



The plight and protection of pollinators - Part one



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Some trees in Niwot sprouted interesting new houses earlier this year.

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

This is the first part of a two-part series covering pollination - what it is and what does that important work. Next week's article will delve into what can be done to help protect and increase pollinator populations.

There's some free real estate in Niwot - beautiful little bee and butterfly houses on trees along Hidden Valley Trail, just west of the recycling center on 79th Street in Niwot. While it may look like the trees are on open space, most of the pollinator abodes were anonymously hung on private land and were a surprise even to the owner of the property.

These mysteriously mounted boxes are very pretty and are a good segue to research why pollinators are getting so much deserved attention.

Pollination 101

Simply put, pollination is the transport of pollen from the male part of one flower (the seed producing part of a plant) to the female part of another flower in the same species. The resulting fertilization will produce a vegetable or fruit containing more seeds, continuing the cycle of life.

Performing this task is just a lucky side effect of the pollinator going from one flower to another gathering nectar, while some freeloading pollen gets serendipitously implanted.

Without pollinators, flowering species like those rows of squash and tomatoes, and the orchards of apple and peaches, and pretty much the majority of our food, could not be produced.

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Willowdale Arts – music, art and community



Photo by Orien Mann

Musician Nick Dunbar and National Geographic filmmaker/photographer Andy Mann, both Niwotians, are the creators of Willowdale Arts of Niwot. The non-profit production company will be kicking off its first monthly show featuring the founders' own art and music on Friday, August 9, at the Left Hand Grange.

By VICKY DORVEE
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For those who love the number of joyful, creative,

and rockin' events just outside your front door, and for those who have lamented that some town festivities have come to an end, there's a doozy of a

reason to once again declare, "Woo-hoo!" It's Willowdale Arts of Niwot, a new series of events that will feature a cut above visual and musical artists in cozy-sized shows.

Created by local professional musician and realtor Nick Dunbar, along with fellow Niwotian and National Geographic photographer Andy Mann, the first monthly event is booked for Friday, Aug. 9, at the Left Hand Grange on the upstairs stage.

"When you start looking at the town and all its value, you hear so many people say, 'I wish there was a thing like

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Colterra calling it quits

Property for sale

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Almost two years of conjecture around the reopening of Colterra Restaurant in Niwot was put to rest by a "For Sale" sign in the front yard as of Thursday, July 18. The 10,000 square foot corner lot at 210 2nd Avenue, including the historic Bader Building, and the scorched larger "barn" building, are being offered for \$625,000.

Public records show the property was last purchased for \$1,150,000 in 2006 by the entity, Table 210 LLC, with a post office box in Niwot. Colterra Restaurant was owned and operated by Chef Bradford Heap on the site until a late night kitchen fire shuttered the enterprise in October 2017.

The listing, offered by Navpoint Real Estate of Castle Rock, advises potential buyers that the property is fire damaged and lists a renovation bid of \$712,000.

The sales brochure for the



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

The property on the corner of 2nd Avenue and Franklin Street, once a thriving restaurant, Colterra, is now on the market.

property listing reads, "Due to extensive water and smoke damage, the main building will need to be remodeled or demolished giving the buyer the rare opportunity to reposition the property in this outstanding Main Street location."

Heap wrote in an email interview, "It is with a heavy heart, Carol and I have to sell Colterra. Thank you to the town of Niwot and the Boulder community for supporting us all these years. We loved being at Colterra, and it was

an enjoyable experience. We will always cherish the memories of beautiful evenings on the patio. Unfortunately, after the fire, we are just now being able to settle with the insurance company. Coupled with the moratorium, has taken away our chances to rebuild. We wish the community and Niwot well. Niwot will always hold a special place in my families heart."

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▶ Death Notices

Former Niwot resident **Karl Robert Heil**, age 72, died June 6, 2019. Karl was a long-time volunteer with the Niwot Volunteer Fire Department when he resided in Niwot. Services have been held.

Niwot resident, **Fritz Schmutz**, age 88, died July 9, 2019. A celebration of life

will be held Saturday July 27 at the Left Hand Grange No. 9, 195 Second Avenue, Niwot, CO from 2 pm to 6 pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to TRU Community Care, 2594 Trail ridge Dr. East, Lafayette, Colorado 80026. Visit www.ahlbergfuneralchapel.com to share condolences.



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▶ Community Calendar

ROCK & RAILS

Niwot's summer concert series, Rock & Rails, continues its 14th season on Thursday, July 25, at Whistle Stop Park. Acoustic Soul opens at 5 p.m., with The Long Run headlining at 6:30 p.m. Niwot Youth Sports will receive donations from the tip jars for the evening. The Thursday night concerts in June, July and August are free and open to the public.

DANCING UNDER THE STARS

Dancing Under the Stars continues in Niwot Friday, July 26 at 7 p.m. in Cottonwood Square (7980 Niwot Road). Join fellow dancing enthusiasts for a free 45-minute swing lesson, followed by dancing until 9:30 or 10 p.m. The free community event is sponsored by Cottonwood Square Shopping Center, Niwot Tavern, and Catherine McHale Strategic Marketing, and continues on Friday nights through July and August, alternating salsa and swing dancing.

COMPETITIVE BASEBALL TRYOUTS

Tryouts for the 2020 season for Niwot Youth Sports' 12 year-old competitive

baseball team will be held at the Biff Warren Sports Complex (6750 Nimbus Rd) on Saturday, July 27 at 3:30 pm. Players must be 12 or younger as of April 30, 2019 to be eligible. Please contact head coach David Gaccetta at gaccetta_david@svvvsd.org to register.

HERITAGE EVENING

Boulder County Parks & Open Space will host Heritage Evening: Livestock and Petting Zoo at the Walker Ranch Homestead (8999 Flagstaff Mountain Road) on Saturday, July 27, 4-7 p.m. Visitors can learn what life was like in the late 1800s on the ranch. The event is free for all ages. For more information, contact Sheryl Kippen, 303-776-8848 or skippen@bouldercounty.org.

FREE OPERA IN THE PARK

Boulder Opera is bringing a free program of arias and scenes to the Boulder Bandshell (1212 Canyon Blvd, Boulder) on August 10th at 7pm. The evening will feature Opera's greatest hits under the stars, and Boulder's very own rising stars singing hits by Verdi, Mozart, and Handel. For more information about the

Opera in the Park and Boulder Opera's 2019-2020 Season visit www.boulderopera-company.com.

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.

TRAIL CLOSURE

A section of the Open Sky Loop at Lagerman Agricultural Preserve will be closed beginning Monday, July 15, through mid-September due to a water supply project that will be conducted by Northern Water. The eastern part of the trail along 75th Street--between the James Ditch and Pike Road--will be closed. No off-road detour will be available. For more information or to contact the Northern Water project managers, please visit the Southern Water Supply Project II webpage at www.northernwater.org.

COMMUNITY PET SPOTLIGHT



This week's Pet Spotlight goes to Silvie Kismet Cinder (left, right), who was adopted from the Longmont Humane Society by Laura Bloom of Niwot after the passing of her 21-year-old cat Coal Shadow (center). Laura writes, "In addition to being sweet and uber-affectionate (always purring and making biscuits), her beautiful eyes have eyeliner and her nose is the shape of a heart."

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

NCA gears up for National Night Out

By KIM GLASSCOCK
Editorial@lhvc.com

Want a break from cooking dinner at home one night? Love drones, K9 dogs and good music? Then come to the National Night Out event starting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6, on Murray Street between Second and Third Avenues in Niwot.

The National Night Out event gives Niwot area residents the chance to meet and mingle with deputies and staff from the Boulder County Sheriff's department, Mountain View Fire & Rescue, the Longmont Emergency Unit and the Colorado State Patrol. The Boulder County Sheriff's department will bring SWAT team members, and there will be demonstrations by the K9 team and law enforcement officers flying drones.

In addition, the Niwot Community Association is providing free food for attendees, while the Niwot Community



Photo by Charlie Copperberg

A deputy from the K9 unit gives a demonstration during last year's National Night Out, held Aug. 7 in Niwot.

Semi-Marching Free Grange Band under the direction of Lee Shaw will perform at the event, including such event-appropriate tunes as "Stayin' Alive," "Hold On, I'm Coming," "Would I Lie to You" and "Light My Fire." The event is sponsored by the Boulder County Sheriff's Department

in partnership with the NCA. "This is a really good chance for our community to meet their first responders and mingle with their neighbors," NCA Board member Kathy Koehler said.

National Night Out events are designed to build community relationships with

local law enforcement and first responders. It began in 1994 and since has spread to all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and military bases worldwide.

NCA meeting

At the July 10 meeting, NCA board members voted to make donations to the Niwot Nifties

4-H Club and Niwot Boy Scout Troop 161 for the groups' help at the Niwot Clean Up Day and the July 4 parade and pancake breakfast.

"We really rely on our youth to help, and these groups are wonderful," said NCA Vice-Chair Tom Sesnic.

Streets

NCA board member Liz Marr reported that Boulder County Commissioners had thanked the NCA for its letter regarding the public health element of the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan. The NCA suggested that commissioners should add a policy goal of "complete streets" as a public health measure. Complete streets signifies that streets are "designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of

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POLLINATORS

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Who's a good little pollinator?

Think bigger than the glamorous honeybee we all love - not just in size, but in scope when identifying pollen carriers. "Tens of thousands of species" was City of Boulder Integrated Pest Management Coordinator Rella Abernathy's

magnanimous guess for just how many types of insects gather and transfer pollen. Varieties of native bees make up a vast number of pollinators, with thousands of species world-wide and several hundred species in Colorado. Add in butterflies, hummingbirds, beetles, moths and even bats to the list. Wind and water are players, but they're not as precise or reliable.

Why all the worry?

"We have enough data to know that we're in a serious situation," Abernathy said.

Citing data gathered by biologists at the United Nations Convention of International Biodiversity, Abernathy said we're in a crisis and everyone needs to take action - in backyards, on public lands and throughout agricultural systems.

Pollinator habitat loss, Abernathy said, is the result of spreading urbanization, climate change, the use of pesticides and other factors that comprise "the constellation of problems that are creating this storm and need to be dealt with urgently."

Abernathy focuses on creating policies and supporting programs that increase native pollinator populations and ones that reduce pesticide use. This work will ultimately boost and protect biodiversity leading to well-functioning

ecosystems with clean air and water.

Niwotian Deryn Davidson, Boulder County Colorado State University Horticulture Extension agent, also spends a significant amount of time talking about pollinators. She serves on boards and committees, teaches classes, gives lectures, works event booths, and leads volunteers in an effort to build supportive pollinator habitats community-wide, including public gardens and in people's own yards.

Davidson said it's tricky to monitor native pollinators, but baseline data is being gathered. Honeybee populations, however, are more easily observed, because they're managed and many beekeepers are reporting higher than normal losses. She prefers to look at overall historical trends and concluded, "There's no doubt that current conditions are not ideal for pollinators and this gives us cause for concern."

Boulder County's pollinator conservation efforts

Nothing says they're on task to address these concerns more than the Pollinator Action Team (PAT), which was formed at the urging of Boulder County Commissioners.

Boulder County Parks and Open Space Wildlife Biologist Mac Kobza is the co-lead of PAT, along with Vanessa McCracken, an agricultural specialist. The team consists of weed management, plant ecology, and agriculture expert groups, the CSU extension office, and the city of Longmont's natural resources department.

The team encourages and preserves native pollinators on a local level, by safeguarding pollinators during the process of crop production, improving healthy pollinator populations, gathering baseline pollinator species data, and utilizing the science-based strategies to protect sustainable agricultural practices.

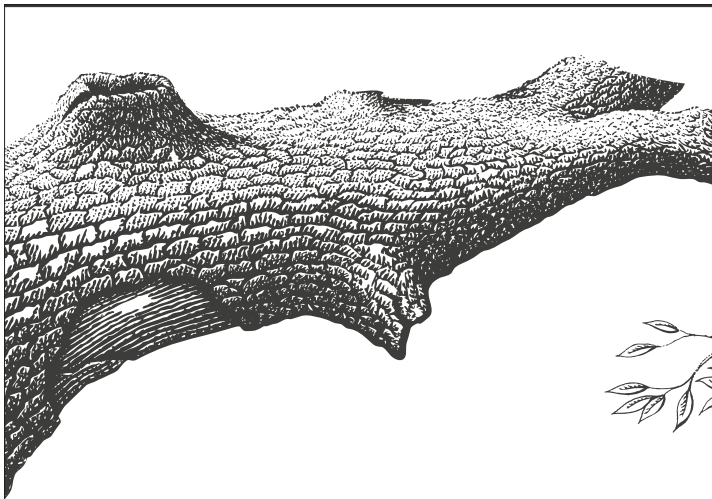
Projects by PAT revolve around pollinator habitat conservation, improvement, and creation, observation of hive populations, and health, research, information and education. To that end, the team maintains beehives at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, and organizes projects that collect seeds on open spaces such as Peck Seed Garden just north of Ollin Farms, as well as in flood restoration areas. They also convert unused agricultural land into pollinator attracting native plant areas.

With the help of Youth Corps, PAT creates pollinator nesting habitats with downed wood at Walden Ponds, and in partnership with the city of Longmont, they work at Peschel Open Space off County Line road and Highway 119 installing pollinator habitats in the restored flood area.

Kobza said, "Overall, Boulder is doing really good as far as the diversity of native pollinators, especially compared to other counties and states in the west." He attributes this to proper management and the amount of open space in the county. "We could always do better, but it's a challenge in a mixed environment of land uses to have the maximum amount of habitat," Kobza added.

Kobza added, "We need to think beyond the honeybee and think about all of the little native pollinators that call Colorado home. They're the canaries in the coalmine, showing you if they're there, then the habitat is there, but if they're not there, the habitat is not there. It's good to do whatever we can to preserve their habitat."

To find out what each of us can do on behalf of pollinators, read the second installment of the story in next week's issue of the Courier.



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Bob Ross

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GRANGE SHOW

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this or I wish there was..." Mann said. "Nick and I were like, 'We can literally just make that.' That's what you do. You don't sit around and wait. Get together with people and try it out. Create the town you want to live in."

The close friends' describe Willowdale Arts as "an open vessel" that brings music, storytelling, and art to the community. With incredible connections and a whole lot of can-do confidence, Dunbar and Mann foresee an evolution of performances and guest presenters in Willowdale Arts' future.

The pair attended a Left Hand Grange meeting in April to scope out the historic building that has served as a community hub for nearly 75 years. Their first impression of the upstairs venue was that it had great potential. "How are we not using this?" Dunbar asked.

The two said they looked at each other and instantly knew that was the moment to get the project they'd been envisioning underway. The space's maximum occupancy of 80 is perfect because it allows for a natural connection between the audience and performers and that's exactly the house party experience they're itching for. Other settings are also likely for future shows under the Willowdale Arts umbrella.

They'd like it to be known across the Front Range as a top-notch series. "We want to create something that's born here in Niwot," Mann said. "We want to bring good music. And by good music, we want to bring some of the world's best folk and Americana music."

Dunbar added, "We want to come out with some strong youthful things that's going to bring out a very diverse population, and that can serve the community we have here."

The endeavor is a non-profit and the first show is free. Down the road,

they'll be selling nominally priced tickets and flying in nationally renowned artists and musical acts.

Mann and Dunbar said the first show is just to let folks know Willowdale Arts is here and to explain their vision of the entity. Admittedly, there's no structure or grand scheme just yet but, they want the series to have such a powerful pull that even without knowing what will be on stage next, people will unquestionably want to be in the audience.

Titled "Summits to Seas," Mann's presentation will launch the first Willowdale Arts event. Beginning with his early work photographing rock climbers, progressing to his current passion of chronicling scientists in the world's deepest waters, his award-winning images (both films and photographs) will be accompanied by extraordinary storytelling that's informative and inspirational. Mann spends more than 100 days a year at sea where he experiences mishaps and grand adventures - all the while illuminating the environmental changes occurring on our planet.

Mann said his presentation is "a pilot test-run on the hometown crowd before launching into a year-long National Geographic live series tour."

Next up will be 300 Days, a folk, swing, bluegrass band with Dunbar on guitar and mandolin, Melissa McGinley on fiddle, and Dave "Pump" Solzberg on standup bass. Already performing across the Front Range in more than 100 gigs per year, including an appearance as opening act for Rebecca Folsom at Rock & Rails July 18, their original music has a solid fan following.

Thus far, four monthly Willowdale Arts events are booked at the Grange:

August 9 - Andy Mann and 300 Days (folk, bluegrass music) Doors open at 6 p.m., show begins at 6:30 p.m.

September 13 - Western Flyers (Western swing band from Texas)

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instrumentalists)

November's show lineup is yet to be determined.

Visit: www.Willowdale-

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Commissioners vote to keep oil & gas moratorium until March 2020

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

We're fortunate to live in a state whose geography and geology is diverse and varied, yielding dramatic landscapes that have long inspired exploration and adventure. But Colorado's beautiful landscape also contains great amounts of natural resources, including crude oil and natural gas.

Because of these energy-rich resources, the state's land rights and use have been hotly contested since its earliest days as a territory. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, almost 9 out of every 10 barrels of crude oil produced in the U.S. come from Weld County.

One-third of Colorado's natural gas also comes straight from Weld County, which borders Boulder County at East County Line Road. As its next door neighbors, Niwot and Gunbarrel are often caught in the crosshairs of oil and gas debates. In March 2018, Operator Crestone Peak Resources submitted its fourth preliminary draft of a drilling project that would span a 1.5 mile stretch of State Highway 52 and include up to 140 oil and gas wells. These wells would drain an area of 10 square miles of underground resources.

Since the submission,



Photo by Abby Scott

Crestone's proposed drilling plan would span a 1.5 mile stretch of State Highway 52 in east Boulder County. If completed, the site will include up to 140 oil and gas wells and drain an area of 10 square miles.

many Boulder County and area residents have rallied to oppose the project, and other fracking initiatives in the area. On June 28, Boulder County's Board of County Commissioners enacted a temporary moratorium on an emergency basis that immediately halted all new oil and gas developments and seismic testing until March 2020. The Commissioners met once again on July 16 to reconsider the ban and take public testimony, but voted to keep it in effect while the

county revamps its land use rules and regulations in accordance with SB181 passed recently by the Colorado legislature.

During the hearing, Vice-Chair Deb Gardner said, "It's imperative that we take the time needed to explore all of the options made available to us through the passage of SB 181 and that we look for ways to continue to make Boulder County's oil and gas regulations the strongest possible in the protection of our community's health and the environment."

Amanda Janusz of Niwot urged the county commissioners to ban all oil and

gas development in Boulder County to protect the health and wellness of the community. "We need a ban on all new fossil fuel infrastructure based on the corporate violation of our rights and the rights of our environment... A ban is the only thing reasonable and necessary to keep us healthy and safe."

While many county residents applauded the moratorium extension, others left the hearing disappointed. Area farmers, whose day-to-day livelihoods are affected by both climate and market forces, are often able to safeguard against agricultural economic downturns

by earning royalties from mineral rights on their land.

Longmont farmer Mark Merino has been farming in South Longmont for 27 years. He believes passage of the moratorium will destroy the land his family and friends farm. "These mineral rights and their royalties belong to Boulder County residents... Farming doesn't pay. It's expensive. It's hard work. It's risky. We are lucky if we can make \$150 an acre. The one and only hope for us in preserving our farms is oil royalties from mineral rights."

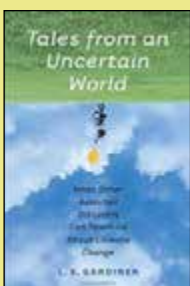
Local anti-fracking group The Lookout Alliance is hosting a community forum that will present evidence from investigations on the effects of oil and gas to our environment. The forum takes place at the Left Hand Grange on July 24 at 7 p.m. and will host Dr. Detlev Helmig, Fellow and Associate Research Professor with INSTAAR at CU Boulder.

The Lookout Alliance issued a statement following the July 16 decision, stating, "The Lookout Alliance supports a legally defensible and permanent end to oil and gas development in Boulder County, and ultimately supports a just transition away from fossil fuels in all of Colorado. While we move toward that goal, we will work to build public consensus and we will support the use of all available tools, including local moratoria."

For more information on Crestone Peak Resources' drilling plan, including topographic maps and revised proposals, visit http://cogcc.state.co.us/library.html#/special_projects/crestone. For more information about the county moratorium and future process to update oil and gas regulations and the Land Use code, visit <https://www.bouldercounty.org/property-and-land/land-use/planning/oil-gas-development/>.

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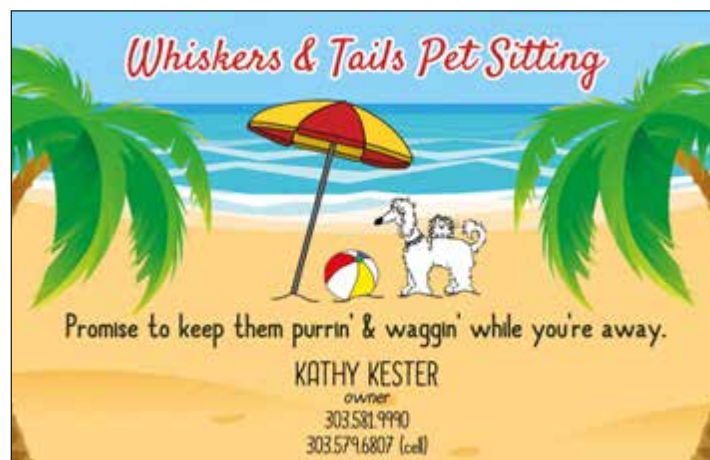
Saturday, July 27, 7:00



An Evening with Lisa Gardiner

Join us for a presentation by **Lisa Gardiner**, author of *Tales From An Uncertain World*. So far, humanity hasn't done very well in addressing the ongoing climate catastrophe. Veteran science educator L. S. Gardiner believes we can learn to do better by understanding how we've dealt with other types of environmental risks in the past and why we are dragging our feet in addressing this most urgent emergency.

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COLTERRA

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In past interviews and in public meetings, Heap has said that problems with his insurance company following the fire, combined with land use code restrictions, would not allow him to rebuild the restaurant or use the property in a way that would be profitable.

Initially caught up in the fray of the seven-month building moratorium for downtown Niwot, the property falls within the Niwot Rural Community District (NRCD). However, the property was later removed from the moratorium's scope because of its historic designation. This designation makes the property exempt from the more restrictive land use codes recently established for the remainder of that block (2nd Avenue between Franklin Street and Niwot Road) particularly when it comes to required floor area ratio and alley set back regulations.

NRCD zoning allows for a long list of permitted uses including restaurants, offices, and, if the development is mixed use, second floor residential units are also allowed. It is unclear how a redevelopment of the property might be affected by the recent changes to the Land Use Code.

In a text message on March 31, prior to the conclusion of the moratorium, Heap wrote, "For the record, I really want to bring Colterra back and it seems like everything in the universe is opposing my efforts." Additionally, he wrote that he had submitted plans to the Boulder County Land Use Department to move the Badger House on the site which would allow him to create a "workable restaurant," but that it was going to be a "battle" with the county to allow that to come to fruition.

Heap also wrote, "Between that and the insurance company not being willing to step up and do the right thing and pay the claim, I've hired an attorney to negotiate with the insurance company."

"Therefore I find it unlikely that we will be able to work anything out. Maybe someone else will come up with a couple million dollars to invest and bring a restaurant back in that place," Heap wrote.

Niwot Business Association Executive Director Catherine

Dancing Under the Stars

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McHale said that she learned about the plans to put the property on the market when the sign went up. Several other business and property owners stated that as well.

McHale added, "There cannot be anyone in this town who will not be terribly saddened by the

news that the Colterra property is for sale. It is most definitely the end of an era."

Owner of adjacent 2nd Avenue properties Anne Postle of Osmosis Architecture wrote in an email interview, "I am saddened that Colterra won't be returning, but hopeful that the new owner will

bring another great restaurant to town. This is a site with great potential, great parking, great visibility and a fantastic dining patio."

"I was sad because there's a vibrant history there," Niwot realtor, Pat Murphy said, "It's in bad condition now and it would be hard to bring it up to county

specifications. I just hope it will become a thriving business that will keep the character of the town."

Heap owns two restaurants on Pearl Street in Boulder - SALT and rebranded Wild Standard, which as of this week was renamed Pepper.

The salsa was hot, hot, hot



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Dancing Under the Stars' inaugural event in Niwot welcomed nearly 200 participants at the Cottonwood Square Shopping Center.

BY VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Dancing Under the Stars' inaugural evening in Niwot had an estimated 200 smiling



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Two professional salsa instructors led a group of dancers through some basic steps during the first Dancing Under the Stars Niwot event.

dancers cha-cha-cha-ing in temperatures over 90 degrees in the Cottonwood Square

Shopping Center's west parking lot. It would have been a hot event regardless, given the

Latin music playing and the excitement of the social event.

Some participants came to town from Denver and Ft. Collins, organizer Catherine McHale reported. The event started at 7 p.m. with a lesson on salsa steps and the number of dancers grew as the event progressed to the open dancing portion of the evening until 9:45 p.m.

The dance series will continue for five more Friday nights. Swing will be the featured style on July 26, Aug. 9, and Aug. 23 and Salsa will be featured again on Aug. 2 and Aug. 16.

NCA

Continued from Page 3

all ages and abilities." Crum-

bling county subdivision roads do not meet that standard, the NCA contended.

"While the commissioners thanked us for our letter, they

said that the complete streets concept is adequately reflected in the current language of the comprehensive plan and that they have no plans to add

another goal," Marr told the board.

Postcard

NCA members spent some time last week investigating a report on the social networking site Nextdoor by a Niwot resident who said he had received a postcard from the NCA asking him to store his garbage cans "out of sight from the street view."

NCA President David Limbach said that the postcard did not come from the NCA

and that the NCA is asking its members to report any others that may have shown up in the mail. "We take member data VERY seriously, and I assure you this postcard did not originate from the NCA," Limbach wrote on Nextdoor.

Limbach added in a later email that the postcard seems to be an isolated event. However, he said the next NCA email to members will include a notice about the postcard and a way for members to report any others and send feedback.

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Photo by Charlie Copperberg

Attendees at last year's National Night Out saw a demonstration of new technologies used in emergencies, including robotics.

A good time to deadhead



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Marigolds benefit from regular deadheading, the process of removing flowers from plants when the flowers are fading or dead.

By CAROL O'MEARA, COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION-BOULDER COUNTY
Special to the Courier

This summer has been glorious for flowers, thanks to wet, cooler weather for the first part of the summer. Gardens are showing off, and with a little help from those who tend them, the flowers should have a spectacular second show.

Keep the bloom going with a simple, but necessary practice. Deadheading, as it applies to gardening, is the removal of flowers from plants when the flowers are fading or dead. If you've never done it, here are a few tips to keep it from being a long, strange trip through the garden.

The purpose of a flower is reproduction: attract pollinators by flaunting yourself, either with alluring scent or bodacious color. It isn't an empty promise; usually, this is a win-win situation for pollinators, who collect pollen, nectar, or fiber from the proffered bloom. Once a flower has been pollinated, the plant produces fruit and seeds.

Deadheading redirects the plant's energy from fruit swelling, ripening, and seed production into extended flowering. It cleans up the appearance of the plant, and in turn, the garden.

You can use a variety of

methods to deadhead: snapping or pinching flowers off by hand, shearing, or clipping with pruners. In all cases, it's important to get a clean cut to prevent leaving an open ragged wound for diseases or pests to enter the plant.

Roses respond well to deadheading. The American Rose Society recommends deadheading roses just before they drop their petals, cutting the canes at a 45 degree angle just above a 5-leaf set.

Plants such as lilacs and peonies won't bloom again this season, but deadheading immediately after blooming cleans them up and keeps the plant healthy. Marigolds, verbena, nicotiana, petunias, columbines, and pansies also benefit from deadheading.

Bulbs should have flowers – but not leaves – deadheaded to keep them from expending energy on producing seed instead of storing it in the bulb for blooming next year. Cut back tulips, hyacinths, and daffodils before they begin to drop their petals or look faded and cut individual blooms off of the flower stems of flag iris and lilies as they wither, removing the entire flower stalk only after the last bloom is finished.

Get to know which plants have decorative seed heads after the flower is spent, like echinacea, alliums, and native

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grasses. The stalks and seed heads provide winter interest as well as important nooks for beneficial spiders to live within. Leave flowers on fruiting shrubs so that the berries can provide winter interest and attract birds.

If you want some flowers to reseed, leave the flowers on the plant. Poppies, foxglove, columbine, flax, and lupine reseed. Their offspring might not hold the colors of the parent plant, though, so you won't get an exact copy.

Other plants can be thugs if allowed to reseed, such as some salvia, obedient plant, or cosmos. To limit their spread, deadhead these plants. Compost the flowers unless they're diseased.

Old Oak celebrates two years in Niwot



Courtesy Photo

Early morning at The Old Oak Coffeehouse

By RAYA CASTRONOVO
Editorial@lhvc.com

As the proverb goes, “Great oaks from little acorns grow,” and Old Oak Coffeehouse in

Niwot is a perfect illustration. Since its opening in July 2017, the small shop has grown deep roots in the community and now serves as more than just a place for morning commuters to grab a cup of coffee before heading to work.

Though still a fairly new business, Old Oak (136 2nd Avenue) has quickly become one of the most popular gathering spots in Niwot. Over the past two years, owners Michael Tomich and Patty Machen have continuously worked to improve all aspects of the customer experience, from food, to ambiance, to entertainment.

The expansion of both the menu and the ever-aromatic bakery has led to a wider variety of selections, with a majority of the baked goods



Courtesy Photo

Customers enjoy the new open window on a sunny Sunday at The Old Oak Coffeehouse

being made in-house. [Examples of new or popular items?]

The Old Oak art and music scene has continued to flourish. Each month, the work of a different local artist decorates the walls of the shop. [name or description of recent artwork/artists?]

Weekly live music performances on Saturday nights were augmented by the creation of Songwriters in the

Round, a new event featuring various singers and songwriters, as well as an extended happy hour. Facilitated by Bruce Rabeler, this event occurs the second Friday of every month. Performances were further enhanced by the recent installation of the front window, [how did a new window help - does it open to the outside?] which allows customers enjoying the patio to be more intimately connected to the musicians.

Tomich and Machen reflected upon the last two years, stating that what they have come to love most about the Old Oak is “the community, our regular customers, and our great employees,” which has led to this experience feeling “very much like a huge family.”

The Old Oak Coffeehouse looks forward to continuing to extend its branches throughout Niwot and allowing people to fill their cups with coffee, conversation, and commonality.



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Resurrected Niwot Garden Club Meets for Second Time



Photo by Kathy Koehler

Garden Club members gather at the home of Paula Rubin to discuss a range of garden related topics.

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Reminders of Niwot's historic garden club, originating in 1938, are easily spotted around Boulder County. From the gazebo in Whistle Stop Park — a tribute to the original built by the garden club decades ago — to the club's scrapbook at the Longmont Museum, this gardening club was an important pillar of Niwot society for many years.

The original gardening club was 25 members strong, with a waiting list of potential new members ready to step in when the opportunity arose. The gardening club was both a social and educational opportunity for women in the community to practice their gardening skills, make new friends, and express their creativity.

Longtime Niwot resident and realtor Pat Murphy recently resurrected the garden club because she saw how much good the previous group did for the community. The Niwot Garden Club met for the sec-

ond time this past Saturday, July 20, at the home of Paula Rubin. Fourteen women gathered to discuss a variety of gardening-related topics.

Members shared tactics for battling weeds via natural methods and a skilled rose gardener shared her methods for propagating new roses. The fourteen participants also discussed past involvement in gardening organizations, different climates previously resided in, and plants sorely missed from past gardens.

In addition to gardening tactics, the club discussed future plans to grow the group and contribute to the community. There was talk of creating a how-to booklet with helpful gardening tips for area gardeners. Club members also discussed a possible garden tour and considered potential gardening projects around Niwot.

The next meeting will take place on August 10 in Niwot. Interested parties may contact Pat Murphy at pmurphy@niwotrealty.com.

Niwot has a flower bomb...and no one got hurt



Photo by Karen Copperberg

Sarah Cioni's flower bomb and classes took place at the Left Hand Grange on Thursday, July 18. While assembly for all three classes was completed indoors, the capstone display was later exhibited on the wrought iron gates of Osmosis Gallery. Some of the classes were attended by folks from south of Denver, who came to see and learn from Cioni, who previously owned The Painted Primrose. She has been freelancing in the Los Angeles area, and has done many large floral installations, including some for the rich and famous. The flower bomb class was her latest local version.

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Giving back with Left Hand Giving Circle



Courtesy Photo

Left Hand Giving Circle awarded two grants earlier this year to “organizations that help seniors in the community.” Cultivate (formerly BoulderCareConnect) and Longmont Meals on Wheels were this year’s recipients.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

In early 2017, Virginia Dutkin and 20 of her Niwot neigh-

bors launched the Left Hand Giving Circle, a philanthropic organization that uses pooled resources to donate funds

and volunteer hours to area nonprofitsnon-profits. In the two years since, the group has granted \$30,000 and donated

nearly 1,000 community service hours to local programs and events. Now in its third year, LHGC has grown to 50 members and the list of community organizations it has impacted is rapidly expanding.

For Dutkin and the group, 2019 is shaping up to be their busiest yet. In April, they completed their first grant cycle of the year, awarding a total of \$7,500 to Longmont Meals on Wheels and Cultivate (formerly Boulder CareConnect) “for their work in helping to improve the quality of life for seniors in our local community.”

Members reviewed more than 20 applications, submitted in both written and video form, and then voted on the finalists. The funds were then distributed through the Longmont Community Foundation, a public charity that helps individual and small-group donors manage their charitable giving.

LHGC is gearing up for its second grant cycle later this fall, and for those awards, the group is targeting “orga-

nizations and programs that engage community members in order to promote the health and sustainability of the environment.” Announcements about the deadline and application process will be coming from the LCF in the coming weeks.

LHCG members have also been generous with their time so far in 2019, and you’ll likely be seeing more of them this fall. Earlier this year, the group volunteered at Intercambio, which received a LHCG grant in 2018 for “helping to combat isolation and loneliness by creating, uniting, and/or engaging community members to develop a sense of belonging.”

The Boulder-based non-profit offers English language education to adult immigrants. During a “conversation team event,” LHCG members spoke one-on-one with Intercambio students, which Dutkin said was a great opportunity

Continued on Page 13

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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

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Courtesy Photo

Members of Left Hand Giving circle spent the day volunteering at Bella Boutique, a non-profit that offers free prom outfits to low-income students.

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GIVING BACK

Continued from Page 12

“to learn more about the cultural experience of immigrants in our community.”

In March, the group took a trip to Denver for a day of volunteering at Bella Boutique, which Dutkin called “super-fun.”

“They provide free prom gear to low-income girls—their household income is less than \$30,000. So we went and volunteered as personal stylists, working one on one to help them find the perfect prom outfit. It was awesome.”

LHCG has a packed schedule in the coming weeks and months, starting with a double-shift packing backpacks for Crayons to Calculators, a program sponsored by the area school districts that provides school supplies to struggling students. In September, members will be helping out at the ‘Rock the Boat’ benefit concert, the inaugural fundraiser for the Able to Sail, another recent grantee. Later that month, they will be serving lunch at OUR Center for the third year in a row.

“For that one we have to actually plan the menu, buy the food, cook the food, and then serve the lunch,” Dutkin said.

In October, the group will be helping Longmont seniors clean up their yards by serving as ‘Yard Busters’ for Cultivate. During the holidays, members will be assisting with the Meals on Wheels annual ‘Gift of Home’ tour, and then embarking on a project with a new partner.

“There With Care is a fantastic local non-profit that helps families with children facing critical illness,” she said. So we’ll be providing them with a holiday meal and a gift not only for the ill-child, but also, the siblings and parents, and delivering that to them.”

LHCG relies primarily on the support of its membership, but also benefits from sponsorships from local business including Nourish, Tool Studios, and Niwot Wheel Works, which helped the group organize a bike tour for mem-

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bers earlier this month. The group also receives an occasional cash grant from other non-profits.

While LHCG participates

in many fundraisers, it is does not hold them on its own behalf. However, the group is slated to receive tip jar proceeds from the Rock & Rails

concert on August 1, featuring Mojomomma/Brigitte Purdy & Bobby Messano. Money raised there will support its financial grants.

For more information about the Left Hand Giving Circle, its grants, or its upcoming activities, visit www.lefthandgivingcircle.org



SPORTS

Boulder Collegians wrap up memorable season



Courtesy Photo

Courier sports reporter Jack Carlough got a chance to revisit his glory days in the Collegians' final 2019 home game on July 17. Carlough played infield for the first part of the game, and got a two-RBI triple in the 5th. He was also responsible for at least one double play. Later, he also got a chance to pitch in the game's final inning, but it wasn't for the home team.



Courtesy Photo

The Boulder Collegians closed out their 2019 season last weekend in the RMBL playoffs.

By JACK CARLOUGH
Editorial@lhvc.com

Less than two months ago, the Boulder Collegians' upcoming season was full of anticipation. Players from all across the country were arriving in Boulder, optimistic for what was ahead. But just like that, it was over. Over 40 games later, the boys of summer are headed home.

The Collegians' 2019 campaign was full of ups and downs, but one thing that remained the same was the loyalty of their fans. General Manager Matt Jensen said the season broke seven-year attendance records. Scott Carpenter Park was packed and in full support.

Winning isn't necessarily the goal for a summer team, but it's always welcome to play quality baseball. Collegians infielder Kix Ferrell was impressed with the team's performance during the Rocky Mountain Baseball League's end of season tournament.

"We've got nothing to lose so let's just go out here and win it," Ferrell said regarding the team's mindset during the tournament. "All the pitchers said they were going to go out there and throw a complete game."

Pitcher John Kea did just that in his start against the RoughRiders. The Hawaii native went all nine innings to extend the Collegians' season.

"I think everyone wants to win, but at the same time you know we're just trying to have fun," said Kea. "... Summer (is) coming to an end, we're just all trying to hang out, (and) have fun with each other before we part our ways."

Unfortunately for the Collegians, the tournament was cut short due to multiple days of rain and unplayable field conditions. The team was 3-1 in the double elimination tournament when the rain put an end to their season.

"I thought we were play-

ing really good," said Ferrell. "I think had we gotten to play the full tournament, no doubt we would have won."

Head coach Eddie Toledo admitted the team was fatigued after playing nearly every day for almost two months. It's a grueling schedule and a challenge for any player.

"I think that everybody is pretty tired," said Toledo. "Some of the kids are definitely ready to go back home, see their families, get ready for their upcoming school (and) some of them have to report back (to school) within two weeks."

The summer season is certainly valuable to these college athletes, and the friends they make can be equally worthwhile.

"I enjoyed all the guys, there wasn't a guy I didn't like," said Ferrell. "(I) made lots of friends and hopefully I'll see them all again someday."

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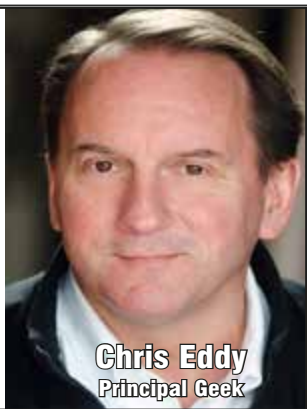
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Niwot youth baseball team playing beyond their years

By JACK CARLOUGH
Editorial@lhvc.com

The future of Niwot baseball is bright with players on a talented 11-year-old squad hitting their stride. Head coach David Gaccetta led the Niwot Youth Sports Cougars to a 27-4 record and an impressive showing in the 12-year-old state tournament.

For the past five years, Gaccetta has watched this team develop as ballplayers and as teammates. It all came into fruition this season.

"It's been really neat watching them (go) from learning how to just play catch with each other to some of the amazing things they've been able to do," praised Gaccetta. "It wasn't uncommon this year to turn double plays."



Courtesy Photo

Members of the Niwot Cougars 11U AAA competitive baseball team pose with their coaches after a recent win. This year's team, helmed by head coach Dave Gaccetta and assistants Bill Crisco, Matt Gorr, Marc Schmeckle, posted two tournament wins and finished fifth overall in the USSSA 12-year-old AAA state tournament. Players for the 2019 squad included Arlo Richards, Blake Gorr, Travis Check, Luke Schmeckle, Soren Crisco, Nolan Gaccetta, Jack Schrock, Colin Cunningham, Parker Brown, Connor Falls, and Brec Birmingham.

Equally important has been the chemistry this group has built. The value of team chemistry is often

underrated in baseball, but Gaccetta believes it can be a crucial commodity. Summer teams spend a lot of time together and building strong relationships is important.

"We just loved being around each other," said Gaccetta. "That really is the difference... (and) was one of the main reasons we had such success."

The success Gaccetta mentions included tournament victories in the Rocky Mountain Ruckus

and Sherwood Classic, as well as a fifth place finish in the USSSA 12-year-old AAA state tournament. It was a team goal to compete in the state tournament and the Cougars did not disappoint.

Installing a team first mentality was another high priority for Niwot. Winning as a team is no easy task for any group of young ballplayers. The Cougars took pride in playing selfless baseball and reaped the benefits at the end of each

game.

"The kids didn't really care who got the winning hit, or who was pitching, or who made a great play, as long as somebody on the team did it, everyone was equally as happy," explained Gaccetta. "They really understood that team concept that you know I'm part of it, but I'm not the main reason."

Gaccetta also credits his three assistant coaches for their work this season. According to Gaccetta, a large coaching staff provided more individual attention to players and helped improve the team as a whole. It's not uncommon to see a wide range of talent with a youth team, and additional help can be beneficial.

All in all, the class of 2026 has already provided winning baseball in Niwot. The team hopes to stick together for the last few years of Niwot Youth Sports baseball and looks forward to continued success.

"It has been a phenomenal experience," said Gaccetta. "We were all bummed that we didn't practice this week."

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