitter. Hey, it was the mid-1950s and that was as high tech as it got.

When things need to be done around the house, I usually let my fingers do the pointing. The recipient of this pointing is my husband, who, for the most part, is handy.

He has repainted the living room, stripped the old kitchen vinyl flooring, reworked the gutter system, and lately has been overcome with the desire to tile something.

But when I have an idea and start with those sweet little words, "You know, we might consider, ..." or, "A new fill in the blank might look nice," his usual retort is, "Oh, all you have to do is point your magic wand and you get your way."

Guess what? He's half right. I do have a wand. While it doesn't have a Phoenix feather from Fawks, it is filled with a semi-viscous clear liquid which, when waved, suspends all sorts of red sparkles and glitter. As for always getting my way, ... you be the judge.

Last January we installed French doors for the room that passes as my office and our guest room. Since these were glass-paneled doors, and overnight guests might want some privacy, curtains were in order.

I decided to take matters into my own hands, so sans

wand and fingers, I would make window coverings. The fact that I do not now, nor have I ever owned a sewing machine was not a problem, because my good friend Debbie had one and assured me that making panel curtains was "a piece of cake."

These curtains would be suspended top and bottom by brass curtain rods, with pleats so tight you could play them like a harp, in a brilliant white, crinkled material. We could whip these puppies up in an evening.

After measuring twice, so the lady at the fabric shop could cut once, I headed over to Debbie's, content with the knowledge that long before the holiday guests arrived, my windows would be covered.

The first attempt doesn't really count, since I never made it to Debbie's. Mr. Handy Person didn't believe that I was having car problems. The car died in the middle of a busy intersection, at dusk, during the height of rush hour. And yes, it was snowing too.

The next sortie didn't come until Valentine's Day. While I envisioned a fine afternoon of gossiping and stitching, I never thought that the time would be spent continually driving to the fabric shop, because, despite my measuring twice, the sales lady didn't. After my second trip, Debbie and I realized that we were out of time and my drapes wouldn't see the light of day until the Wearin' of the Green.

March was the lucky month. In one eight hour session of pinning something called a shirttail hem, sewing, ripping, re-pinning, re-sewing, an emergency delivery of Chinese food from Mr. Handy Person and many aspirin for a very stiff neck, the curtains were done, even though I had the distinct feeling that I had been sewing in circles.

Due to the late hour and the events of the next few days, Mr. Handy Person said that he couldn't mount the curtain rods, because the rods came with nails and he wanted to use

screws. Why wait, I asked myself when I could do a temporary "fix" with masking tape.

The first set of rods was perfect. And while the pleats were a bit floppy, I knew, when properly screwed in, all would be fine. It was the second panel

where the magic failed.

I know why I felt I was sewing in circles. While the top was fine, the bottom looked like the past five years of the NASDAQ. From its starting point, the hem rose rapidly, bell curve style, with an equally dramatic

downturn, stopping just below the original starting point. And, just like the whales of Wall Street, there wasn't magic enough in the world to fix it.

Completely befuddled, I

Continued on Page 11

Niwot market

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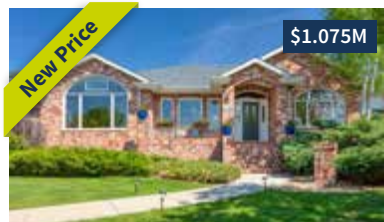
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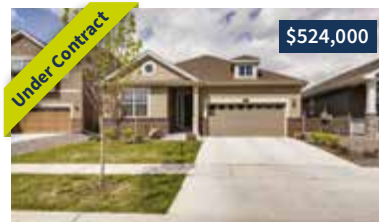
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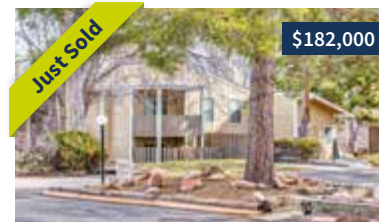
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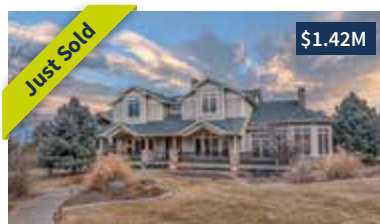
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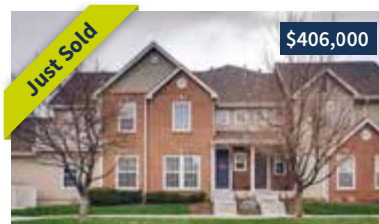
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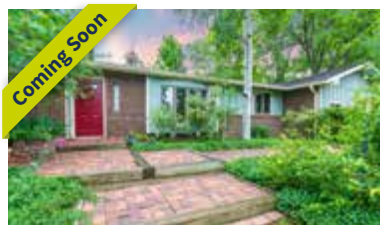
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MAY 2019 STATS FOR NIWOT

Price Range	Properties Sold	Average Days on Market	Active Properties	Under Contract
0 - \$500K	0	0	0	0
\$500K - \$1M	3	3	4	3
\$1M - \$2M	8	88	15	3
\$2M+	0	0	3	0
	11	-	22	6

What Deborah's clients are saying

“ Deborah is a top Real Estate agent with a great understanding of Boulder county market conditions. she has a very likeable personality, and a long with her team will always get the job done, as she did for us. After selling our home in Niwot we will always want Deborah for any future real estate needs. ”

Terry & Heather, June 2019



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FAMILIAR FACES

Continued from Page 3

still resonates...may it continue to be celebrated and cherished. **LHVC** – What is a typical day for you and what are your favorite pastimes?

VK/MS – Simple pleasures... wake up with gratitude, read the newspaper, work out at the gym, walk the dog, putz around keeping our 1929 house and yard in order, do something useful (or not), get together with friends/neighbors, read, nap, have a happy hour glass of wine and watch the sunset, laugh, go to bed with gratitude.

We enjoy budget travel. Many of our favorite travel memories are from places off the beaten track. Two-star accommodations often yield a priceless 5-star experience. We are both passionate about indigenous cultures, animal welfare, social justice, and environmental issues. We are avid readers. Mike loves all the Denver professional sports teams

LHVC – Tell us about challenges you've experienced.

VK/MS - Everyone is confronted with the loss of loved ones, sickness or physical challenges at various stages of life. We are both just happy to be here, and the older we get, the less we know for sure. We are very comfortable with that.

LAUGHING MATTER

Continued from Page 9

did nothing for the next two hours, but leave and re-enter the room, hoping that by some magic all would be right. But it wasn't, which was too bad because we had houseguests coming.

I'm happy to report that there is a joyous conclusion and all it took was the magic of the Internet. As the houseguest pointed out, after the third time the tape failed and the curtains and all came crashing down in the middle of the night, there are companies that sell pre-made panels for French doors. With a point and click and a



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Nelson Hall photo is courtesy of the Niwot Historical Society



[UNOFFICIALLY] AWESOME

credit card number, the panels were mine. And it only took the rest of the year for Mr. Handy Person to find the right screws

and recharge his cordless drill to install them. Oh and about those other pesky household issues, paint-

ing the deck, restaining the bench that sits by the front door and refinishing the hardwood floors, I am sure that the royal

“we” of my index finger, my wand and the right handy person can get the job done. Glitter anyone?



SPORTS

Niwot taps Joe Brown as new AP/AD



Courtesy Photo

A replacement for the replacement. Longtime Roosevelt teacher and athletic director Joe Brown has been named Niwot's new AP/AD, after Kevin Clark accepted an offer to stay with Thompson Valley Schools.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot High principal Eric Rauschkolb wasn't expecting to need a second replacement for Chase McBride, but putative hire Kevin Clark got an offer he couldn't refuse. Earlier this month, the former Loveland High administrator announced that he will be assuming the role of full-time district athletic director for the Thompson Valley Schools, a move that allows him to stay in the town he and his family have called home for more than a decade.

That left Rauschkolb with an empty spot on the 2019-20 roster, and he didn't waste much time filling it. On June 14, he announced Roosevelt High administrator Joe Brown

as the new Assistant Principal and Athletic Director at Niwot.

"When this opened up, he was our first thought," Rauschkolb said of Brown, who has been the Rough Riders activities and athletic director since 2016, and was a finalist for the Niwot position back in February. "We respect him highly, and we think he's fantastic."

Brown received his undergraduate degree at UNC and joined the staff at Roosevelt High in Johnstown as a social studies teacher and assistant track coach. He later served as both an assistant and the head coach of the Rough Riders boys basketball program.

Brown was named Roosevelt's athletic director in 2016, and presided over numerous Tri-Valley League athletic

championships, notably in track & field, girls cross country, and cheer. Roosevelt also captured six individual state championships in track & field during his tenure, most recently in both girls shot put and discus in 2019. During his final year, he helped to implement a Unified basketball team for special needs students, and coached them to victory over the Johnstown police at the end of the season.

"It was just a tremendous experience for me," Brown said of his time at Roosevelt. "I was very blessed to coach some great kids and work with some great kids, and staff members and coaches, and it was just a wonderful opportunity for me

Continued on Page 13



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OUT IN LEFTFIELD

By BRUCE WARREN
Editorial@lhvc.com

BASEBALL

David Bote, son of long-time Niwot baseball coach Bob Bote, has solidified his position with the Chicago Cubs this season. As a rookie with the Cubs in 2018, Bote was called up from AAA Iowa and sent back five times during the season. In the midst of the call-ups and demotions, Bote had his share of dramatic moments, culminating in a nationally-televised Sunday night ninth-inning, two-out, two-strike, pinch-hit grand slam home run to dead centerfield, allowing the Cubs to snatch a 4-3 victory from the jaws of defeat against the Washington Nationals.

The Cubs liked Bote's work so much that he was rewarded with a five-year, \$15M contract just before the 2019 season started. Bote has continued his role as a super utilityman this season, seeing action at third base, second base, first base, and the outfield, and the Cubs

have been happy with his performance.

While many may think of the walk off grand slam as "the Bote game," his performance in a 9-8 victory over the Rockies June 5 may have supplanted it. Bote had a three-run home run, and a three-run double, then added his seventh RBI in the 9th inning, which proved to be the difference in the game, slapping a single to right field for his fourth hit in four at bats. For the season, Bote is hitting .269 with nine home runs and 34 RBIs.

Ford Ladd (Niwot) led New York University in wins, posting a won-loss record of 8-3, with a 3.51 ERA. Ladd struck out 42 while walking 25 in 66.2 innings. In limited plate appearances, he batted .500 with three hits in six at bats. NYU finished with a record of 26-13. Ladd was named Eastern College Athletic Conference Metro pitcher of the month. During April he posted a record of 4-1 in six starts on the mound, with an ERA of 2.41. He also earned UAA pitcher of the

week honor after allowing only one earned run in 13 innings of work against Rutgers-Newark University and Emory University during a week-long stretch in April.

Caleb Martinez (Niwot), a freshman pitcher for Northwest Nazarene University last

spring, is signed to pitch for the Boulder Collegians this summer. The Collegians are a summer collegiate team run by general manager Matt Jensen, a former assistant coach at Niwot High.

Jamie Hollowell (Niwot) was promoted from Data Ar-

chitect to Manager, Baseball Research & Development for the Colorado Rockies. Hollowell played college baseball at Haverford College after a successful prep career at Niwot, and has since moved up in the

Continued on Page 13



Photo by Bruce Warren

David Bote of the Chicago Cubs signs autographs for fans at spring training.



Courtesy Photo

Niwot grad Ford Ladd led the NYU pitching staff in victories last season.



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OUT IN LF

Continued from Page 13

Rockies' organization to one of the most critical positions in major league front offices, with the advent of sabermetrics and advanced analytics. Hollowell describes his duties as "responsible for the creation and maintenance of the Rockies' proprietary databases and application systems, as well as supporting the baseball operations, amateur scouting, pro scouting and advanced scouting departments in data and technology needs." He also works with third-party vendors to integrate big data, analytics, visualization and web application technologies for the Rockies' internal systems.

FOOTBALL

Former Niwot football coach Paul "Tiny" Koehler is slated to return as running backs coach at Fort Lewis College for the 2019 season. Koehler coached Niwot to a state championship in 1990 before retiring to



Courtesy Photo

Kelsey Webster of Boulder Country Club selects a club with the assistance of her caddy and father, Bob Webster.

Estes Park, where he was later coaxed out of retirement to help with that school's football program. Koehler previous college coaching experience includes serving as an assistant at the University of Northern Colorado, and, in recent years, Koehler has helped coach the Fort Lewis program.

WRESTLING

Tommy Stager (Niwot) posted a record of 15-11 while wrestling for Air Force Academy in the 2018-2019 season. Stager, a third classman, had the most wins and the best winning percentage of any Air Force wrestler in the 149-pound weight class. Included in his victories were two wins by fall. His career record at Air Force now stands at 22-19.

TRACK & FIELD

Claire Gillett (Niwot) posted her best time in the 800 meters on May 11 at the West Coast Invitational, finishing in 2:17.75. Her time was the second-fastest among all Gonzaga runners for the season. Gillett also ran the 1500 meters for Gonzaga, with her fastest time coming on March 29th at the SF Distance Classic at 4:43.09. Only three Gonzaga runners had better times in the event for the season. The sophomore also ran a leg of the 4x400m relay for Gonzaga.

Alexis Carroll (Niwot) had her best long jump of the season for UCCS at the Mines Nature's Bakery Invite on April 19-20 with a leap of 5.26m (17' 3.25"), good for fourth place at the meet. Her best triple jump came at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Championships April 28-30, with a jump of 10.79m (35' 5"), putting her 11th in the final standings.

Carroll, a sophomore, also placed 13th in the long jump at the RMAC Championships. She also competed in the 100m hurdles during the spring season.

SOFTBALL

Jaila Johnson (Niwot) saw

action in six games last spring for Western Nebraska Community College. Johnson, a freshman, scored two runs and had one RBI and one stolen base on the season in limited action, primarily as a designated hitter.

GOLF

Kelsey Webster (Fairview) of Gunbarrel finished sixth in the CGA Women's Stroke Play Championship which ended June 19, shooting 74-72-76 for a total of 222, six strokes over par.

4th of July in Niwot

Activities begin at Niwot Market in Cottonwood Square

7:30-10:30am Pancake Breakfast

8-Noon Pedicab Rides will be available

8:30-10:30am Bike Decorating & Bongo the Balloon Man

9-10am Band Concert

9-10:30am Sparky & Engine #10

10:30am Parade Line Up

11:00am Parade

Parade Route:

Cottonwood Square to Niwot Road to Second Avenue to Murray Street

Welcome to Niwot

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BROWN

Continued from Page 12

the last several years, but when a great job like Niwot comes open, and there's an opportunity to take that next step, it's too good to pass up."

Brown said he is looking forward to being a "servant-leader" for a school that offers both competitive athletics and competitive academics. He is new to the IB program, but said he was impressed by the new

avenues it opens for student involvement.

"What I'm excited about at Niwot is how many different opportunities there are for kids there with different clubs and activities. If you have a niche interest, Niwot has something for you, and that's just awesome. I think that the more we can have kids involved in high school, the better, so I'm continuing to push so that kids can find an opportunity to be successful and be a multi-sport athlete and be involved with

activities, and be well-rounded. That was one of our big missions at Roosevelt that helped us be successful in so many different areas, and I know Chase and Eric have worked hard to foster that kind of environment too."

Brown's hire is still awaiting final approval from the St. Vrain Valley School board, but he's spent the last few weeks at Niwot "in the process of getting to know people and trying to get the lay of the land." He said he plans to remain "observant and supportive" during his first months on the job, and doesn't foresee any major changes in coaching or policies, mostly because everything seems to be working well as is. Mostly, he just wants to make sure that everyone else is as enthusiastic about his new school home as he is.

"What I can do is let the coaches do what they do best, and let the kids continue to develop. One of my strengths is that I am a die-hard supporter of athletics, and I think I bring that passion and energy to really promote Niwot and promote the great endeavors of these kids and teams, and to really get that out there and show the rest of the state what a great place Niwot is and how incredibly gifted this group of people is."

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