

COLUMBINEVALLEYVOICE

SPRING 2020



2 Middlefield Road
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Phone: 303-795-1434

Fax: 303-795-7325

Dispatch: 303-795-4711



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From the Mayor:

As many of you may know, on January 17 our legislative House District 38 Representative, Susan Beckman resigned from the state legislature because she was appointed to a prestigious position working for the President. As such, our district is required to fill that vacancy by the party that holds the position within 30 days of her resignation. I learned about this vacancy a week later and decided to throw my hat into the ring. And so, on Saturday, February 8 the vacancy committee met, and by a delightfully wide margin they elected me to fulfill the remaining time of her position.

As I write this, I feel so deeply connected to Columbine Valley – a town that has such community to each other and the wonderful environment we've created here. Where else can you live that has all the amenities, services and connectivity that we have here? It is truly one of the best-kept secrets in the Denver metro area.

This brings me to how this affects you, my constituents here in Columbine Valley. Concurrent with my swearing in, I resigned from my duties as Mayor of Columbine Valley. Mayor Pro Tem, Bruce Menk will finish out my term until April, when Mayor Elect Roy Palmer will begin his service as Mayor for our wonderful town. Additionally, we will have two new Trustees dedicated to our town.

I want you all to know that as I represent you as your new State Legislator, it has truly been an honor and a privilege serving as your Mayor for our unique, one-of-a-kind community.

Thank you.

MAYOR & BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Bruce Menk, Mayor Pro Tem
Trustee (Public Safety)
(Term Expires April 2022)

Kathy Boyle,
Trustee (Building)
(Term Expires April 2022)

Gale Christy,
Trustee (Community Affairs)
(Term Expires April 2020)

Bill Dotson,
Trustee (Planning)
(Term Expires April 2022)

Gary Miles,
Trustee (Finance)
(Term Expires April 2020)

Roy Palmer ,
Trustee (Public Works)
(Term Expires April 2020)

Mail Correspondence To:
2 Middlefield Road
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Or Email To:
BoardofTrustees @columbinevalley.org

ELECTION CANCELED—NEW OFFICIALS

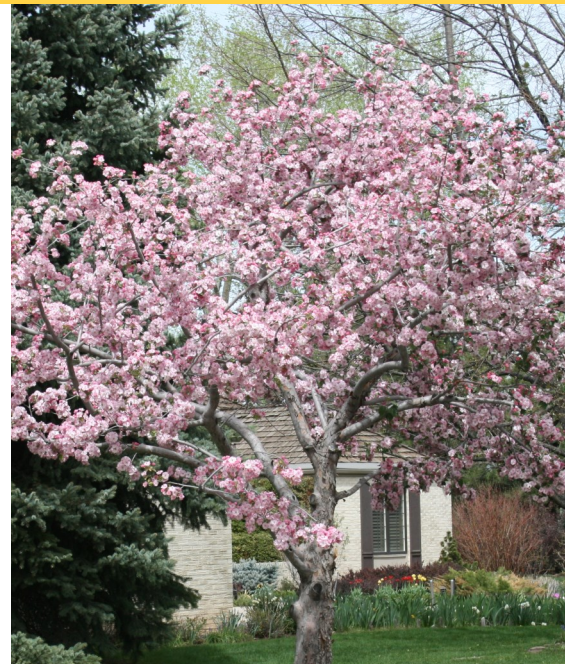
The Town of Columbine Valley's April 7, 2020 municipal election has been canceled due to the lack of contested seats for Mayor or Trustee. Only one candidate filed a petition for the position of Town Mayor, and only two candidates submitted petitions for three Trustee positions. The new Mayor and Trustees will be sworn into office at the Trustees Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, April 21. Please congratulate:

Roy Palmer, Mayor; and Mimi Kuchman & Jim Tarpey, Trustees

The Board will have one Trustee vacancy to fill before July 21. The person appointed to that seat will serve a two-year term.

Wild Plum Update

Wild Plum site development is wrapping up, and the first Lennar home is scheduled to begin construction in the first week of March. To date, two custom-home permits and four product-home permits have been issued by the Town. The current plan is for two model homes to be completed before on-site sales commence. Lennar then anticipates starting construction of approximately one home per month building from south to north and west to east.



SUMMER EVENTS ANNOUNCED!

Mark your calendars for the 4th of July Parade and Festival and 2020 Summer Concerts in the Park. The Town is excited to present this series for the third year along with sponsor ABC Investment Team.

- **Thursday, June 25: Hazel Miller**
- **Saturday, July 4: Parade and Festival**
- **Thursday, July 16: The Long Run**
- **Thursday, August 6: Bad Candy**

Watch for more details including the announcement of food vendors and full schedules in the June newsletter and on the Town's website in the weeks ahead.



Are You Recycling The Right Stuff?

What to put in the bin and what not to.

By Sandy Graham

Every other Monday, Republic Services' big recycling truck makes 590 stops in Columbine Valley and nearby neighborhoods. The truck trundles its load to a north Denver recycling business for processing, keeping countless cans, bottles, paper and plastic out of landfills.

The recycling market is evolving. China, the world's recycling powerhouse, began in 2018 to refuse some materials and drastically cut the allowable contaminants in other shipments. Republic Services says its Denver division continues to divert about 15 percent of waste from landfills to recycling, but that the stream is cleaner because customers are becoming more diligent about what they recycle in the face of new stringent standards.

"It's become a lot more important to educate people about what they can and cannot recycle," says a Republic Services spokesperson. "The hard part is that all recycling facilities are not the same."

Republic's Denver-area partner is one of the best recycling facilities in the country. Because of its partnership and Colorado's unique market, Republic can accept some materials for recycling that other companies do not.

For example, Republic accepts clean glass, which goes to Colorado bottling companies to be melted for new bottles. It also takes Styrofoam.

But even with drivers and facility employees keeping a keen eye out for unwanted materials in carts and on conveyors, Republic needs customers' help. A surprisingly small amount of undesirable stuff – such as a ketchup-y ketchup bottle – can mean an entire truckload of recycling ends up in the landfill, the company warns.

Acceptable items for recycling include flattened cardboard; metal cans and plastic containers (numbers 1-7) that are empty, clean and dry; and paper including magazines, flattened food boxes, newspapers, office paper and junk mail. Everything should be placed loose in the recycling cart; don't place cardboard alongside the cart or nest items. *Continued on page 4.*

Never put these in your recycling cart:

- ⇒ Plastic bags and wrappers
- ⇒ Soiled paper or paper that got wet
- ⇒ Greasy pizza boxes
- ⇒ Food waste
- ⇒ Clothing and shoes
- ⇒ Tools and scrap metal
- ⇒ Diapers
- ⇒ Yard waste
- ⇒ Electronics and batteries
- ⇒ Items smaller than a credit card



Want to Do More?

The Alliance Center, a LEED-certified collaborative working space and nonprofit in LoDo, houses a Hard to Recycle station that anyone can visit.

Among the items that can be dropped off are spent ballpoint pens and markers, light bulbs of all kinds, batteries, e-waste, ink cartridges, water filters and plastic bags.

For a full list and more information, go to www.alliancecenter.org and click Our Community.

2020 Town Directory Updates

2020 Town Directories were mailed in early January to all Columbine Valley households; additions, deletions and corrections are below. If you did not receive your directory, or are a new resident and are not listed in the directory, please email Dana Struthers at dstruthers@columbinevalley.org with your name, address and phone number.

Philip and Nancy Besancon
CHANGE phone number 303-263-1735
to PHILIP'S CELL

Bill and Ann Ogg
DELETE 303-794-0512
ADD Bill's cell 303-619-5055
ADD Ann's cell 303-229-4885

Joe Rhodes
CORRECT 303-808-6414
(number in the directory is wrong)

ADD Ross and Jennifer Bielak
2 Club Lane
Unpublished

ADD Mike and Kate Perreault
27 Wedge Way
Kate cell 303-883-4339
Ben and Sydney (children)

ADD Pete and Dede Moreland
6 Driver Lane
Pete cell 303-808-5316
Dede cell 303-956-9885

ADD Bryan and Krista Henry
73 Fairway Lane
Bryan cell 303-482-5850
Krista cell 513-265-8470



Recycling—continued

The unacceptable item that causes the most headaches by far for recycling facilities everywhere is the plastic bag, Republic notes, because it jams sorting equipment. Recyclables should never be bagged. Customers can recycle plastic film bags at some food stores including King Soopers.

Republic offers a few other tips: Don't recycle anything smaller than a credit card (metal bottle caps for instance). Don't recycle wrapping paper, glittery greeting cards or dirty paper plates and napkins.

Still not sure if something can go in your cart? "When in doubt," the company advises, "throw it out."

For more information: www.recyclingsimplified.com

Spyglass/Fairway Connection Project

Improvements to the drainage/cart connection between Burning Tree and Old Town are scheduled to begin on September 16.

The Town will be replacing the railroad tie retaining walls and re-pouring the concrete. The access will be closed to all traffic from September 15—24th and to cart traffic through September 29. Detours should go through Wild Plum; please do not detour through your neighbors private yards.

2021 TOWN BUDGET

The Town has begun work on the 2021 annual budget. The town budget includes operating, program, and capital expenditures. Staff will be presenting a 1st draft to the Trustees in September with a formal review in October. The process will conclude with a Public Hearing in November and adoption in December.

COOLEY LAKE PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Just south of the new Wild Plum community lies a beautiful lake, river-side forest and refuge for wildlife known as Cooley Lake. The lake is part of South Platte Park, an 880-acre natural open space park owned by the City of Littleton and managed by South Suburban Parks and Recreation, created after the massive flood in 1965. The new trails in Wild Plum Farm parallel the edges of the park, though they do not extend into the Cooley Lake area. We are excited to share this amazing resource with our Columbine Valley neighbors in appropriate ways, and our rangers have been responding to an increase in unauthorized use since Wild Plum trails opened.

The Cooley Area is open to only guided public groups and restoration activities as part of the management plan for South Platte Park. A habitat area like Cooley creates great wildlife watching opportunities throughout the entire park and river system by allowing wildlife a place to rest, feed, court their mates, and raise their young. Respecting the wildlife area shows your commitment to our community and protects nesting areas, prevents wildlife from fleeing, and creates an area free of trash and fishing line that can entangle animals.

South Platte Park provides a variety of opportunities to showcase this special place. Join a free guided walk one Saturday per month (and one Sunday quarterly). Register for canoe programs offered once per month May through October. Request a custom "Rent A Naturalist" program through your HOA or other community group. Volunteer with South Platte Park and help with wildlife surveys, restoration projects, or as a program guide. These are all available through sspr.org/nature. Of course, viewing from the Wild Plum trail is always allowed and encouraged using binoculars or spotting scopes, and the Nature Center regularly offers classes on bird identification and using optics. A careful observer can find hunting bald eagles in winter or osprey in summer. Loon, swans and grebes may be spotted amid rafts of over 1000 mergansers during fall migration. Ducks from as far as Alaska and the arctic feed during the winter. In spring, beaver and coyotes raise their young, and in summer deer rest in the dappled shade of the cottonwoods.

Please help us protect the unique values of South Platte Park by enjoying viewing from the Wild Plum trails only. Appreciate the beauty of the native vegetation, even if it blocks some of your view. And please report those you see who are not respecting this special place by calling the ranger on duty at 303-435-8227 or the Carson Nature Center at 303-730-1022. We welcome the opportunity to get to know our neighbors.

Skot Latona is the Manager of South Platte Park. He can be reached at the Carson Nature Center or skotl@ssprd.org for your questions. Programs are available at www.ssprd.org/nature.

DATES TO KNOW

- **Mar 17:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Apr 14:** P & Z Commission Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Apr 21:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Apr 25:** Drug Take Back Event
- **May 12:** P & Z Commission Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **May 13-15:** Spring Clean Dumpster Event
- **May 19:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **May 25:** Town Hall Closed—Memorial Day

Please check with Town Hall for any changes, additions or cancelations

TOWN STAFF

J.D. McCrumb
Town Administrator

Lee Schiller
Town Attorney

Bret Cottrell
Chief of Police

Angie Kelly
Finance Director

Dana Struthers
Support Services Manager

Phil Sieber
Town Planner

Stephanie Thelen
Building Dept. Coordinator

Brent Kaslon
Assistant Planner

Hobbes Hayden
Public Works Manager

Troy Carmann
Town Engineer

Dinae Dreessens
Public Works

Joanna Czarnecka
Senior Construction Manager



BE COUNTED—2020 CENSUS INFORMATION

The 2020 Census is fast approaching and we want to make certain all residents in Columbine Valley are counted! The count shapes the flow of \$675 billion to states (over \$13 billion to Colorado) and communities to support schools, housing, human resources, roads, libraries, community resources, health care, public transportation and emergency services. Policy leaders, businesses, health care and philanthropy all use census data to make important decisions for our communities, and also to determine seats in congress and redistricting within states.

Starting mid-March, the U.S. Census Bureau will send every household a **simple questionnaire about who lives at your address as of April 1**. No personal information provided is shared with any other government agency; your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

This will be the first year that the Census can be completed on-line, as well as by phone or mail. The survey will take about 10 minutes, so please take the time to complete the survey when it arrives by mail in mid-March. If you would like more information on the census, it can be found at:

www.arapahogov.com/Census2020