



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, DIRECTOR

FEBRUARY 2016

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### UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

- **Wednesday, March 9**
  - Colorado Bluebird Project Nest Box Monitoring Training, Public Safety Training Facility, 7 - 8:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 29**
  - Ridgeline Wranglers Season Kick-off Informational Meeting, The Grange, 7 - 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 6**
  - Rhyolite Bike Park Dirt Crew Season Kick-off Informational Meeting, Philip S. Miller Library, 7 - 8 p.m.
- **Saturday, April 16**
  - Earth Day Wetlands Harvest and Planting, Festival and Philip S. Miller Parks, 9 a.m. – Noon
- **Wednesday, April 20**
  - Wild In Our Town, Town Hall Council Chambers, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Friday, April 22**
  - Arbor Day, Philip S. Miller Park, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 27**
  - Race the MAC Series Kickoff, Philip S. Miller Park, 5 – 8 p.m.
- **Saturday, April 30**
  - Ridgeline Rampage Mountain Bike Race, Philip S. Miller Park / Ridgeline Open Space, all day
- **Saturday, May 7**
  - Climb4Change, Challenge Hill
- **Saturday, May 14**
  - Philip S. Miller Park Phase Two Grand Opening, Philip S. Miller Park, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, May 22**
  - Tri the Rock, Butterfield Crossing Park and Pool, 7 a.m. - Noon
- **Wednesday, May 25**
  - 5th Annual National Senior Health & Fitness Day, Philip S. Miller Park, 8:30 – 10 a.m.

**Ridgeline  
Wranglers**

**RHYOLITE  
DIRT CREW**

**Tri  
the  
Rock**

### Daddy Daughter Ball

PREPARED BY MARCY JONES, YOUTH ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

The 2016 Daddy Daughter Ball was held on February 12 at Douglas County Fairgrounds. This year was very successful with over 1,300 attendees. The dance drew 510 resident couples and 67 nonresident couples, plus additional siblings to round out overall attendance. The Teen Advisory Group (TAG) held its annual raffle to raise funds for the program. The group uses money raised during the event for community service and leadership projects throughout the year.





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## MILLER ACTIVITY COMPLEX

### MAC Birthday Parties

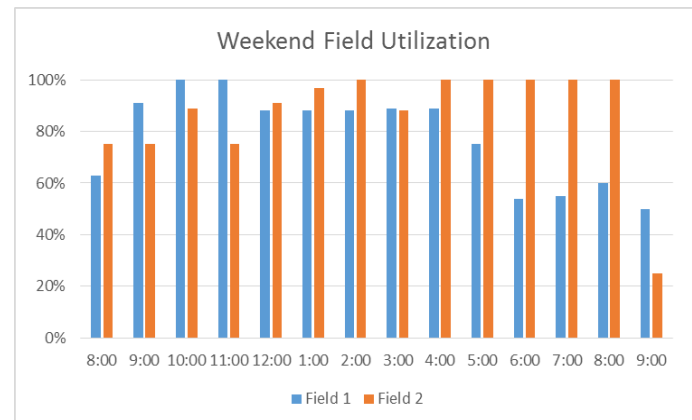
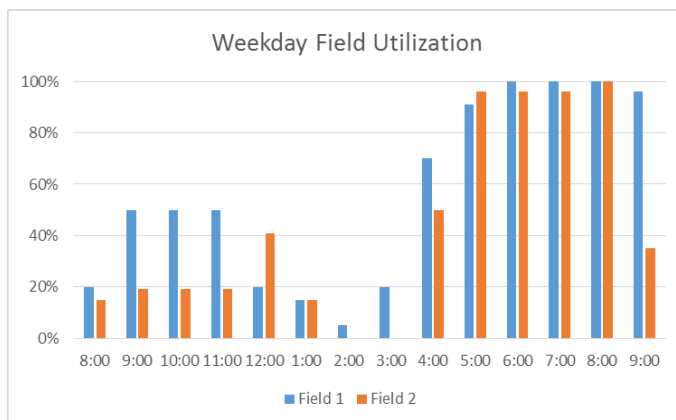
PREPARED BY MARCY JONES, YOUTH ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

February 2016 MAC Birthday Parties	
Leisure pool / Climbing Structure	44
Trampoline	4
Trampoline + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	16
Jumping Castle	0
Jumping Castle + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	0
Sports Theme Party	1
Sports Theme Party + Leisure Pool / Climbing Structure	1
Sports Theme Party + Trampoline	2
Batting Cages	0
Bump Soccer	3
Total Parties	71
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$12,915.50</b>

### Indoor Field Rentals

PREPARED BY NICOLE STEHLIK, ATHLETICS SUPERVISOR

February field rentals remained strong, however warm temperatures caused a significant decrease in March rentals as compared to February.



## **Athletics**

### **Adult Sports**

Adult soccer is a little over halfway through the winter season. Spring registration will begin mid-March. Due to the increase in registration, staff has decided to restructure divisional offerings to decrease the amount of games played between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. Communication was sent to inform teams about the night game time changes for impacted divisions. Because of the time change, adult soccer games will be played Sunday through Friday at the facility and most game times will start at 7 p.m. to allow youth teams to practice.

Registration for Arena Flag Football will also start mid-March. Games will be played on Tuesday nights after Women's 4v4 soccer league games.

### **Youth Sports**

The youth soccer season has finished and due to warm temperatures most of the teams have moved outdoors.

Staff is preparing for spring break and summer camps. While Colorado Soccer Buddies tends to lead in registration numbers, the Youth Archery Academy has experienced steady growth. They have consistently held two beginner camps per month with roughly 15 kids per class. This has allowed them to start offering an intermediate course with 10 kids in February. This summer they will begin allowing qualifying individuals to join their competitive team.



## **PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS – PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION**

### **Philip S. Miller Park**

PREPARED BY JEFF SMULLEN, MANAGER OF PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

MW Golden Constructors continues to make progress on the completion of phase two improvements. Two irrigation contractors are on site installing the mainline, laterals and irrigation heads required for sod installation. Span Systems, Inc. is working to install the fabric on the amphitheater stage cover and TBL Excavating is putting finishing touches on the final grading of the amphitheater lawn. Additionally, work to



install synthetic turf between the terraced amphitheater seating has begun. Finally, Tree Huggers, Inc. is installing spade dug ponderosa pine trees throughout the amphitheater area. All of this work will be complete in March if the weather holds. Once complete, the site will be ready for sod and other plant material.

The grand opening date is tentatively scheduled for May 14. Weather permitting, the contractor is working to place sod in early April with the intent of providing four weeks to irrigate and allow new sod to root in before opening for special events.

### **Aerial Trekking Tower**

Castle Rock Zip Line Tours is ready to begin development of the Aerial Trekking Tower at Philip S. Miller Park. Construction will begin in March with grading of the level platform required for installation of the eighteen foundations needed to support the structure. Erection of the structure is scheduled to begin in April so that the structure may be open for use for the summer event season. Admission for the Aerial Trekking Tower will be \$29 for Castle Rock residents and \$49 for nonresidents.

### **Wolfensberger Pedestrian Bridge**

The Wolfensberger Bridge Project will link Philip S. Miller Park with Ridgeline Open Space, creating a continuous 17-mile trail loop on a connected 650 acres of park and open space property. The project will provide an important link on a future major trail loop through Town, increasing opportunities for special events and enhancing the experience of trail users as well as safety concerns of crossing a major roadway.

Concrete bridge abutments and wing walls were completed in January. Backfill continues to be placed on the west abutment. The bridge was installed on March 3 and the project is currently on schedule to be completed with the Philip S. Miller Park phase two improvements. The project will open in time for the first scheduled trail race, the Ridgeline Rampage on April 30.



### **2016 Colorado Bluebird Project**

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST AND LISA SORBO, POST PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Educational presentations to five local participating schools continued in February. Students who are participating in this project received monitor training this month to

learn how to properly identify the birds using the boxes and the proper monitoring techniques to reduce any negative impacts to the birds and nests. Students will clean and maintain the boxes on their school grounds next month, then begin weekly monitoring in early April.

Also in February, staff hosted the Bluebird Project Open House to offer the public an opportunity to learn more about how they can directly help



bluebirds and the Town of Castle Rock with this project. The Open House was on February 29 at Town Hall. Almost 50 people were in attendance, garnering 16

new volunteers for the program. Additional monitoring training for volunteers will be provided in early March then weekly monitoring will begin during the first week of April and continue through mid-August. Additional information can be found at [www.CRgov.com/bluebird](http://www.CRgov.com/bluebird).



### Operations

PREPARED BY BOB PERSICHETTI, HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

A snow storm on February 2 kept the golf course closed through February 16. In total, the golf course was closed due to snow for 99 consecutive days until opening for play on February 17. After the early snow storm, temperatures were well above normal for the last 20 days of the month, making for good golf weather for this time of the year. For the second consecutive year, the golf course exceeded the ten year average for total revenue by over \$30,000 in the month of February. The total revenue in February 2016, \$43,664, marked the second best total since opening the course in 1999, second to \$49,554 in 2015.

Staff has been busy with the coordination and planning of several capital improvement projects for 2016. Currently, the clubhouse improvement projects include restroom renovations, new entry doors at the main entry and the golf shop entry, the addition of a second walk-in cooler, wind screens for the main event patio and miscellaneous electrical and equipment additions in the kitchen. Site improvement projects scheduled for the spring include concrete cart paths, practice facility improvements and the addition of two on-course permanent restroom facilities. The goal is to have the majority of the projects completed by May in an effort to avoid disruption to peak season business. At this point, all projects are on schedule.

## PARKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION

### Open Space and Trails

PREPARED BY JOHN JORGENSEN, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS SUPERVISOR

A drainage structure was installed on the Ridgeline Trail at the Clear Sky trail head in February. This structure was put in place to alleviate constant drainage issues across the trail.



Staff inspected the trails and Challenge Hill at Philip S. Miller Park for winter damage. Electric lines were trenched in to lay conduit in order to get electricity to the new trees planted to light the trees around the Millhouse.

## RECREATION DIVISION

### Athletics

PREPARED BY SCOTT SMEETON, ATHLETICS SUPERVISOR

Athletics Division Class Registration Numbers February 2015			
	2015	2016	% (+/-)
Adult Coed Volleyball (teams)	14	14	0%
Youth Volleyball	318	330	+4%
Youth Inline Hockey	44	58	+24%

The youth basketball season ended the last week of February, with playoff games played during the week and championship games played on Saturday. Actual championship games were played for the fifth to eighth grade levels and match up games with teams of similar records were played for the third and fourth grade levels. Both middle schools and the Recreation Center were utilized for playoff games during the week, and only at the middle schools for the championship games on Saturday. Most games at all levels were very close and exciting. Behavior expectation reminders were emailed the week before playoffs to encourage participants to act appropriately. This seemed to work, as there were very few issues regarding sportsmanship.



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Registration for spring and summer activities began February 1. Programs include youth hockey, baseball, volleyball and softball, and adult softball and volleyball. Registration for summer youth tee ball and track will begin March 1. Adult and youth volleyball registrations are complete. A total of 14 adult volleyball teams are registered for leagues that will begin play mid-March.

Field registrations for private organizations are almost finalized. Organizations include DC Dolphins, Arapahoe Youth League, Storm Soccer, Pirate Rugby and other independent teams. Reservations have been entered into the Event Management Software (EMS) system, which is ensuring consistency and preventing facilities from being overbooked. The Athletics division works closely with the Douglas County School District to ensure all outside fields are being fairly distributed. Outdoor baseball/softball fields are fully utilized by outside and private organizations March through April, before the Recreation Center's spring baseball and softball programs are underway. Beginning in late April, outside and private organizations rely more heavily on school district facilities. With consistent growth in our community, the need for additional facilities is apparent.

### Aquatics

PREPARED BY ZACH MORRIS, AQUATICS SUPERVISOR

The Butterfield Pool renovation project is well under way. The epoxy floor coating was installed and most of the tile work is complete. Demolition of the wader pool and construction of the new wader pool and splash pad have begun. Construction of the large pergola structure on the east end of the pool is also under way and is scheduled for completion by the end of March.

The Aquatics Supervisor and one of the aquatics specialists volunteered time to co-instruct a Certified Pool Operator course as a fundraising effort for the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association.

Five aquatics staff earned their Certified Pool Operator certification in February.

### Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

PREPARED BY GINA ORDUNEZ, TAG PROGRAM COORDINATOR

February was a very busy month for our TAG group. The team started off writing letters to local Castle Rock businesses asking for donations for the raffle for the annual Daddy Daughter Ball. They made signs for the ball, directing guests to buy tickets, and also made decorations for the tables. The team received \$75 gift cards from both Walmart and Target, which were used to purchase raffle items.

TAG also went to Cold Stone Creamery and received vouchers to give each person who purchased raffle tickets a free ice cream treat. It was a nice perk for selling the tickets this year. The group made a total of \$1,504 in sales for 11 raffle items this year.

A wonderful group of Town staff helped and supported the TAG group during the event, providing sought-after raffle items. Zach Morris and Ken DeKowzan donated a full season family pass to the outdoor pools. Eileen Matheson provided a Red Hawk Golf package for four, including a golf cart, hat and shirt. Mike Kilman provided two 20 punch passes to the Miller Activity Complex for the trampolines. David Quintana contributed a Recreation Center birthday party package.

The raffle went much smoother than last year, using the wipe board rather than the DJ for announcing the winning tickets. Sales were down a bit, but overall the raffle was a success.

The team will celebrate success of the event by going to dinner as a group.

In March the team would like to meet with R.E.A.L. participants to decorate cookies with them for St. Patrick's Day.

