



Dancing Under the Stars swings into Niwot



Courtesy photo

For more than 35 years the community has enjoyed participating in Dancing Under the Stars. As of July 19, the event will be taking place for six Friday nights in Niwot at Cottonwood Square Shopping Center.

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot may be known for honoring its namesake with a

great deal of left-handed this and left-handed that, but beginning Friday, July 19, even those among us with two left feet will be celebrating when

they join in on the joyfulness of community dancing. You've heard of "Dancing in the Streets", "Dancing with the Stars," and "Dancing in the Moonlight", and now... there's "Dancing Under the Stars Niwot."

Event organizers, Catherine McHale and Tom Masterson want people to come on their own or with kids, with grandparents, with friends or perhaps bring a partner who may or may not be dance-inclined. It's free and everyone is welcome – no partner required.

The event was first born in the summer of 1982 - the vision of Masterson, a University of Colorado Boulder math and physics professor who has a love for dancing and bringing people together from every walk of life.

Initially, the dance party took place on the terrace of the Memorial Center on the CU campus. Later it moved to the plaza next to the Dushanbe Teahouse in Boulder. Hundreds came weekly to boogie down, do the Lindy Hop, the waltz, the rumba and the polka.

The city of Boulder put impediments in place this year, so Masterson reached out on Facebook asking for help to reestablish the event elsewhere, somewhere on privately owned property. The post caught McHale's attention, putting the wheels in motion to be sure the community continues to have the opportunity to participate in the tradition. The new venue will be the parking lot of the Cottonwood Square Shopping Center at the corner

of Niwot Road and 79th Street.

McHale, herself a "keen salsa dancer", said one of her favorite summer activities has been joining in the weekly event, so she approached Tony Santelli, the Niwot Business Association president and owner of the Niwot Tavern, with the idea of bringing the much-loved event to Niwot, and he was in agreement.

Alex Chlebek and his mother, Maria Biernat, owners of the shopping center, were more than happy to host the event, saying they were pleased to be able to provide a home for the community activity.

"Maria used to dance up to three times a week, so she liked the idea. As far as me, I don't dance - I have two Niwot feet,"

Continued on Page 8

Niwot celebrates America



Photo by Katie Rowley

You can't celebrate all day if you don't start in the morning, so the festivities got underway early at the annual Fourth of July celebration in Niwot. Sponsored by the Niwot Community Association, this year's event featured a pancake breakfast at Niwot Market, followed by bike decorating and a concert by the Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band.

Hundreds of spectators lined up along 2nd Avenue for the main event, which kicked off a few minutes after 11 a.m., led by a flag-bearing procession of Boulder County sheriff's deputies. Grand Marshal Patty Strecker followed not long after, decked out in her signature red, white and blue regalia. For additional photos, please see pages 6-7 or visit lhvc.com.

Via Mobility provides transportation options



Photo courtesy of Via Mobility

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwotians will agree that Rock & Rails is a great way to bring the community together

each week, hear some killer live music and tuck into delicious, local grub. But what's even more special about this beloved neighborhood event is the amount of money it raises for

local charities each Thursday.

Half of the tip jar from the upcoming July 18 Rock & Rails concert will go to Via Mobility. This Boulder-based non-profit provides residents with limited mobility a convenient, reliable way to live more self-sufficiently. This caring organization has served residents within the Boulder-Denver metro area since 1979 and shows no signs of slowing down.

Many of us take our mobility for granted. We fail to realize that hopping in the car, ordering an Uber, or even boarding the correct bus can be a huge obstacle for many of our community members, sometimes even impossible for certain people to do alone.

Via Mobility seeks to put power back into the hands

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PUBLIC HEARING

The Boulder Board of County Commissioners has scheduled a public hearing for Tuesday, July 16 at 4 p.m. to take testimony on the impact of the temporary moratorium on oil & gas development enacted by the board late last month. The BOCC will then determine whether to extend, terminate, or further amend the temporary moratorium. If no action is taken, the ban on oil and gas development applications and seismic will remain in effect until March 27, 2020. For more information about the hearing or to register online for a speaking spot, visit <https://www.boco.org/OilGas>.

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.

COMMUNITY FORUM

On Wednesday, July 24, the Lookout Alliance is hosting a community forum at the Left Hand Grange (195 2nd Ave., Niwot) to discuss fracking and air quality in Boulder County. Dr. Detlev Helmig of CU Boulder will discuss his findings regarding air quality at Boulder Reservoir, along with strong evidence linking the pollution to Front Range oil and gas operations. For more information, visit the Lookout Alliance on Facebook.

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.

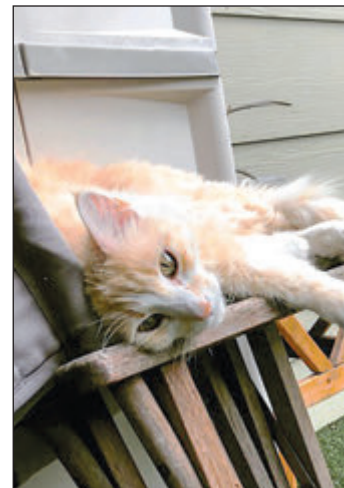
ROCK & RAILS

Niwot's summer concert series, Rock & Rails, continues its 14th season on Thursday, July 11, at Whistle Stop Park. Strangebyrds opens at 5 p.m., with Chris Daniels & The Kings headlining at 6:30 p.m. The Niwot Community Association will receive donations from the tip jars for the evening, which are used to offset the cost of the annual July 4th parade and maintenance of the underpass murals in Niwot. The Thursday night concerts in June, July and August (except July 4th) are free and open to the public.

► COMMUNITY PET SPOTLIGHT

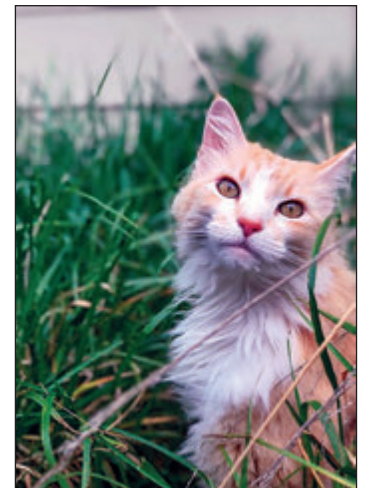
This week the Pet Spotlight goes to Karma, a seven-year old Maine Coon Mix who has her very own Instagram (KarmaofNiwot). Karma was adopted from the Boulder Humane Society by reader Dia Kline.

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



Courtesy Photo

"If I fits, I sits."



Courtesy Photo

Don't mind the drool.



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▶ Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

I absolutely loved celebrating the 4th of July in Niwot this year! I am a firm believer that to build a better world, let's start in our own community, so I want to say 'Thank YOU' to the entire Niwot community for an outstandingly beautiful 4th of July celebration in Colorado. I was so surprised and honored (and humbled) to be this year's Grand Marshal. I have loved this community, rural, small-town America, for over 40 years. It is a good place to be.

Niwot's 4th of July parade was grand: all the kids with their red and white and blue decorated bikes/trikes/wagons; the Niwot Semi-Marching Free Grange Band; the Honor Guard; horses; tractors; Classic vehicles; pancakes served with

lots of sticky syrup; dogs with red, white, blue bandannas; American flags and bunting and balloons everywhere! What's not-to-love-about this small town of America? I believe Erma Bombeck said it best: "You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4 with family picnicswhere kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets 'iffy', and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."

Thank you, Niwot community.... all of you good citizens. I am very PROUD to call this community my home. And, never forget to fly and wave your American flag with pride because every day in America is FLAG DAY!

Patty Strecker
(One of Niwot's Patriotic Cookie Moms)



Photo by Karen Copperberg

Dick Piland of the NCA congratulating Strecker at the pancake breakfast.



Courtesy Photo

Drew Achtermann shares a special care package from the Niwot Cookie Moms with his fellow soldiers overseas.

To the editor:

Dear Niwot Cookie Moms,
Here are a couple pictures of the care packages that the Niwot cookie Moms sent to my son and his Avionics team in Afghanistan. I thought he was only getting one box and he said he got 3 of the wonderful boxes....THANK YOU!!!! What a pleasant surprise! He said they all enjoyed everything in them and they especially liked the star shaped homemade cookies that were decorated in red white and

blue. He said they were packed with lots of amazing goodies and all the guys got to take things. He said getting packages like these makes them all very happy for days.

Groups like yours REALLY do make a difference. As a Mom whose son is deployed, I can say that it means the world to me that you all take the time to do this AMAZING service.

May God bless you all!

Karen Achtermann (Drew Achtermann's Mom)



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VIA MOBILITY

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of older adults, disabled persons or those with mo-

bility limitations. Isolation and dependence take their toll both mentally and physically. "Via Mobility provides 'door-through-door' transportation, with trained

drivers making sure people traveling not only get to the door, but get through the door of their destination," board member Biff Warren said. "It's much different

than a taxi, or an Uber. And the cost is something that people can afford. A one-way trip within a community costs the rider five dollars, while a trip between towns

costs \$10 one-way. Reduced fares are also offered to people who qualify."

The actual cost to the non-profit of providing a one-way trip is much greater, running upwards of \$435 per trip. The organization relies on fundraising efforts to help close the gap. More areas along the Front Range are in need of this service, however, Via's ability to expand relies on money. Lyndsey Morse, communications manager for Via, states "'The need (to expand) is there and growing but unfortunately we are maxed out. We provide as much service as we possibly can but there's always more people that need us than we are able to serve every year."

Via Mobility, or Special Transit as it was known up until 2012, received initial funding through the Boulder County Commissioners to coordinate and provide efficient, reliable transportation throughout Boulder County for residents with limited mobility.

Since then, the non-profit grew from a meager budget of \$50,000 per year to a multi-million dollar yearly budget. Now, Via Mobility serves 19 communities across five counties.

Its core principles state that every person matters and movement is a basic human right. Via Mobility puts the power back in the lands of those with limited mobility by giving them back a fundamental right — the right to mobility. Morse believes the best part about this organization is offering this kind of independence, "It really means so much to people to be able to have the freedom to access whatever they need to on their own, without having to rely on others."

For those looking to get involved, Via Mobility is always seeking reliable volunteers to serve as drivers for senior citizens and disabled persons. It also provides career options for those looking to work in the meaningful, non-profit sector. Or, if you simply want to help, drop a few bucks in their tip jar next Thursday night.

ROCK & RAILS

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July 18	Rebecca Folsom Band (folk/rock) 300 Days	Aug 15	FACE (all vocal rock) Nalani
July 25	The Long Run (eagles tribute) Acoustic Soul	Aug 22	Zimbira (afro fusion) Jenn Cleary
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Protecting the Left Hand watershed

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

After floods ravaged Boulder County in 2013, the Left Hand Watershed Center (formerly the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group) spearheaded efforts to rebuild its namesake waterway with a series of long-term restoration projects designed and implemented using a science-based approach. Now the 76-square mile system is on its way to a healthier and more resilient future, and the center is hoping to foster a "stewardship ethic" among neighboring communities and the public at large.

"We're at a pretty exciting time because we've recently changed our name and expanded our services to different watersheds," LHWC executive director Jessie Olson said. "We're done with major, major construction projects or will be in the next year, and now we're at the point where we have a really awesome opportunity to keep the community engaged in watershed protection and restoration."

The Left Hand Creek watershed begins in the mountains west of the town of Ward, and runs for 34 miles through public and private land in Jamestown, Niwot, and Longmont before meeting with the St. Vrain Creek. It is home to numerous fish and other aquatic species, as well as birds and

diverse plant life. The creek and its tributaries also provide drinking and irrigation water to 20,000 residential and agricultural customers in the Left Hand Water District.

The Left Hand watershed also occupies a unique place in state and American history. Back in the 1880s, a Colorado supreme court decision in a dispute between local farmer Reuben Coffin and the Left Hand Ditch Company became the basis for water rights law throughout the western United States in the late 19th century. The "first in time, first in right," or Colorado Doctrine, as it became known, declared that anyone had a right to a "beneficial use" of the state's waterways, even if they didn't own the land adjacent to one.

LHWC was founded in 2005 to help property owners and other stakeholders protect the area from contamination caused by abandoned gold and silver mines from the 19th century, but those efforts shifted when the group was pressed into service after the floods of 2013. Since 2015, the LHWC has managed more than a dozen recovery projects throughout the corridor, most of them recommended in the 2014 Left Hand Creek Watershed Master Plan.

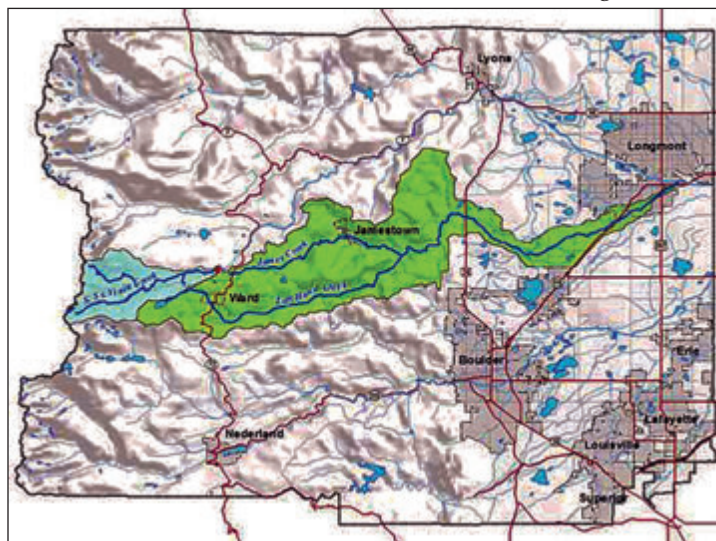
"They're multi-benefit projects, so we're helping to reduce flood risk to homeowners," Olson said, adding that the

group has secured around \$10 million in state and federal grants to fund the work. "We're also improving the habitat for

fish and wildlife, and we're also improving water quality and water delivery efficiency for farmers and ranchers."

As construction work winds down, Olson said the group is

Continued on Page 9



Courtesy Image

The Left Hand Watershed starts in the mountains west of Boulder and runs through Jamestown, Niwot and Longmont before joining the St. Vrain Creek.



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Fourth of July in Niwot



Photo by Karen Copperberg

Longtime community volunteer Patty Strecker served as Grand Marshal for this year's Independence Day parade in Niwot.



Photo by Katie Rowley

The Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band played a patriotic setlist at the 4th of July festivities.



Photo by Katie Rowley

Apple: the American Pie.



Photo by Katie Rowley

A procession of Boulder County deputies headed the parade.



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Sami Ann entertaining at the pancake breakfast.



Photo by Karen Copperberg

Bootstrap Brewing Company's Leslie Kaczeus was trailed by footmen Dylan (left) and Steve.



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Niwot Real Estate's Pat Murphy hands out treats to kids along the parade route on behalf of the Niwot Patriotic Cookie Moms.



Photo by Katie Rowley

Keith Walters and Gene Hayworth of Inkberry Books



Photo by Katie Rowley

Bootstrap Brewing Company's Leslie Kaczeus was trailed by footmen Dylan (left) and Steve.



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Breakfast crowd takes a break to sing the Star Spangled Banner.



Photo by Katie Rowley

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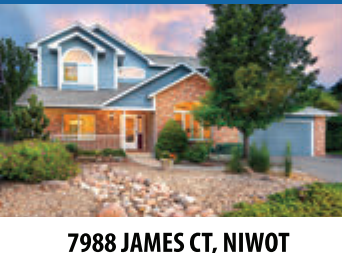
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DANCING

Continued from Page 1

Chlebek joked, but he also said they'll both be there to join in.

McHale said Niwot offers more facilities than the previous location, because of the number of nearby retail stores and restaurants. Hopes are that people make Friday dance nights into an evening out that includes dining and shopping.

Masterson's Facebook post described the event as "an immensely popular program that has gained international recognition. It is a premier multi-cultural, ethnically diverse event-free to all - that reaches out to all ages across all social and economic barriers."

Over the years, DUTS has featured a smorgasbord of 50 ethnic dance styles, but this year the repertoire will be pared down. Alternating between salsa dancing one week and swing the next, attendees will be given a lesson for the first 45 minutes, followed by dancing until 9:30 or 10 p.m.

Masterson, owner of the Danceophile studio and director of Postoley Dance Ensemble, has been able to put on the event over the years with the help of lots of great dance teachers, some of whom have come to Colorado from places around the world.

Two adept professional instructors and groups in the area, "the best" according to Masterson, will be presenting salsa and swing at Niwot's DUTS. Joseph Snowhawk brings his expertise in salsa and Krister Shalm will impart his highly honed skills in swing.

Masterson said he began

dancing at 4 years old and has traveled the globe to learn various dance styles. He recently went to Cuba to learn that specific form of salsa. DUTS is an effort to celebrate cultural diversity and to be open to everyone regardless of how they arrived here.

The event will be held in the parking lot in front of the Niwot Tavern, Winot Coffee, and Shop-Girl Boutique. Restaurants and stores will be open, some later than usual, to add to the party atmosphere and show off the town a bit.

"I'm really hoping this will be the start of an event that can repeat year after year," McHale said and she mentioned the possibility of extending it to Fridays all summer long.

Thanks to sponsors, the Cottonwood Square Shopping Center, Niwot Tavern, and Catherine McHale Strategic Marketing (and perhaps others to come), it's a free event. But donations will be very welcome to help offset the cost of the music disc jockey, dance instructors, and marketing efforts. Organizers are also looking for a few volunteers to help with weekly setup of the dance floor and audio system.

Plan to attend Fridays at 7p.m., on July 19, 26, Aug. 2, 9, 16 and 23. Salsa will be featured on July 19, Aug. 2 and Aug. 16. Swing will be featured on July 26, Aug. 9 and Aug. 23.

To learn more about the event or to volunteer, visit Dancing Under the Stars Niwot on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/dancingunderthestarsniwot/> or Niwot.com/dancing or contact Catherine McHale at mchale@itcloud.com.

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The sinkhole that didn't eat Niwot



Photo by Mary Wolbach Lopert

Motorists who were trying to drive on 79th Street north of Highway 52 on Saturday, July 6, were in for a bit of a surprise. Detour signs were up. The problem was a sinkhole due to a failed culvert. As a safety precaution the hole was marked and the road was closed just north of the Niwot Loop Trailhead and recycling center. It was estimated that the culvert would be fixed and the road repaved by Tuesday afternoon or early evening, July 9.

WATERSHED

Continued from Page 5

now taking a “more programmatic” approach to its mission, and is looking to expand its outreach and education activities.

“We’re launching a community science program where we can involve all members of the community in better understanding what we have in our watersheds, and why they’re worth protecting and restoring. And we’re also working quite heavily in our stewardship programs to get people out on the grounds, and actually participating in the weed control activities and additional planting and understanding that what we do affects the quality of the watershed.”

Last month, the LHWC launched its “Catch the Hatch” program, which enlisted volunteers to visit several spots along the creek to capture Pale Morning Dun mayflies, a species sensitive to changing conditions in the watershed. In September, the group is hosting the inaugural Front Range Water Days, an event designed to “engage and inspire” the community, featuring live

music, local vendors, and family-friendly activities.

Olson emphasized the evidence-based approach of their work, and said the LHWC is also continuously collecting and analyzing data from the watershed, which will then be used to guide future restoration work. To that end, they have started working more collaboratively with neighboring watershed coalitions and local schools.

“We’re a staff of scientists, and we’re very interested in collecting data the same way in all of these different watersheds so that we can have a holistic understanding of how the water systems are functioning,” Olson said. “We’ve been working with some local school groups in Longmont and Lyons, so that students are able to collect meaningful data that is integrated right back into management of the river.”

LHWC is a 501(c)3 organization and relies on donations to fund its education and outreach activities. It will be a co-recipient of donations to the tip jars at the Rock & Rails concert on July 18. To learn more about the organization or to see volunteer opportunities, visit www.watershed.center.



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The Healing Collective opens in Niwot

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Healing Collective Functional Medicine, formerly located in Boulder, is calling Niwot its new home. The five-year-old practice owned by Tracy Shulsinger relocated to Cottonwood Square Shopping Center and opened to existing and new patients as of July 1.

Joining Shulsinger and Physician's Assistant Denise Basch, who have been working together in the Boulder location, will be Dr. Marty Bloch. The multidisciplinary team offers an integrative approach to attaining health.

Shulsinger earned her Masters of Science and Nursing from the University of Colorado and is a nurse practitioner. Basch has a background working in hospital-based settings, and Bloch is a medical doctor as well as a homeopathic physician with 20 years of medical experience. All three members of

the team have also completed training at the Institute for Functional Medicine.

"Through functional medicine, we understand how to identify the root cause of illnesses and diseases and how to heal them," Shulsinger said.

Explaining the practice's philosophy and methodology, Shulsinger said, "We study a lot about nutrition and healthy digestive systems, a lot about hormones and toxins, the immune system and inflammation. It's really lifestyle medicine so the people we work with who are the most successful embrace improving their lifestyle with their nutrition, their movement, and with mindfulness."

Most patients who come to the practice are seeking a second opinion or a different approach because they're experiencing chronic issues that aren't subsiding after working with a primary care doctor.

The practice's move to Ni-

wot came about because mold was detected in the previous office, Shulsinger said. The effects of mold exposure are often what her patients are seeking relief from, so it was imperative to Shulsinger that the office be located in a clean, safe environment.

"That's one of the infections people can be carrying with them for years and not know it," Shulsinger said. Patients who have been exposed to mold often develop chronic fatigue, respiratory issues, depression and other conditions.

The relocated practice is welcoming new patients. The medical professionals see a lot of people seeking relief from menopausal or andropausal (the male version of hormone changes), diabetes, ongoing fatigue, autoimmune, gastrointestinal, thyroid, cardiovascular, sleep and mood problems. Some patients, Shulsinger said, are simply looking for overall improvement in their health and want

to learn how to prevent any future medical issues.

The group also offers ENCORE - short for enabling cognitive repair, which is a unique six to twelve-month tiered multidisciplinary approach to brain health. Beginning with a social worker (administering cognitive evaluation), then a nutritionist (teaching patients how to eat for a fit brain), and in conjunction with medical providers (ordering tests and recommending treatments), ENCORE prevents and improves cognitive decline.

The initial visit is an hour long for new patients of The Healing Collective. The intake process consists of a thorough medical history allowing the medical professionals to get to know each patient well. Through comprehensive lab testing (blood, stool, and saliva for instance) the practice gets empirical data that shines a light on the source of patients' conditions.

The medical group iden-

tifies for patients what is in their bodies that should not be (metals or toxins for instance) and what their bodies are missing or low on (hormones for instance), and then those elements are either removed or replaced through treatment.

Healing treatments often consist of lifestyle and dietary changes, incorporating nutritional supplements, and movement and relaxation technique recommendations.

The practice accepts United Healthcare Insurance. Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield will be accepted in the near future, Shulsinger said. The office provides superbills for patients to submit to their insurance companies.

The Healing Collective Functional Medicine is located at 6800 N. 79th Street, Suite 202. The phone number is 720-572-5236, and hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Visit www.TheHealingCollective.us for more information.



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Sculpture Park's Newest Resident - Meriwether Prairie Dog

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Behold, the simple prairie dog. Cute, occasionally controversial, almost always an afterthought when contemplating our rugged Western landscape's wildlife. We easily overlook these ground dwelling creatures until we hear their high-pitched warning call or see their fluffy backsides zipping down into a hidden hole.

Well, lo and behold, the once unoccupied Sculpture Park has its first formal resident in the form of a tawny-colored rodent known as the prairie dog. To the untrained eye, it's difficult to decipher the gender of prairie dogs but, based on typical prairie dog behavior, males often live solo until they establish their families.

Over the years, Coloradans have quibbled over prairie dog colonies. Developers, ranchers, and farmers often view the prairie dog as a nuisance, a pest and a hindrance to their livelihood. Colonies can cause topsoil losses, unsafe holes and hollow channels that threaten to collapse. And then there's the plague, which can be contracted by fleas, and thus prairie dogs.

Activists, nature-enthusiasts, and animal lovers disagree and argue to protect the prairie dog, whose occupation also helps aerate the soil, provide homes for other burrowing creatures and even food for predatory animals and birds of prey.

The 1804 journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition contained some of the first documentation of prairie dogs' behavior, naming origin and sightings. To honor both adventurous, exploratory parties and for ease of reading, we'll call this little guy Meriwether.

No matter which camp you're in, there's one thing we can all agree on — this prairie dog makes a cute addition to our charming Sculpture Park. Read on for a view of Sculpture Park, as seen from its current inhabitant.



Photo by Abby Scott

A new resident has moved in to Niwot's Community Corner Sculpture Park.

July 8, 2019

The first month in my new home has been everything I dreamed of, and more! Since I was little, I yearned to settle in a place that was all my own. The farm fields of my home colony were overrun with my family and friends — and we all know what it's like living just a little too close to mom and dad.

I knew I was a little different than the rest of my kin. I liked being on my own, roaming across empty land, discovering new grasses and seeds to snack on, gazing out at the clear blue sky and rugged mountains. I never realized there was so much out there open for exploration, so as soon as I was on my own, I took off and headed west, a few seeds stored in my cheeks and the ground beneath my feet.

My colony was a quiet one

with whipping wind and rolling thunder as the soundtrack of my youth. But I knew I wanted to be around lively energy, right up next to vibrant life that is constantly moving and growing and inspiring. When I stumbled upon this little slice of paradise, I knew I had found it.

Now, here I am, at the intersection of progress and innovation, a glistening red STOP sign marking the entrance to my humble abode, artwork in my backyard. I'm a real city boy now.

Each night, glistening lights along the street flicker on as the golden evening sunset fades away. This is my favorite time in my new home. The park grows quiet, no more sounds of crunching gravel underfoot or dog snouts sniffing near the door of my home. Just me and the night breeze in my little corner of Niwot, all my own.

Meriwether, signing off.

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Spear Lodge Man rides beneath a rainbow



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

One of several storms recently passing through the area knocked out power for about an hour in downtown Niwot on Sunday night, and created a full arc rainbow framing the tree sculpture of Spear Lodge Man on Niwot Road.

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Pinocchio's welcomes first guests to Niwot location



Photo by Karen Copperberg

Paulie Schmidt, Penny Rasure, Kelsey DeBoard, Justin Lee and Annie Vick take a short break to regroup after a power failure during the long awaited opening of the new Pinocchio's location in Niwot on July 7.



Trooper Tips: Trailer Talk



Courtesy Photo

Trooper Gary Cutler

By Trooper Gary Cutler
Special to the Courier

It's camping season again, and that means everyone is getting ready to head to the mountains with the family. A lot of you have camping trailers that you'll be using on the weekends, so I wanted to talk a little about trailer safety.

It's very important to make sure you and your family make it to your favorite campsite. So here are a few tips on making it safe, fun, and that you get there on time.

First let's hit the basics. All trailers in Colorado must be registered and have a license plate that is completely visible. This means you can't put bikes or totes or anything else over the plate. It still needs to be visible to law enforcement and if it isn't, can get you pulled over.

Make sure you have proper working lights on the trailer. You need brake lights and turn signals that can be seen for at least 500 feet.

Another item to check is your side view mirrors. You must be able to see at least 200 feet to the rear of your vehicle. The side view mirrors that came with your vehicle may not be adequate. You can get mirror extension at a store if you need them. So check those mirrors prior to starting the trip.

The height of the trailer can't be more than 14 feet 6 inches, and the combined coupled units cannot have more than four units and be no longer than a total of seventy feet.

As far as loading the truck and trailer, please don't overload the vehicles. None of the load can project beyond four feet of the front grille. It can't extend beyond the sides of the vehicle, and it can't block any of the drivers view.

Check your brakes prior to the trip and know that trailers with a weight of more than 3,000 pounds need to be equipped with brakes on all wheels.

As far as towing a trailer, make sure the distance between the vehicles doesn't exceed 15 feet. Besides the drawbar, chains or cables are also required (unless it's a 5th wheel) to ensure the trailer can't break free from the power unit.

Last but not least, while traveling; no one can ride in the trailer.

I know this has been a huge amount of information in a short space, but I want you to have a fun and safe camping filled summer. Remember, only you can prevent forest fires, so please be careful out there.

As always, safe travels.



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SPORTS

Former Niwot pitcher returns to his Collegian roots



Courtesy Photo

Former Niwot pitcher Caleb Martinez is playing collegiate ball for the Northwest Nazarene Nighthawks.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

It's been a whirlwind year for former Niwot pitcher Caleb Martinez, so when he was offered the chance to return to the friendly confines of Scott Carpenter Park and the Boulder Collegians for summer baseball, the right-hander didn't have to think very hard about it.

"I played for the younger

BoCo team when I was 16, and that was really fun and a good level of competition to be at," Martinez said after a recent appearance on the mound for the Collegians, Boulder's collegiate league team featuring players from NCAA programs across the country. "Now I play for the upper level Collegians, and this team is great. I've known Matt [Jensen] for a while, and it's a great group of guys and a great group of coaches. For the

most part, it just like a normal summer team to me—we travel around, there're doubleheaders all the time, there're 100-degree games, and a lot of rain outs."

Martinez is enjoying the comforts of home after a freshman year that ended in a different place than it started. Last fall, he enrolled in the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota and started working out with the baseball team. By the end of the semester, however, he decided to take his talents to Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, Idaho) and compete for the Division II Nighthawks.

"It is a higher level and there is definitely a higher expectation for how you play, compared to high school," he said of the collegiate level competition. "But I'm very happy where I'm at and I'm really pleased with where I'm going baseball-wise. A lot of upperclassmen graduated this year, so the coaches are asking the underclassmen to step up a little bit more, and I'm in that group, so I'm going to continue to get better, continue to get stronger, and hopefully do the best that I can for the team."

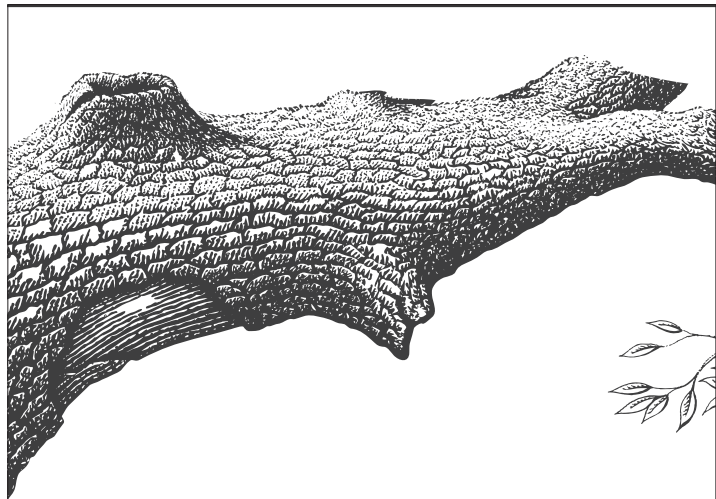
After a bit of a rough start, Martinez is enjoying success with the Collegians this summer, especially since the last week of June. In eight appearances, he's amassed a 2-1 record, and allowed 15 total runs on 26 hits. He also made an appearance in the Rocky Mountain Collegiate Baseball League all-star game on June 26.

Martinez's success on the mound isn't a surprise to Collegians general manager and former Niwot assistant coach Matt Jensen. Jensen recruited Martinez to his youth club program and has followed his career closely ever since.



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Pitcher Chris Rodriguez on the mound for the Boulder Collegians in their 11-6 win over the Colorado Sox on Saturday, July 6.



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Three cheers for the 4th of July in Niwot



Photo by Ann Whitehill

The Niwot Cougar cheer squad took a break from practicing for the upcoming school year to march in this year's 4th of July parade. From left, Lupita Sanchez (sophomore) Kimberly Perez (senior) and Kendra Perez (junior).

COLLEGIANS

Continued from Page 14

"It warms my heart to see a guy like Caleb—who a lot of people wrote off and who maybe doesn't have overpowering stuff and throw 90 miles an hour—be able to go out there and compete because of the individual that he is. It goes to show you that substance outweighs talent any day."

Jensen said that recruiting local players like Martinez is a top priority for the Collegians, who are now in their seventh season since Jensen resurrected the team back in 2013. Former Niwot standouts Bryan Meek ('14) and Connor Messinger ('11) both played for the 2015 squad, and Connor's brother Skye Messinger ('17), now with the University of Kansas, was an infielder for the club two years ago. Boulder businessman Bauldie Moschetti owned and managed an earlier iteration of the club between 1964 and 1980, and more than 100 players from that squad went on to play in the major leagues, including Joe Carter and Tony Gwynn.

"I know how important it is to offer local guys an opportunity to play at a very high level, because I was one of those guys. I grew up playing right here on this field. I've told guys from the very beginning that

I will take them if they reach out to me."

The Collegians are currently 17-14 on the year, but sit in third place in the RMCBL standings, behind the Colorado Sox and Fort Collins Foxes. According to Jensen, the season has been a "bit of a roller coaster," with pitching proving to be especially challenging, Martinez notwithstanding.

"That's kind of the way it is almost every year. You find out who your players are who are dedicated and committed to being here. Everybody says that on day one, but it's the guys who are here on the last day, that get the most out of the summer."

Martinez definitely plans to be one of those guys. He and the team are heading out for a road-trip to Kansas and then will wrap up the season at home on July 17. If the Collegians qualify for postseason play, that will begin on July 22. Until then, Martinez plans to keep working hard and remains grateful for the opportunity for one more chance to play before a hometown crowd.

"It's definitely been an experience. I had some mechanical issues at the beginning of the season, but I think I've worked through that, and personally I feel like I've been pitching a lot better. I think I'm on an upward trajectory."

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