



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT FROM JEFF BRAUER, DIRECTOR

JANUARY 2019

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UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

View the most up-to-date information and sign up for events at CRgov.com/events.

- **Colorado Bluebird Project Open House**
 - 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21
The Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Colorado Bluebird Project Monitor Training**
 - 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 6
The Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Philip S. Miller Park Trail Partners Season Kick-off Meeting**
 - 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 13
The Grange in The Meadows
- **Ridgeline Wranglers Season Kick-off Meeting**
 - 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 13
The Grange in The Meadows
- **Rhyolite Dirt Crew Season Kick-off Meeting**
 - 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 3
The Miller Activity Complex
- **Climb4Change**
 - 7-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 11
The Challenge Hill at Philip S. Miller Park
- **Tri the Rock Youth Triathlon**
 - 8 a.m.-noon, Sunday May 19
Butterfield Crossing Park and Pool



PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS – PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

PREPARED BY BRIAN PETERSON, MANAGER OF PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park

Snow and cold temperatures made outdoor construction difficult in January. On nice days, general contractor GoodLand Construction, Inc. continued laying pipes for underground utilities and drainage beneath the playground, setting concrete forms around the playground area and prepping curb and gutter work for the parking lot. In the upcoming month, the main line for the irrigation will be installed, as will the concrete work defining different areas of the park.



The future Deputy Zack S. Parrish III Memorial Park, at the intersection of Low Meadow Boulevard and Red Hawk Drive, is planned to include infrastructure for bocce ball, cornhole, horseshoes, picnic shelters, a walking path, a playground and a multi-use athletic field. The park is scheduled to open in summer 2019.



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Central Service Center

The Department's Parks Maintenance division is currently located at the Castle Rock Service Center on Castleton Drive, having shared space with the Public Works Department for nearly 20 years. Personnel growth and an increase in equipment requirements have created the need for a new building. In early 2019, the Central Service Center will become the home to the Town's Parks Maintenance and Facilities divisions. The building will include five maintenance bays, indoor storage, a training facility, office space, a break room and a storage yard for equipment and material.



The 13,000-square-foot facility, located at the end of Caprice Drive, continued taking shape in January. All of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and life-safety systems are now in operation. The final coating of wall paint was applied, the ceiling grid and tile were installed, the carpet was laid and the plumbing fixtures were mounted. Furniture is scheduled to be delivered the first week of February followed by a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, which will allow both divisions to move in.

The new facility has been a long time in the making and will allow for staff to keep up with the current and future needs of the Town.

TRAILS

PREPARED BY RICH HAVEL, TRAILS PLANNER

East Plum Creek Trail Southern Extension

The southern extension of the East Plum Creek Trail was included as a Town priority in the Council-approved 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The current trail travels along the East Plum Creek corridor, north to south 6 miles from Castle View High School to South Perry Street. This project will add a 2-mile segment, linking South Perry Street to Crystal Valley Parkway.



In January, general contractor Hudick Excavating, Inc. mobilized on site and started surveying, creating construction access and implementing erosion control measures. Although construction was impacted by weather, the project is still on schedule to be completed by fall 2019. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also granted approval to the Town to begin construction activities within the floodplain.



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Colorado Front Range Trail Coordination

In 2003, with the support of many communities and stakeholders, Colorado State Parks initiated the Colorado Front Range Trail project (CFRT). The envisioned network will offer a multi-purpose trail connecting communities along the Front Range from Wyoming to New Mexico. To date, approximately 300 miles have been completed. Once finished, the trail will span approximately 800 miles through 15 cities, 14 counties and many smaller towns.

The Town of Castle Rock will function as an essential crossroads for the CFRT. The East Plum Creek, Hangman's Gulch, Woodlands and McMurdo Gulch trails will eventually link travelers from Chatfield State Park to the west with the Cherry Creek trail to the east, and Denver to the north with Colorado Springs to the south.

Staff is now preparing to apply for a Connect Initiative grant through Great Outdoors Colorado to help fund and complete Castle Rock's sections of the CFRT. The project will require coordination with Douglas County and the Lanterns and Terrain developments. In February, staff will meet with these groups to discuss grant application details and coordinate next steps.

Additional progress was made on the McMurdo Gulch Trail in Cobblestone Ranch with the construction of a grade-separated crossing under Castle Oaks Drive and 2-miles of trail. The remaining 3/4-mile section will be completed in 2019 extending the existing trail to Terrain.

Improving Pedestrian Mobility in Downtown

Through a partnership with Douglas County, a connection to the East Plum Creek Trail will soon be developed to create pedestrian access for the County and River Walk buildings to the north. On Nov. 15, 2018, Town and County staff met on site to evaluate where a proposed staircase could be placed. A design kickoff meeting was held in December and staff are now working to coordinate and finalize the project's design and scope. This connection will improve pedestrians' experience and mobility in Downtown along Castle Rock's most highly utilized paved trail.





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OPEN SPACE PROJECTS

PREPARED BY BARBARA SPAGNUOLO, NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

Colorado Bluebird Project

Planning and presenting for the 2019 season of the Colorado Bluebird Project began this month with educational presentations to participating schools. In January, staff provided educational presentations at Castle Rock, Clear Sky, Flagstone and Sage Canyon elementary, Mesa Middle and Renaissance Magnet schools. Over 400 students learned about environmental stewardship, citizen science, wildlife management and bird identification. Parks staff will return to these schools for a second presentation on monitoring techniques and student responsibilities in February.

From 7-8 p.m. on Feb. 21, the general public is invited to attend the Bluebird Project Open House at the Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about how to help bluebirds and the Town by volunteering in the program. Volunteers monitor assigned nest boxes from April through August. A separate monitoring training will be held for new volunteers in early March. Learn more online at CRgov.com/bluebird.

Recreation Facility Operations

PREPARED BY DAN WAHL, RECREATION FACILITIES SUPERVISOR AND JANICE WEED, AQUATICS SUPERVISOR

Daily admission rate increases took effect in January at the Miller Activity Complex (MAC) and the Community Recreation Center (REC) to address and help offset rising labor costs. In November 2016, citizens of Colorado voted to pass Amendment 70, which raised the state's minimum wage from \$8.31 to \$12 per hour over the course of four years.

In consideration of the services provided to the community, as well as the desire to remain accessible to the community at large, the following increases were implemented at both facilities for daily admission and punch card rates beginning Jan. 7, 2019:

- A small increase of \$1 per youth and adult daily admission
- A small increase of \$0.50 per senior daily admission
- A small increase of \$10 per 20-punch card for youth, adult and senior

LEARN ABOUT THE COLORADO BLUEBIRD PROJECT

Do bluebirds need our help? YES! Habitat loss, lack of suitable nesting cavities and other factors are affecting bluebirds in our area. Learn how you can directly help by becoming a Certified NestWatch Volunteer Monitor as well as simple conservation efforts you can make in your own backyard. Volunteers are needed to check nest boxes weekly from April-August at various sites around Castle Rock.

Learn more at the Open House!

Open House:

(open to all)

- Thursday, Feb. 21, 7-8 p.m.
- Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park
- 1381 W. Plum Creek Pkwy

Monitor Training:

(required for all new volunteers)

- Wednesday, March 6, 6:30-8 p.m.
- Millhouse at Philip S. Miller Park
- 1381 W. Plum Creek Pkwy



Sign up to be a volunteer monitor at:
VOLUNTEER
CONNECT
DOUGLAS COUNTY

For more information, please visit CRgov.com/bluebird



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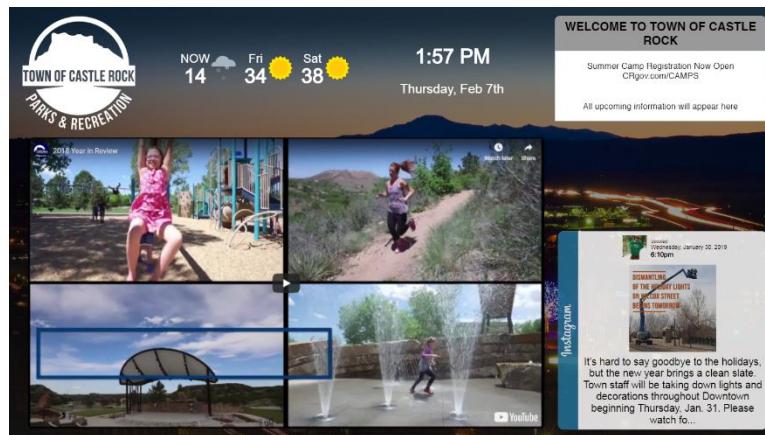
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Trampoline access at the MAC must now be purchased as an add-on to general facility admission and can no longer be purchased separately. Patrons still have the option to purchase MAC admission without the trampoline.

Due to the change in admission policies, as well as limitations in the current registration and point-of-sale software, it is no longer possible to compare paid admissions in 2019 to paid admissions in 2018 at the MAC. For the remainder of 2019, staff will compare gross revenue and use door counters to determine if the facility is successful in meeting participation goals. When compared to January 2018, daily admission revenue at the MAC increased by 8 percent in January 2019. The REC remained busy demonstrating 4 and 5 percent increases in Youth and Senior admissions respectively.

The first facility improvement project of 2019 was also completed through the installation of a new digital signage platform at both the MAC and the REC. Professional marketing materials can now be posted, as well as Town-sponsored videos and communication. Future improvements to the platform will include an integration with a facility-scheduling software to allow for the view-ability of activity-area schedules such as lap lanes and group fitness classes.



Community Outreach

PREPARED BY LISA SORBO, CUSTOMER RELATIONS PROGRAM SPECIALIST

In January, the Department's biggest push on social media was promoting the annual Daddy Daughter Ball on Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor and Twitter. Staff also rolled out the *Rec's Got It!* campaign using new branding and logos in a

variety of posts featuring Arts and Enrichment, Athletics and Adventure, Fitness and Wellness and Summer Camps. Instagram was used to highlight participation in outdoor excursions by posting photos the day after the outings to generate excitement and future engagement.





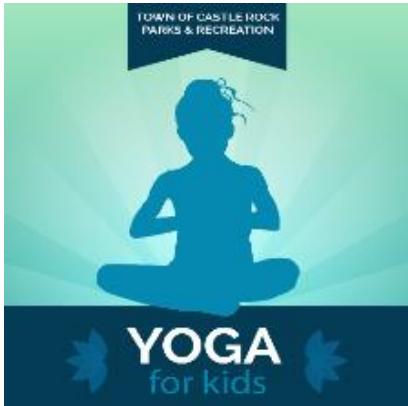
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In addition to the *Rec's Got It!* campaign, staff featured various programming opportunities:



Martin Luther King Jr. Day marked the kick-off of spring break and summer camp registration. Offerings for day and specialty camps were promoted online at CRgov.com/**camps** and on social media. The Department will be partnering with Colorado State University again to provide the popular R.A.M. Camps.

Trails Thursdays posts continue to be popular with the largest community engagement. One that garnered feedback and compliments was the paved trails snow policy post. The rock cairn post was also featured on Fox News and resulted in an interview with staff.

The Daddy Daughter Ball was the only press release distributed in January. However, Parks and Recreation collaborated with several other departments to craft the communication for the No Such Thing as Safe Ice press release.



Fitness and Wellness

PREPARED BY COURTNEY GLASS, FITNESS/WELLNESS SUPERVISOR

Group fitness attendance was slightly higher compared to January 2018, marking a slow and steady climb from the drop experienced when 24 Hour Fitness opened in May



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2017. The average attendance in group classes in January was 14 participants.

	Total Attendance	Average per class	Average cost for class	Average cost per participant
2017	7,483	17	\$16.50	\$1.00
2018	6,510	13	\$15.91	\$1.20
2019	6,597	14	\$15.02	\$1.07

On Saturday, Jan. 12, the Fitness and Wellness Division celebrated new releases of Les Mills' BODY PUMP and BODY COMBAT classes with a launch party. BODY PUMP utilizes light and moderate weights and high repetition to offer a full-body workout that can burn up to 540 calories per hour. In BODY COMBAT, participants can learn the moves of karate, taekwondo and boxing in a non-contact environment to burn up to 740 calories per hour. Both classes are included with admission to the Recreation Center. Learn more or view schedules online at CRgov.com/fitness.

The Division was also excited to add a new format to the group fitness schedule. U-Jam Fitness is an urban dance workout that makes participants sweat while having a dance party. With easy-to-follow dance moves and high-energy music - everything from hip-hop to Bollywood – attendees will be samba and swinging their way to a sweat in this 55-minute class. In the few short weeks this format has been on the schedule, participation has been in the double digits! The class is currently held on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. A specialty certification is required for an instructor to teach this pre-choreographed class format.



Through a special offered Jan. 7-13, individual personal training and 30-minute sessions experienced an all-time high. Patrons could purchase six sessions and get one free or purchase 10 sessions and get two free.

1-Hour Personal Training Totals in January			
2016	2017	2018	2019
93	108	69	117
30-Minute Personal Training Totals in January			
2016	2017	2018	2019
26	24	31	41



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Youth Programming

PREPARED BY MINDY FORTIN, YOUTH SPECIALIST

Adventure Club Preschool

Adventure Club teachers attended the Castle Rock Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) fair on Saturday, Jan. 12. Approximately 150 families attended the event and several expressed interest in learning more about the Town's preschool programs. A few tours have already been provided.

Open enrollment for Adventure Club's 2019-2020 school year started very strong on Jan. 22. Morning preschool classes are already full, and a few spots remain in the Pre-Kindergarten program at 8 a.m. and in the afternoon sessions. Enrollment will continue until all classrooms meet full capacity.

The Community Helper Unit began in January with visits from a flight attendant, a veterinary technician, a K-9 S.W.A.T team, a dentist, a soldier, firefighters and the Town's Natural Resource Specialist. Many of the community helpers are parents from the program and Town employees.



Adventure Club is proudly serving its first family through the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP). CCCAP provides families with access to reduced-cost childcare at licensed facilities and qualified educational providers. CCCAP is administered through counties under the direction of the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Recreation Classes

In January, KidzArt continued to offer evening classes and a new program for homeschooled kids. Classes instilled the theme *You Can Be a Designer*, focusing on everyday items like cereal boxes, book covers and toy packaging. Students practiced art forms by designing magazine covers, a ski suit and a CD cover. Participants had such a great time that many re-enrolled for February.



Dance Exploration started a new session with two new classes - Teddy Bear Hip Hop and Pre Ballet. Dance Exploration also had a Princess Event hosting eight dancers. The theme of the event was Ballet Hour with Anna and Elsa.



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Cooking classes were full again this month. Children enjoyed learning new recipes including cheddar chicken chowder, spinach and fresh fruit salad, oatmeal cream pies, barbecue pizza, no-bake chocolate munchies and birds-nest pie.

Arts and Enrichment

PREPARED BY DAVE QUINTANA, SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATOR

Arts and Enrichment classes are off to an outstanding start in 2019. Hard work and promotional tactics paid off to boost January attendance. New pottery classes were added on Thursday mornings and evenings to appease the growing demand. January participation in dance, adult pottery and oil painting classes increased 120-, 21- and 1.2-percent respectively over January 2017.

Adaptive Recreation

PREPARED BY REBECCA ERIKSON

Beyond Boundaries Visits National Sports Center for the Disabled

In partnership, the Parker Therapeutic Program and the Town of Castle Rock's Adaptive Recreation Program have established Beyond Boundaries.

Through the joint effort, 15 participants are learning to ski and snowboard (four on a sit-ski) at the National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD) in Winter Park. In January, Beyond Boundaries held three successful sessions and participants learned from NSCD volunteer instructors.

Special Olympics Basketball

In January, staff kicked off another partnership with Wellspring Community and Special Olympics of Colorado to offer basketball. The Castle Rock team consists of eleven coed adults with special needs and two coaches. The team is looking forward to playing in two tournaments - regionals held on Feb. 17 at the Colorado School of Mines and state held on March 17 at the Gold Crown Foundation.





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Athletics

PREPARED BY SCOTT SMEETON AND MATT GASSER, ATHLETIC SUPERVISORS

Outdoor Adventure

Outdoor Adventure experienced its largest January to date. Staff hosted three day trips including a trip to Dillon Ice Castles, an ice fishing excursion and a dog sledding adventure near Breckenridge, in addition to weekday snowshoe outings. The events were well attended and enjoyed by everyone! The programs were even featured in the Castle Rock News Press. One participant interviewed for the story said the programs help him connect with other people in Town who enjoy similar activities stating, "I hope they keep it up... We get to do different stuff all the time and it's a lot of fun."



Youth

The second session of youth 3v3 soccer started in January and will end in February. A total of 35 participants spanning 7-12 years of age are enjoying the league. An additional 10 teams are participating in the 6v6 competitive league held on Saturdays consisting of boys and girls teams ages 11-13.



Adult

January kicked off both indoor soccer and arena flag football leagues. Soccer registration ended up with 25 adult teams spanning three leagues - Men's, Coed Recreational and Coed Competitive. Arena flag football has five teams playing on Thursday nights.

Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

PREPARED BY BOB PERSICCHETTI, HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

Operations

January brought some much needed precipitation to the golf course with a heavy snowstorm on Jan. 11. The course was playable for only five days in January leading to lower than projected revenue numbers for the month. Total revenue for the month (\$6,739) fell about \$4,000 below the 10-year average for January.





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Staff stayed busy with coordination and planning for the 2019 golf season. Staff met with merchandise vendors to prepare pre-book orders for the season; put together the 2019 advertising and marketing plan; prepared the master calendar and tee sheets for the season; met with league committees to set up 2019 schedules; and organized/cleaned in preparation for the year.

	Current Month	Budget	Previous Year	Year to Date	Previous Year
Total Revenue	\$6,739	\$13,365	\$39,733	\$6,739	\$39,733
Total Rounds	78	228	534	78	534
Avg. Income/Player	\$86.39	\$58.62	\$74.41	\$86.39	\$74.41
Golf Shop Sales	\$1,862	\$1,140	\$6,438	\$1,862	\$1,140
F&B Sales	\$978	\$2,358	\$5,520	\$978	\$2,358

On Jan. 22, Town Council approved a lease-purchase agreement with Wells Fargo Brokerage Services, LLC for golf course equipment. Staff will soon order new fleet vehicles including 80 new electric Club Car golf carts, four new marshal carts, two new beverage carts, one new range picker and five new utility vehicles. Council also approved an additional purchase of the Tempo i3 Hardware Package, which will enable GPS capabilities for the golf carts. The package will provide yardage services to golfers, which is a customer expectation for courses at Red Hawk's price point, and allow for improved staff cart control and tracking capabilities.

